



The Value of Telepractice in Speech-Language Pathology



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, **4.86 fewer** sessions and **136 fewer** treatment minutes for swallowing and communication treatment to adults with head and neck cancer.⁵³
- **21.4% fewer** cancellations and **12.9%–18% fewer** missed sessions for voice treatment.^{54, 55}
- **3.14 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...

- **10.7%** for swallowing treatment to adults with head and neck cancer.⁵⁷
- **70.3%** for communication treatment to adults with Parkinson's disease.⁵⁸
- **51.8%** for pediatric feeding treatment.²³
- **26.2%** for functional communication treatment to children with developmental disorders.⁵⁹



Improved Function

Patient-Reported Measures

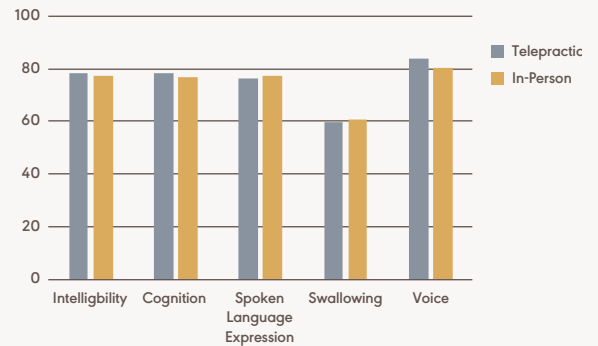
Communication
96.7%
Telepractice
94.6%
In-Person

Cognition
94.5%
Telepractice
93.2%
In-Person

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

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

Clinician-Reported Measures



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

% of children and adults making functional progress.



Increased Consumer Satisfaction, Acceptance, and Adherence

*Pediatric SLP services



High satisfaction and acceptability^{7, 22, 24, 60, 61}
80%–99%



Reduction in discharges due to non-adherence*¹²
41%



Increase in completion of home program¹²
11%

Learn more about telepractice: Visit www.asha.org/practice-portal/professional-issues/telepractice/.

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