

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about Speech Language Services please call the Center for Medical Rehabilitation at Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, 206.368.1848. Speech Language Services require a referral from a physician or provider.

Northwest Hospital & Medical Center is a 504/ADA accessible employer. Auxiliary aids (sign language interpreters, readers) or alternate formats of written materials will be made available, upon request.



LOCATION & DIRECTIONS

From I-5 take exit 173.
Turn west on Northgate Way.
At Meridian Avenue North, turn right (North).
Take the first left onto 115th Street.



SPEECH LANGUAGE SERVICES



ETHICS STATEMENT

The Center for Medical Rehabilitation at Northwest Hospital & Medical Center is committed to ethical behavior in respect to the patient's right to participate and determine his/her own plan of care. To act for the well being of the patients and the members of the hospital's community. To provide fair, equitable, and appropriate treatment in accordance with the law. To effectively and respectfully work with a diverse cultural and ethnic mix of patients, visitors, and staff.



**NORTHWEST HOSPITAL
& MEDICAL CENTER**
Center for Medical Rehabilitation

1550 North 115th Street
Seattle, WA 98133
www.nwhospital.org

Call 206.368.1848

B-69 (1/04)

Programs designed to address a full range of adult communication and swallowing disorders.



**NORTHWEST HOSPITAL
& MEDICAL CENTER**
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INTRODUCTION

We tend to take for granted everyday tasks such as stating our name, understanding the news, writing a letter, remembering an appointment, or eating breakfast. When injury or illness disrupts the ability to say your name or drink a glass of water, you and your family may be frustrated, not know why these disruptions are happening, or what the future holds.



WHAT CAUSES THESE PROBLEMS?

Communication and swallowing problems may be a result of:

- Stroke
- Head injury
- Head and neck cancer
- Respiratory illnesses
- Neurological diseases such as multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Alzheimer's disease
- Abuse, misuse, paralysis, or disease of the vocal cords
- Severe or long-term illness

CAN THESE PROBLEMS BE TREATED?

Yes. The Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) at the Center for Medical Rehabilitation at Northwest Hospital & Medical Center specialize in outpatient and inpatient treatment programs that address speech, voice, language, swallowing, and/or cognitive communication disorders. Our SLPs are certified by the American Speech Language Hearing Association and licensed by the state of Washington.

WHAT DISORDERS DO WE TREAT?

The Center for Medical Rehabilitation can treat a wide range of disorders, including:

- **Aphasia** – Problems speaking, understanding, reading, writing, telling time, and/or using numbers.
- **Cognitive-Communication Disorders** – Problems with attention to task, memory, reasoning, problem solving, and awareness of surroundings.
- **Dysphagia** – Difficulties eating or swallowing.
- **Dysarthria** – Speech that is difficult to understand due to weak muscles.
- **Apraxia** – Struggling to speak because of difficulty sequencing speech sounds.
- **Voice Disorder** – A hoarse sounding voice or a voice that is too soft or rough sounding.
- **Alaryngeal Voice** – Loss of the voice box (larynx) necessitating the use of an artificial larynx, a voice prosthesis, or esophageal voice.

TREATMENT PROGRAMS

We offer the following treatment programs:

Aphasia Group Treatment

Practicing communication skills in a small, supportive group, led by an experienced SLP.

Functional Living Skills Group Treatment

Practicing various communication skills such as ordering from a restaurant menu and planning a trip under the guidance of an interdisciplinary therapy team.

Voice Disorders/Vocal Image Program

Using a computerized voice analysis system, SLPs analyze pitch, loudness, and voice quality. Techniques are developed to improve the voice quality using this information.

Lee Silverman Voice Treatment® Program

Specialized treatment for individuals with Parkinson's disease or other neurological disorders to increase the volume (loudness) of the patient's voice.

Videofluoroscopic Swallow Evaluation

A dynamic x-ray used to test swallowing. Results of this evaluation are used to ensure safe and optimal eating.

Easy Street Environments®

A unique resource for SLPs where patients can practice their functional communication skills in a real life setting such as a grocery store, restaurant, or bank.

Your individualized program will include:

- A comprehensive evaluation of the speech, voice, language, swallowing, and/or cognitive-communication problem you are experiencing. This evaluation will help determine what the problem is, how severe the problem is, and what can be done to resolve it.
- Individual and/or group therapy treatment programs.
- Education and training for you, your family, and caregivers to use new communication and swallowing strategies.
- Counseling about additional treatment options and resources.

