



The Value of Telepractice in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP)



SLP telepractice services are feasible and effective for assessing and treating speech, language, communication, and swallowing disorders in...

People With Progressive Conditions

- Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia¹⁻³
- Head and Neck Cancer⁴
- Mild Cognitive Impairment^{1-3, 5}
- Primary Progressive Aphasia⁶
- Parkinson's Disease⁶⁻⁹
- Multiple Sclerosis¹

People With Acquired Conditions

- Acquired Brain Injury^{1, 10, 11}
- Aphasia^{6, 11-13}
- Cerebral Palsy¹⁴
- Developmental Disabilities¹⁵
- Dysarthria^{12, 16}
- Traumatic Brain Injury^{6, 17, 18}

People With Deficits in...

- Cognitive-Communication^{1, 10, 12}
- Feeding and Swallowing^{6, 7, 12, 19-22, 24}
- Fluency²⁵⁻²⁸
- Speech and Language^{12, 29-36}
- Voice^{6, 12, 37}
- Written Language³⁸

People Who Are...

- Augmentative/Alternative Communication Users^{39, 40}
- Autistic^{28, 41-47}
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing^{48, 49}
- Multilingual^{40, 50, 51}



Increased Access and Efficiency

Compared with in-person services, individuals receiving SLP services via telepractice had...

- Decreased appointment wait times by **2-3 days** for swallowing services.^{4, 52}
- On average, **5 times fewer** sessions and **136 fewer** treatment minutes for swallowing and communication treatment to adults with head and neck cancer.⁵³
- 21% fewer** cancellations and **13%-18% fewer** missed sessions for voice treatment.^{54, 55}
- 3 times** higher treatment completion rate for gender-affirming voice care.⁵⁶



Reduced Consumer Costs

Compared with in-person services, SLP telepractice decreased consumer costs related to lost wages, productivity, and travel by...

- 11%** for swallowing treatment to adults with head and neck cancer.⁵⁷
- 70%** for communication treatment to adults with Parkinson's disease.⁵⁸
- 52%** for pediatric feeding treatment.²³
- 26%** for functional communication treatment to children with developmental disorders.⁵⁹



Improved Function

Patient-Reported Measures

Adults who felt that their skills improved because of SLP services.

Communication

97%
Telepractice

95%
In-Person

Cognition

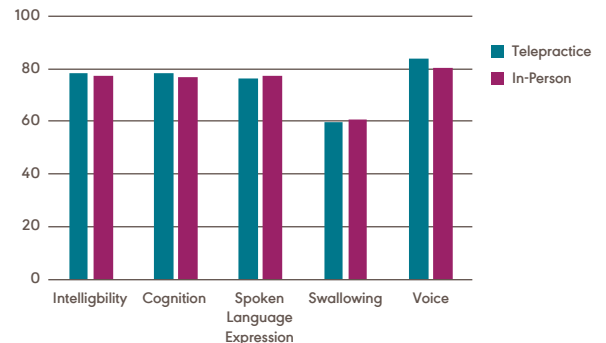
95%
Telepractice

94%
In-Person

Telepractice and in-person SLP outpatient treatment result in similar levels of improvement on patient-reported measures.¹²

Clinician-Reported Measures

% of children and adults making functional progress.



Outpatient SLP treatments delivered in-person or via telepractice result in similar levels of improvement on clinician-reported measures.¹²



Increased Consumer Satisfaction, Acceptance, and Adherence



High satisfaction and acceptability^{7, 22, 24, 60, 61}

80%-99%



Reduction in discharges due to non-adherence¹²

41%*



Increase in completion of home program¹²

11%

*Pediatric SLP services

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