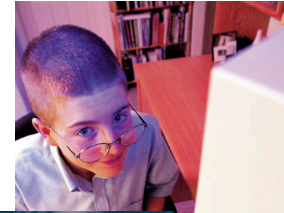


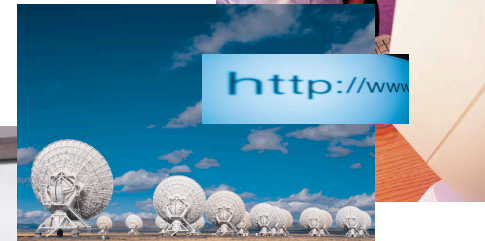
THE TELEPRACTICE PROCESS

- Remote Speech Therapy Via Internet Connect -

The availability and access to the needed expertise is now a wider reality to those in need via the internet.



Because of the increase availability of High Speed connections and higher performance computer hardware,



effective speech therapy by remote means is a possibility.

Each therapy approach can be reviewed for its specific needs where remote sessions maybe an added and effective value to the over all plan.

This process may not be an answer in all cases of need, but can be an alternate means or method to apply where it where otherwise not possible to have access to an ASHA Board Certified Specialist .

If this is an avenue of approach that may be for you, please arrange for an evaluation of your specifics.

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"Net accessible speech therapy."

[RECIPIENT ADDRESS]

THINGS TO CONSIDER

YOUR LOCATION

The setting in which remote therapy takes place is very important, as this can be very different than the regular professional's environment that you would experience.

There may be distractions in the surroundings that may make it hard to manage the session and may impact the ability to concentrate on and apply the therapy.

There are also some other considerations, but these are usually worked out after a few sessions.

THE TIME DIFFERENCE

Because of the Time Zone in which you are in, this may conflict with your availability or the availability of the therapist to have a suitable time for a session.

EMOTIONAL & PHYSICAL

A person's emotional and physical state is a factor when remote therapy is applied because the session may occur at a time where it may be very early or very late in their day at the local time. This is especially true for children.

TECHNOLOGY QUOTIENT

Computer operation for most tasks is normal. For remote speech therapy, there are added demands. Once these are learned, the rest of the sessions should go smoothly.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Most of what is needed to setup a session will take place not at your end, but there are things that may occur that can not be controlled. Some information may be given to try and help out, but do not expect computer operations, network, and connection trouble technical assistance.

PRIVACY

Each individual session is private and keycoded for access.

YOUR COMPUTER HARDWARE

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL - VARIETY CAN BE TROUBLE

Computers may be in any configuration (assembly). They can even vary in the same make and model. Other details of a computer can impact the ability to have a session. The number and type of programs installed. Size, type, generation (year) of any parts in the setup are a factor. What works for the every day tasks may not be suitable to an interactive speech therapy session.

Because of this, you may have to adjust or change your setup in order for you to enable the computer to participate in the remote therapy session.

WEB CAMERA VIDEO – MICROPHONE PERFORMANCE*

Web Cameras were not designed for speech therapy sessions. What the therapist needs to see is much different than what the every day person might encounter in the "sound with video" communications. There is sometimes both a close-up and wide-view of what is taking place that is needed. Most web-cams do not have this flexibility. They are usually limited. **Microphone performance** is very important to evaluate all the things that may occur in speech for the therapist. I.E. normal and very light breath sounds both must be captured or heard.

*Acceptable Camera/Microphone model must be approved.

YOUR COMPUTER CONNECTION

CONNECTIONS, CONNECTIONS – YOUR ISP PROVIDER**

The net connection that the **Internet Service Provider** gives you may be a factor in having an effective session. Video is an important part in conducting a session. The ability of your **ISP** to provide you the needed "bandwidth" within your connection is going to help decide this. Not all connections are equal at any given time of day. Much like traveling in a car, things can flow smoothly, be congested, or come to a complete stop.

** "Skype" is not acceptable and will not be used for therapy.