



Communicating about Communication Options

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Agenda

- **Communication Decision-Making**
- **Developing Spoken Language & Literacy**
- **Cued Speech as a Spoken Language Option**
- **What Families and Professionals Need to Know**
- **Resources**

Communication Decisions Following Diagnosis

- Parents must make complex decisions once they learn their child has a hearing loss.
 - Technology, language, and communication choices
- Comprehensive information on the range of options is essential.

Routes to Spoken Language

- Many families choose spoken language routes for communication and literacy.
- The foundation of efficient and natural language development and literacy is complete access to the building blocks.
- While amplification or cochlear implants can help, complete access to spoken language may require the addition of visual information.

Integrating Visual Information to Enhance Speech Perception

- Auditory information from a CI may be less than optimal.
- Speech perception is a multi-modal event, even for hearing individuals.
- Reducing ambiguity enables easy and efficient communication and language learning.

Facilitating Communication & Language with Cued Speech

- Simple system to add visual information using a language parents already know
- Allows complete immersion in all the critical elements of spoken language
- Access to language = potential for literacy and academic achievement

Components of Cued Speech

- Eight handshapes representing groups of consonants
- Four vowel placements representing groups of vowels
- Used in conjunction with the natural lip movements of speech
- To completely and unambiguously specify phonemes of spoken language

Effects of CS Use

- Communication
- Language Access
- Phonemic Awareness
- Language & Literacy Results
- Evidence Base

Parents and professionals should consider:

- Family's goals and needs
- Language of the home
- Quality of language input

Sharing CS Info with Parents & Professionals

- Does CS differ from sign systems? YES
 - Linguistic questions
 - Learning process
 - Spoken language component communicated
- Does CS differ from other visual cueing systems, such as Visual Phonics? YES, in important ways
 - Relationship to spoken language
 - Ability to communicate connected language
 - Effects on language skills

Sharing CS Info with Parents & Professionals

- Can CS work prior to or in tandem with CI's? YES
 - Primes the spoken language pump
 - Auditory-visual integration
 - Makes the message unambiguous, even in difficult listening situations
- Can my child learn spoken language and ASL? YES
 - Bilingual-Bicultural models
 - Benefits of access to multiple languages

Sharing CS Info with Parents & Professionals

- Cued Speech in the home
 - Access to the language of the home
 - Ease of communication
 - Early language development
- Cued Speech at school
 - Complete access to classroom information
 - Ramifications for inclusion

Sharing CS Info with Parents & Professionals

- How to Learn
 - Cue Camps
 - Workshops
 - Video/DVD instruction

Resources

National Cued Speech Association

800-459-3529 (v/tty) cuedspeech.org

Cued Speech Discovery: NCSA Bookstore

877-CUE-2030 cuedspeech.com

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