Treatment for Acquired Apraxia of Speech: Understanding the Evidence

INTRODUCTION

Acquired apraxia of speech (AOS) is a motor speech disorder caused by brain damage, such as from a stroke, and can range from only slight difficulty saying sounds and words to a complete inability to produce sound. Speech-language pathologists working with people with AOS often struggle to determine which treatments will work best to help those with this frustrating disorder. This journal self-study explores the research behind AOS treatment through an updated systematic review of the literature on AOS and exploration of outcomes of treatment for AOS that has been described in single-subject research. In addition, a discussion of a treatment using auditory masking is included, which builds upon and adds to the research on speech motor control. Clinicians will be able to apply the information in these articles to the treatment they provide and add to their arsenal of evidence-based treatment tools with confidence.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:

- discuss how different research methods (e.g., single-subject experiments) influence the evidence for apraxia of speech treatment
- explain the characteristics of apraxia of speech for which there is consensus in the literature
- describe the evidence base behind various treatments for apraxia of speech
- summarize the role auditory masking has on speech sound production in people with and without apraxia of speech
- discuss how the evidence for treatment of apraxia of speech has evolved and improved over time

CONTENTS


Sound Production Treatment: Synthesis and Quantification of Outcomes, by Dallin J. Bailey, Kelly Eatchel, and Julie Wambaugh ..............................................CE-23

Feedforward and Feedback Control in Apraxia of Speech: Effects of Noise Masking on Vowel Production, by Edwin Maas, Marja-Liisa Mailend, and Frank H. Guenther ............................................................CE-40
Program History and Important Information

Articles originally published in ASHA’s scholarly journals
Start date: March 12, 2016
Peer reviewed: September 11, 2017
End date: September 11, 2020

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete and submit the learning assessment on or before September 11, 2020.

To see if this program has been renewed after this date, please search by title in ASHA’s online store at www.asha.org/shop.

This course is offered for 0.35 ASHA CEUs (Advanced level, Professional area).

Statement on Evidence-Based Practice

It is the position of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association that audiologists and speech-language pathologists incorporate the principles of evidence-based practice in clinical decision making to provide high-quality clinical care. The term evidence-based practice refers to an approach in which current, high-quality research evidence is integrated with practitioner expertise and client preferences and values into the process of making clinical decisions.

Participants are encouraged to actively seek and critically evaluate the evidence basis for clinical procedures presented in this and other educational programs.

Adopted by the Scientific and Professional Education Board, April 2006