Cervical Auscultation in Dysphagia Management: A practical workshop for speech pathologists working with adult and paediatric dysphagia

A 3 credits (högskolepoäng) course at the Division of Speech and Language Pathology, University of Gothenburg in April 2013.

This course includes a two day workshop which introduces clinicians to dysphagia management using cervical auscultation (CA). The CA technique is one of several used to enhance the clinical swallow examination (CSE) / bedside dysphagia assessment. Strong dysphagia management using a multi-modal assessment approach is being demanded from clinicians more and more to ensure a timely, efficient and cost effective service for our patients. This, being highlighted particularly within our current economic constraints and in today’s cost-benefit health service focus.

A literature analysis and evidence for using cervical auscultation will be addressed and considered in the context of (1) current CSE methods and (2) recently developed techniques. This includes case history, cranial nerve assessment, palpation, patient voice assessment post swallow, pulse oximetry and CA.

This workshop has a practical focus so that the skills needed to use this technique with both adults and paediatrics will be acquired. The workshop will cover the theory behind CA and each skill component taught. This includes the following:
- The anatomy and physiology of swallowing in infants, children and adults.
- The normal and abnormal (dysphagic) physiological swallowing events and the swallowing sounds in adults and paediatrics. This will have a practical acoustic training focus (listening, analysing and interpreting) using the stethoscopes provided.
- Correct use of the stethoscope, cervical placement and care of the stethoscope.
- Practical listening tasks – detecting swallowing sounds and applying the skill.
- Multimodal assessment of dysphagia and including CA in the CSE.
- Reporting and documenting a CSE using CA.
- Evidence for stethoscope use in medicine.

The presenters will be there to provide hands-on assistance and share experiences of using the technique.

Participants, requirements
This is a 3 hp (credit point) course provided via the University of Gothenburg. A pre-reading package will be provided and a pre- and post-workshop assignment will be given and assessed.

This is a practical workshop for speech pathologists who are or will be providing clinical dysphagia management to adult and/or paediatric patients. The workshop is also suitable for clinicians who want to be ‘updated’ about the clinical swallow examination and the evidence shaping this field. Degree as speech-language pathologist (legitimerad logoped) is required.
Instructors, biographical data

Dr Julie Cichero (BA, BSpThy Hons, PhD) is a dedicated specialist of feeding and swallowing disorders. Over the past 20 years Julie has worked in public and private settings, including: adult acute, rehabilitation and extended care facilities. Over the past five years Julie has also treated babies, infants, and children with medical or behavioural swallowing disorders.

Julie has been a lecturer and researcher affiliated with The University of Queensland (UQ) since 1996. Over the past twelve years Julie has held and been invited to present workshops on dysphagia throughout Australia. She is an invited international speaker in the field of dysphagia (US, Canada, Spain, Singapore, China). She has been invited to speak at speech pathology, dietetic, medical, nursing and pharmacy conferences. She is a reviewer for a number of international medical, nursing and allied health journals. Julie has served as a consultant on dysphagia for the Australian National Stroke Foundation, Speech Pathology Australia, and the Dietitians Association of Australia. In 2006 in conjunction with Professor Bruce Murdoch (co-editor), she published Dysphagia: Foundation, Theory and Practice (Wiley & Sons Inc.). In 2009 she published her first popular press book together with Dietitian and co-author Kate Di Prima “More peas please; Solutions for feeding fussy eaters” (Allen & Unwin).

Liza Bergström is a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist, Australia & legitimerad logoped, Sweden. After graduating with a Bachelor of Speech Pathology in 1998, Liza embarked on a clinical journey which involved utilising evidence-based speech pathology assessment and management within various international healthcare services. Liza has worked across a range of speech pathology areas with both the adult and paediatric populations. Since graduating, Liza has been working with dysphagia and has been regarded as a specialist in the area since 2005 - managing paediatric dysphagia, paediatric tracheostomised patients and adult dysphagic patients across all populations including the tracheostomised and intensive care populations. Liza routinely uses multi-modality clinical dysphagia assessment techniques, including cervical auscultation. In 2009-2011, Liza contributed as a senior speech pathologist to several Queensland government health care evidence-based developments and projects. These included; (1) speech pathology adult tracheostomy management guidelines, (2) modified barium swallow standardisation and training resource development and (3) being a nominated clinician for the statewide FEES implementation and training project. In 2011, Liza moved from Australia to the northern hemisphere and her family homeland of Sweden where she is continuing to follow her passion of working in the field of dysphagia management.

Fill out the attached form (in Swedish or in English) and be sure to indicate which workshop you sign up for (April 18-19 or April 22-23). The form should be sent electronically together with your degree diploma (examensbevis) and a document of identification (personbevis or copy of passport) to anna-karin.norrman@neuro.gu.se

The total cost is 2000 SEK and the deadline for sign-up is 10 January 2013 – welcome!