Addressing the Social Needs of People With Communication Disorders

INTRODUCTION

A communication disorder can have a profound impact on many aspects of a person’s life, including school, work, leisure, and social relationships. Sudden changes, such as those that occur after stroke or other illness, as well as more gradual difficulties, such as those associated with age-related hearing loss, can negatively affect interactions with other people and engagement in daily activities. This journal self-study explores how social networks and feelings of isolation or loneliness may change when a person experiences communication difficulties. It also looks at how well SLPs and audiologists recognize and address the social and emotional needs of their patients during treatment. Clinicians working with older adults with speech, language, and hearing disorders will come away with a better understanding of the impact of social and familial support on patient success and how to better address these needs when planning treatment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:

- discuss the importance of addressing life participation in treatment planning
- describe factors that may influence social networks after disability
- discuss the benefits of social support on a person’s health and well-being
- explain the role that family members play in a person’s rehabilitation success

CONTENTS


**What Factors Predict Who Will Have a Strong Social Network Following a Stroke?** by Sarah Northcott, Jane Marshall, and Katerina Hilari ..................CE-17

**Relating Hearing Aid Use to Social and Emotional Loneliness in Older Adults**, by Barbara E. Weinstein, Lynn W. Sirow, and Sarah Moser ....................CE-29

“This Is a Partnership Between All of Us”: Audiologists’ Perceptions of Family Member Involvement in Hearing Rehabilitation, by Carly Meyer, Nerina Scarinci, Brooke Ryan, and Louise Hickson .................................................................CE-37

PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Articles originally published in ASHA’s scholarly journals

**Start date**: November 15, 2017

**End date**: November 15, 2021

ASHA Self-Study 3131
To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the test with a passing score on or before **November 15, 2021**.

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