



Dynamic speech assessment

Why use dynamic speech assessment?

Quickly answer these questions about your patient:

- Can they modify their speech?
- Does their speech improve in any way?
- How easily can you shape their speech?
- Are they willing therapy partners?
- How much insight do they have into their impairments?
- Can they detect improvements in their speech?
- Are they able to describe what they did to improve their speech?

Why use speech recordings for assessment and therapy?

Recording speech samples:

- Creates a record of baseline speech abilities.
- Captures improvements with dynamic assessment.
- Educates and motivates the patient.
- Serves as an invaluable therapy tool.
- Highlights progress made from initial assessment to discharge.
- Offers a powerful tool for the patient to continue using after discharge.

Start with your typical assessment methods

Obtain baseline speech production data using standardized and/or non-standardized methods.

Steps for dynamic speech assessment

Find a strategy that improves their speech.

- Demonstrate the use of a speech strategy.
- Ask the patient to imitate.
- Give cues until they're successful (or switch to another strategy).
- Record a short sample of improved speech.

Ask your patient to judge their baseline speech.

- Play a snippet of their baseline speech sample.
- Ask them what they notice.
- Reinforce what they say, or provide an observation of your own.

Now compare the baseline to the speech produced using a strategy.

- Play a snippet from the recording of your patient using a speech strategy.
- Ask what they notice. What's different from the baseline?
- Reinforce what they say, or provide an observation of your own.

Finally, ask your patient to describe the strategy in their own words.

- Ask them to use the strategy again, this time paying attention to how it feels.
- Then ask them to describe it in their own words.

Read the post for more information and tips

Check out eatspeakthink.com/tips-dynamic-speech-assessment for more information, including:

- Rationale for each step in dynamic speech assessment.
- Common speech strategies.
- Tips to elicit improved speech.