

Medical Conditions Commonly Requiring SLP Referral

- Dementia / Alzheimer's disease
- Lou Gehrig's disease / amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
 - Parkinson's disease
- Laryngeal Cancer / Oral Cancer
 - Stroke
- Traumatic Brain Injury

1 in **3** SENIORS dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia.

10% of people who have had a stroke make a full recovery, *25%* have only minor complications, and *40%* end up needing special care for moderate to severe problems.

Who can play a role on the journey?

16,000+
SLPs

SLPs or "speech therapists" are highly trained professionals that evaluate speech and language disorders and offer therapies to remediate them.

Tips

FROM YOUR SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

COMMUNICATION

- Reduce background noises.
- Begin the conversation with casual topics.
- Talk about familiar subjects.
 - Stick to ONE topic.
- Keep sentences and questions short.
- Give older persons a moment to reminisce.
- Allow extra time for responding. Do NOT hurry them.
 - Ease decision making by utilizing yes/no questions.
- Be an active listener. Look for hints from eye gazes and gestures.
 - Do NOT correct speech errors.

SWALLOWING

- Report coughing or choking during eating or drinking.
 - Only offer foods or liquids that are a part of your loved one's diet and recommended by their SLP.
 - Always make sure the dysphagia patient is seated upright and alert during meals.
- Utilize any cues or strategies recommended by your SLP.

Resources:
www.asha.org
www.alz.org
www.healthline.com
www.aphasia.com

Provided by
Therapy Center
WWW.THERAPYCTR.COM