



# 11<sup>TH</sup> ESLA CONGRESS OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

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New frontiers in speech and language therapy: advancing practice, research and education

## Advances in Adult Speech and Language Therapy. Improving Communication - Building for a Better Future

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The current knowledge related to the nature of adult speech and language disorders and the interventions that improve communication provides a good basis for further and continuing development in both understanding and practice. Building on what we know given new opportunities and technologies should be a constant in professional practice.

There is recognition that a broader range of underlying medical, cognitive and physiological conditions, than were previously implicated, may lead to communication deficits. These are frequently subtle but can still have a profound effect on people's lives. The impact of communication disorders is increasingly understood and more recently is being addressed in a range of therapeutic practices.

The evidence-base informing speech and language therapy has grown exponentially over the last decade with implications for the way we develop and modify services in order that they are more accessible and resource efficient.

Embedding outcome measurement into our services can assist us to continue to learn by examining positive deviation given that change is constant.