



11TH ESLA CONGRESS OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

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

Current and future clinical applications of neuroplasticity and neurorehabilitation in Dysphagia

Dr. Emilia Michou

During the last few years, clinical research has attempted to translate the principles of neuroplasticity into SLT clinical practice and several of our 'usual care' practices in our dysphagia clinic have been revamped, re-examined and altered to fit this neuroscientific quest.

Currently, clinical guidance provides a framework to practice, yet we still need to take into consideration several aspects of physiology and neurophysiology when diagnosing, monitoring and making therapeutic decisions for our patients with dysphagia and / or feeding problems. Taking into account our management choices, it is becoming evident that we now neurorehabilitate the swallow.

During this talk, new avenues of clinical practice based on neuroscientific principles will be examined, as well as information about neurostimulation. Studies from different patient population groups will be presented and will shed light on current and future clinical applications of neuroplasticity and neurorehabilitation in dysphagia.