



Nice Speech Lady - SLP Scope of Practice Reference Guide

Nice Speech Lady has created visual guides in explaining the scope of practice to patients and caregivers.

Two versions are available in this resource:

- A simple listing of terms.
- A listing, with explanations.

Suggestions for use:

- Print out a desired version of this resource. Ask patients/families at initial evaluations to circle areas of concern during the paperwork/intake process.
- Print out a desired version of this resource, and place in a frame on the treatment wall. Ask families at initial evaluations to use a dry erase marker for circling/marketing areas of concern.



Nice Speech Lady: SLP SCOPE OF PRACTICE LIST

A Speech Therapy Evaluation may be needed due to any difficulties with:

1. Speech articulation
2. Language
 - Understanding
 - Producing
3. Social communication
 - Understanding
 - Showing
4. Cognition
 - Remembering
 - Planning, prioritizing, negotiating, taking care of needs through thinking
5. Difficulties with voicing
6. Difficulties with swallowing
 - Mouth phase
 - Throat phase
 - Behaviors
7. Difficulties in any related areas
8. Combinations of these areas
9. Need for results and recommendations, only

SLPs are not: psychologists, psychiatrists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, MDs, or social workers/counselors



Nice Speech Lady: SLP SCOPE OF PRACTICE LIST -- Explanations

Reasons for Speech Therapy:

1. Difficulties with speech articulation, such as having a pattern of sounds in error or limited sound productions.
2. Difficulties with language/using words for expressing ideas, thoughts and needs.
 - Understanding others' speech
 - Producing words as expected
3. Difficulties with social communication
 - Understanding others' non-verbal expressions
 - Showing social communication/non-verbal expressions toward others
4. Difficulties with cognition
 - Remembering
 - In planning, prioritizing, negotiating, taking care of needs through thinking -- due to memory challenges
 - Having difficulty communicating due to memory impairment
5. Difficulties with voicing
6. Difficulties with swallowing
 - Mouth phase
 - Throat phase
 - Behaviors
7. Difficulties, for any other reason – in an area of communication, cognition or swallowing, for any other reason (such as: improving intelligibility of a non-native language, or for business/employment purposes.
8. Any combination of these areas.
9. Need for SLP evaluation results and recommendations, only.

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References

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2004). [Preferred Practice Patterns for the Profession of Speech-Language Pathology \[Preferred Practice Patterns\]](https://www.asha.org/policy/doi:10.1044/policy.PP2004-00191). Available from www.asha.org/policy/. doi:10.1044/policy.PP2004-00191

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (2016). [Scope of Practice in Speech-Language Pathology, Ad Hoc Committee On The Scope Of Practice In Speech-Language Pathology](https://www.asha.org/policy/sp2016-00343/). <https://www.asha.org/policy/sp2016-00343/>

Oslund, Mandie, [“Tips to Better Communicate With Patients,” \(2017\) ASHA WIRE, Leader Live](#), June 15, 2017.