COURSE DATE: October 25 - 26, 2019

TITLE: Rethinking the Evaluation, Management and Treatment of Patients with Dysphagia: Black and White or Varied Shades of Gray?

DESCRIPTION: Speech and Language Pathologists receive education about the “vocal tract” and “respiration for speech”. Rarely, do these define physiological functions despite the fact that the “swallowing mechanism” and “breathing” have life-supporting functions. This course will review the anatomy and physiology of the aerodigestive tract. It will explore underlying mechanisms of various diseases that may affect communication and swallowing. Alterations in speech production and swallow-respiratory coordination in pulmonary disease states can always be traced back to the underlying pathophysiology of the disease itself. Often, training begins too far away from the disease states, leaving clinicians to connect dots that are spaced very far apart. This course will review common pulmonary diseases affecting ventilation and respiration and how these diseases affect communication and swallowing. Emerging research and changing practices in the management of dysphagia, preventative oral care and the contribution of oral biofilms related to aspiration pneumonia will be provided. The concept of “screening” in the management of patients with swallowing disorders will be examined. A discussion will include operational definitions for “screening” and the variation in understanding of what a “screening” is. The use of “screens” for clinical evaluation and instrumental evaluations will be discussed. There is current debate regarding the value of the clinical swallow evaluation. Some reduce evaluation to a simple pass-fail screen. Others devalue the deep, rich and multidimensional information evaluations provide in favor of simply conducting imaging tests to identify aspiration. This course will defend the value and utility of the clinical swallowing evaluation as a crucial component of the diagnostic process. The course will include a review of popular assessment techniques with particular focus on the videofluoroscopic assessment of swallowing. During this session the clinician will view recorded segments of swallowing studies.

OUTCOMES:

- Describe ventilation and respiration and how healthy pulmonary function supports healthy communication and swallowing function
- Describe how a disease-related change in ventilation and respiration affects communication and swallowing function
- Accurately define healthy ventilatory and respiratory function and esophageal structure and function
- Differentiate restrictive and obstructive pulmonary diseases and describe how these affect communication and swallowing
- Understand differences between pathological pulmonary conditions and its effect on breathing, talking and swallowing
- Read a chest x-ray report and explain its meaning and how the result does, or does not, lead to suspicion of dysphagia
- Describe the association between aspiration pneumonia and oral care
- List the contributions of cytokines to the development of oral colonization of pathogens
- Explain the range of oral pathogens and their unique locations in the oral anatomy

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• Compare and contrast use of the strict operational definition of “screening” vs. conventional use
• List components of popular clinical swallow assessments that are described as “screens”
• Explain the guidelines published by the American College of Radiology and ASHA as they relate to the “esophageal screen”
• Identify the value and required components of a thorough clinical examination
• Define what each component of the clinical examination tells the clinician about the risk that dysphagia poses to the patient
• Support or reject the need for imaging testing and when it is indicated
• Create hypotheses and plans for instrumental testing based on clinical examination observations
• List 2 perceptual biases that can affect the interpretation of the videofluoroscopic swallow assessment (VFSS) and fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES)
• Compare and contrast reliability and accuracy
• Describe methods for reducing bias when interpreting instrumental swallow assessments

INSTRUCTORS:

James Coyle Ph.D. CCC-SLP, BCS-S, ASHA Fellow; Dr. Coyle is an Associate Professor of Communication Science and Disorders at the University of Pittsburgh where he co-developed the department’s clinical doctorate program in Medical Speech Language Pathology. His principal clinical and research interests are in assessment and management of oropharyngeal dysphagia in adults, biomechanical analysis of swallowing physiology, medical sequelae caused by dysphagia, and educating students and clinicians in evidence based medical SLP practice. He lectures nationally and internationally on all of these subjects. He is a Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing Disorders, and a former member of the Specialty Recognition Board and an ASHA Fellow. He has an active clinical practice in University Hospitals and Clinics, where he trains students, and is currently involved in several dysphagia research projects.

Joe Murray Ph.D. CCC-SLP, BCS-S, ASHA Fellow; Dr. Murray is Chief of the Audiology Speech Pathology Service for VA Ann Arbor. His research and publications are in the areas of assessment, treatment and management of patients with dysphagia. He has provided numerous workshops, seminars and invited lectures in North and South America, Australia and Europe.

LEVEL: Intermediate

AUDIENCE: SLPs

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AGENDA: Day One

7:30 AM Registration
8:00 AM Welcome, introductions & course particulars
8:15 AM Tour of the aerodigestive tract – what’s in a name?
9:15 AM Pulmonary disease in adults: Types and risk factors! What do all these lab results and tests mean?
10:45 AM Break
11:00 AM The importance of oral care!
12:00 PM Lunch (on your own)
1:00 PM Screening – What it is and what it’s not!
2:00 PM Meaningful or meaningless? The clinical exam
3:00 PM Break
3:15 PM Error in the instrumental exam
4:15 PM Case presentations & conundrums, question and answer
5:00 PM Adjourn

Day Two

8:00 AM Announcements
8:15 AM Treatment - New, different and exciting!
10:15 AM Break
10:30 AM Case presentations & conundrums from course participants
12:00 PM Question and answer
12:00 PM Adjourn

COURSE: #11776
PRICE: $450 before 9/25/2019; $495 after
CEUs – 1.15 CEU’s (11.5 Clock Hours)

LOCATION:
UWM School of Continuing Education
161 W Wisconsin Ave; 7th Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53203

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