

HOW CAN SPEECH THERAPY HELP YOUR CHILD?

Speech-Language Pathologists work to educate, prevent, identify, and treat speech, language, and oral motor/feeding delays and disorders from infancy to adulthood.



SPEECH THERAPISTS PROVIDE:

Infant hearing and feeding/swallowing screenings

- State law mandates that infants receive auditory screening to help detect any hearing loss before your child leaves the hospital.
- Speech therapists can also assess for restricted lip or lingual frenulum or other factors that could contribute to future feeding issues.

Identification and treatment of speech/language delays or disorders and oral-motor/feeding disorders, including:

- Articulation and phonological processing disorders
- Receptive (understanding language) and expressive (language use) language delays/disorders
- Childhood apraxia of speech
- Aspiration
- Oral sensory processing disorder

SIGNS YOUR CHILD MAY BENEFIT FROM AN EVALUATION BY A TRAINED SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST:

- Does not smile/interact with others
- Demonstrates limited or no babbling (4-7 months)
- Only a few words or gestures (8-12 months)
- Says only a few words (12-18 months)
- Does not put words together to make sentences (1½-2 years)
- Demonstrates difficulty playing/talking to other children (2-3 years)
- Demonstrates impaired early literacy skills
- Gags/coughs during feeding with or without recurrent respiratory infections
- Avoids specific food textures (picky eater)

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD?

- Use language as much as possible around your child.
- Narrate the events of the day.
- Provide a clear visual while speaking so that your child can watch how you make specific sounds.
- Expand on what your child says by adding additional sounds your child is babbling or additional information if your child is using words.
- Introduce variety into the diet and, above all, do not be afraid to get messy!

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PEDIATRIC SPEECH THERAPY



Resources: asha.org
nidcd.nih.gov/heaafh/speech-and-language



When your ability to speak or to understand others is affected, or if you have trouble swallowing, the Speech Language Pathology department at all three Bon Secour sites can help. Our speech/language pathologists evaluate and treat disorders which may have resulted from surgery, facial injury, stroke, head injury or a developmental disability, just to name a few. Such problems can affect people from infancy to the elderly. After a thorough evaluation, sessions are designed to improve the targeted areas and promote more effective communication, where comprehension skills are as important to expression. If necessary, speech language pathologists and radiologists will work together to perform special swallowing studies to aid in further evaluation of your deficits. Other specialty services within this department include pediatric developmental delays, Parkinson's BIG program, vital stimulation, and voice/music therapy.

See how a Speech-Language Pathologist can help!

Bon Secours Community Hospital
160 E Main St, 1st Fl, Port Jervis

(845) 858-7112

St. Anthony Community Hospital
Center for Physical Rehabilitation
153 State Route 94 S, Warwick

(845) 987-5150

Good Samaritan Hospital
255 Lafayette Ave, Suffern

(845) 368-5253

Rehabilitation at Bon Secours Charity Health System a Member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network: Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy; Lymphedema & Oncological Program (Rehabilitation services are provided by Access Physical Therapy & Wellness)

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