Speech Therapy

Agenda

Introduction

Scope of Practice

Diagnoses

Types of therapy

Final takeaways

Introduction:

- -13 years of experience
- -10 years at Heritage
- -From Louisiana
- -Specialize is adult rehab



Scope of Practice

Swallowing impairments

Cognition

Motor speech

Voice/respiratory disorders

Language disorders

"Everything from the lungs up"



Some diagnoses that ST treat:

Parkinson's Disease

Stroke

Dysphagia

Dementia

Swallowing Impairments

- Coughing with intake
- Having food items "feeling stuck" in throat
- Acid reflux or digestion impairment
- Pain or discomfort with eating/drinking
- Low intake amount
- Difficulties with medication intake

Voice and Respiratory Disorders

Voice:

- Change in vocal quality
- Pitch and tone variation
- Low volume
- Strain or discomfort with speech

Respiratory:

- Low stamina when speaking
- Decreased respiratory strength
- "Breathy"

Cognition

- Confusion
- Difficulties remembering information heard or read
- Difficulty keeping up in conversations
- Difficulties with keeping mentally and physically organized

- Problems with use of calendars, planners, etc.
- Difficulties with staying on task/staying focused
- Needing increased repetition of information
- Losing your train of thought

Language

- Difficulty finding the right word
- Losing your speech midsentence/thought
- Difficulties with changing topics in conversations
- Difficulties keeping conversations going
- Difficulties with changing topics or starting conversation
- Difficulties with writing, texting, emailing, etc.



Speech

- Slurred speech
- Stuttering
- Uncoordinated oral muscles
- Weakness of oral muscles
- Difficulties being understood when speaking

Assess, diagnosis, and treat

Improve your everyday function

Final takeaways

- Speech therapy is much more than just speech
- More people could use this type of therapy to improve their everyday life
- Speech therapy is the "grey area" of therapy

Questions?

Thank you

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