

# SPEECH THERAPY

## OVERVIEW AND EVALUATION

### What is Speech Therapy?

Speech therapy is treatment that helps with speech, language, communication and swallowing disorders.

A speech-language evaluation may be conducted if there are concerns with:

- Speech delay or no speech
- Articulation (for example, difficulty saying certain sounds, lisps)
- Voice quality (for example, hoarse voice, nasal sound to voice)
- Fluency (for example, stuttering)
- Receptive language (understanding words spoken to you)
- Expressive language (being able to use words to express yourself)
- Eating challenges (mechanics of swallowing)

A CICS Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) conducts a speech-language evaluation to assess, describe and interpret an individual's ability to communicate. This is done by:

- Collecting child's medical history
- Interviewing parent(s) and child
- Examining hearing, vision, cognition and motor skills, while taking psychological, social and environmental factors into account
- Evaluating aspects of speech, language, communication and swallowing function through testing
- Identifying effective intervention strategies
- Evaluate the need for specialized equipment and/or technology
- Communicating recommendations and working with family members to set goals and create an individualized Speech-Language Treatment Plan for SUCCESS

Other services available through CICS

- Assessment and prescriptions for augmentative communication devices

