



GP Training for Speech, Language & Communication Difficulties in Children

PHN ONLINE EDUCATION SERIES

Speech, language and communication disorders affect many children, with Australian data indicating that more than 1 in 5 of Australia's children are not developmentally on-track with their communication skills at school entry. The risk of disorders is magnified for children experiencing family and domestic violence and makes them extremely vulnerable to poorer wellbeing.

General Practitioners and primary care providers are in the unique position of having contact with children at different times across their infancy and childhood. These two events will showcase the Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties in Children HealthPathway and facilitate insights from clinicians about opportunities for monitoring and connecting children with support services.

SESSION 1: The Hidden Disorder in Childhood: Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties in Children

Learning Outcomes:

- Identify 'red flags' for speech, language and communication difficulties.
- Describe the potential impact of speech, language and communication difficulties across the lifespan.
- Recognise the importance of speech pathology referral for children who have experienced family violence and/or complex trauma.
- Identify the steps in the Healthcare Pathway for clinical practice.

WHO: GPs, Allied Health Professionals, Nurses, Practice Managers

WHEN: Thursday 28th October 2021, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

WHERE: Online via Livestream Webinar

RSVP: Please [click here](#) to view the recording for session 1



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SPEAKERS: **Dr Mary Claessen** is an experienced Speech Pathology researcher and clinician and is a current academic staff member in the Curtin University School of Allied Health. Mary's research focusses on improving quality of life for people with communication and feeding difficulties.



Kate Headley has worked extensively as a speech pathologist in the disability sector providing direct therapeutic services, clinical supervision, community capacity building projects and student education.



Sandra Fitzgerald is a Clinical Editor with the HNECC PHN HealthPathways program

SESSION 2: The Role of GPs and Other Health Professionals in Identifying and Managing Children with Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties

Learning Outcomes:

- Explore the role and perspectives of different medical and allied health professionals around the importance of speech pathology referral.
- Identify the impacts of untreated speech, language and communication difficulties across all areas of development.
- Discuss the high incidence of speech, language and communication difficulties in children who have experienced family and domestic violence.

WHO: **GPs, Allied Health Professionals, Nurses, Practice Managers**

WHEN: **Tuesday 9th November 2021, 6:30pm – 8:00pm**

WHERE: **Online Panel Discussion via Microsoft Teams**

RSVP: Please [click here](#) to register for session 2

Q&A: Pre-questions can be submitted to our panel by [clicking here](#)

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Kate Headley has worked extensively as a speech pathologist in the disability sector providing direct therapeutic services, clinical supervision, community capacity building projects and student education.



Dr Joanne Wood is a General Practitioner with HNE LHD and the headspace youth service. She is also a Clinical Editor with the HNECC PHN HealthPathways program and Clinical Director of Hunter Primary Care.



Jessica Warren is a Senior Psychologist and Manager with Psychological and Specialist Services, Department of Communities and Justice. Her particular area of interest lies in the treatment of trauma in the early childhood period.

