



MAY IS NATIONAL BETTER HEARING & SPEECH MONTH

Speech-Language Pathologists, also known as SLPs, provide evaluation and treatment for individuals that might be experiencing trouble with speech, language, cognitive function, and/or swallowing disorders.

How Can a Speech-Language Pathologist Help?

If you are experiencing any of the below symptoms, talk with your doctor about the benefits of participating in therapy with a Speech-Language Pathologist.

- ▶ Difficulty swallowing (coughing, choking, excessive throat clearing)
- ▶ Odynophagia (painful swallowing)
- ▶ Trouble finding words to communicate your wants and needs
- ▶ Difficulty understanding and/or expressing your thoughts
- ▶ Memory problems or difficulty focusing
- ▶ Soft, breathy voice making it difficult for people to hear and understand what you are saying



Patients who suffer from a progressive, degenerative neurological disease such as Dementia or Parkinson's Disease, may require an SLP screen or evaluation to assure maximum quality of life and independence are achieved. SLPs are able to alter the environment, provide education to family and staff, and develop cueing strategies to facilitate an optimal setting in which the patient can comfortably complete their daily tasks and enjoy leisure activities.

