Unraveling Velopharyngeal Dysfunction
Assessing and Treating Pediatric Resonance Disorders

Friday, March 31, 2023
Registration deadline is March 15, 2023

Boston Children’s Hospital, Waltham
9 Hope Ave., Waltham, MA
Conference room A

Options to attend in person or virtually
$130; $70 for students

Where the world comes for answers
Course description

This full-day seminar will focus on the evaluation and treatment of children with disorders of velopharyngeal closure. We will discuss clinical presentation, etiology, and management of velopharyngeal dysfunction (VPD) in children. Topics will include perceptual and objective assessments as well as intervention. Participants will have the opportunity for small group discussion and have time to practice implementing the evaluation and treatment techniques discussed.

Learning objectives

- Recognize signs and symptoms of VPD and when to refer patients to a specialized clinic
- Distinguish between hypernasality, hyponasality, and mixed nasality
- Understand methods of objective assessment for VPD
- Understand which disorders may benefit from speech therapy, and which problems typically require surgical correction
- Recognize the various surgical procedures that may be indicated
- Understand and implement speech therapy techniques for speech disorders related to VPD

Morning: Overview and assessment

7:45–8:30 a.m.  Check-in
8:30–9 a.m.  Introduction - What is velopharyngeal dysfunction (VPD)?
9–9:30 a.m.  Cleft palate repair and VPD
9:30–10 a.m.  Other etiologies of VPD
10–10:15 a.m.  Break
10:15–10:30 a.m.  VPD Clinic at Boston Children’s Hospital – What to expect
10:30–11:15 a.m.  Assessment of VPD
11:15–11:45 a.m.  Let’s practice!
11:45 a.m.–12 p.m.  Questions

Afternoon: Treatments

1–1:30 p.m.  Surgical interventions for VPD
1:30–2:45 p.m.  Therapy: When and how?
2:45–3 p.m.  Break
3–3:45 p.m.  Case studies
3:45–4 p.m.  Questions & discussion
Participants

Roger C. Nuss, MD FACS

Disclosures

Financial: Dr. Nuss is an employee of Boston Children’s Hospital and receives a salary.
Non financial: Dr. Nuss has no non-financial relationships to disclose.

Anne Hseu, MD

Disclosures

Financial: Dr. Hseu is an employee of Boston Children’s Hospital and receives a salary.
Non financial: Dr. Hseu has no non-financial relationships to disclose.

Carolyn Rogers-Vizena, MD

Disclosures

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Non financial: Dr. Rogers-Vizena has no non-financial relationships to disclose.

Roseanne Clark, MS, CCC-SLP

Disclosures

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Non financial: Ms. Clark has no non-financial relationships to disclose.

Liza Catallozzi, MS, CCC-SLP

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Non financial: Ms. Catallozzi has no non-financial relationships to disclose.

Karen Thompson, MA, CCC-SLP

Disclosures

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Sydney Kagan, MS, CCC-SLP

Disclosures

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Allison Wegand-Blais, PA-C

Disclosures

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Laura Yacovone, PA-C

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Mary Lane Jackmin, PA-C

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