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VBAC: Home birth/water birth: 10 years' experience in Panama

The Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) scope of practice is ever evolving, especially in current medical settings. The SLP's role is closely intertwined with the Otorhinolaryngologist in implementing diagnostic and treatment services for pediatric and adult patients with the following disorders: aural rehabilitation following cochlear implantation surgeries, rehabilitation of head and neck cancer survivors, managing tracheostomy and speech valves, cleft lip and palate, voice and resonance disorders, swallowing disorders, speech and language disorders, and dysfluency disorders. Also, SLPs work closely with the neurologist to diagnose and treat the following cases: brain tumors, traumatic brain injuries, stroke rehabilitation, motor speech disorders, cognitive disorders, and implementation of Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC).

Current evidence-based practice recommendations encourage SLPs to work in a multidisciplinary fashion with medical professionals to improve the quality of patient-centered care following the World Health Organization- International Classification Functioning, Disability, and Health Model (ICF). In this presentation, we will discuss the role of a medical SLP in the acute medical settings and what types of instruments and tests do they require to provide optimum clinical care. Furthermore, we will discuss SLPs involvement in participation in various designated clinical pathways in acute care settings to ensure best practice.

Biography

Graciela Anhel de A. Ob/Gyn since more than 30 years. With her husband Dr. Rodrigo Aybar has been attending home births/water births and to promote the natural, respected and humanized birth through her professional practice and in educational activities in seminars, workshops and courses for pregnant women in Panama Republic.

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