

**Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Committee on Dysphagia**

Ken-Crest Services
Plymouth Meeting, PA

January 12, 2005

Present: Joanne Wisely, Joy McGowan, Anne Pittenger, Jim Lemma, Pam Smith

The meeting was called to order at 16:15.

1. ASHA convention review.

Our dysphagia committee was well represented among poster presentations at the ASHA convention.

Joanne, Pam – Health Care Roulette

Pam – Decision Making Study

Joy, Judy – School Protocol for Dysphagia

- Sessions were well attended and positive feedback was had by all.
 - Discussion submitting some of the work done by committee members for publication in various journals.
 - SID 13 meeting and FEES workshop were informative. There were mixed reviews of sessions. There were a number of conflicts in scheduling; there were many poster sessions that were helpful in hopefully attracting new researchers.
2. List serve and web site update. We now have a space on the PSHA web site. The minutes are posted on the web site, and we can post whatever we would like as a link. Pam will email an article that the Bloomsburg students wrote and we will post that if the committee agrees.

Ideas for increasing the use of the list serve:

- Write an article for Keystater announcing the list serve.
- Flyer/brochure for a registration table.
- Offer students in a dysphagia course in any university in PA membership on the list serve while they are taking the course.

3. ASHA SID 13 – Pam is serving on a Membership Committee for the ASHA SID 13. The benefits of membership and member needs were solicited and the following were discussed.

- Benefits: CEUs, especially with the new requirements.
- Needs: More readable newsletter format. It would be good to be able to meet different levels of continuing educational need. Sometimes the newsletter is too high level for people who are newer to the field. Perhaps issues could be more basic – accountability, diet levels, etc. Another idea is to allow for a trial membership for SID, especially if newsletters were online. Members could select from a menu to trial newsletters for various SIDs. SID members would like to be

kept up to date on issues; member surveys, sending policy proposals out for peer review, etc.

4. NESHAP conference: Flyer was distributed. April 20, 2005 – Providing dysphagia services in schools, presented by Joy McGowan and Judy Hengst, Allentown, PA. Flyer drafts were made available; these will be mailed by NESHAP in February.

5. Continuing Education

March 2 – Blue Dye and Vital Stim. Draft Flyer available for review. Pam will email to Irina for mailing when the corrections are made. Jim will check with Irina to make sure she is still going to take care of the mailing.

May 4 – . Interpretation and problem solving for scary videos.

Provide case studies about patients who, based on all test results, do not appear to be functional eaters, yet they have no respiratory symptoms and do well with oral diets bedside. Other unusual videos will be presented and discussed.

June 2 – planning meeting

6. PSHA convention – scheduled speakers reviewed. Vacancies for upcoming elections were announced.
7. Practice Act Update - Issues with credentialing for audiology were a major stumbling block for completing a final practice act proposal with PAA. Our lobbyist is working on this issue to benefit speech pathologists in Pennsylvania.
8. Discussion on encroachment and scope of practice issues for swallowing and OT. In some settings, OTs are able to provide dysphagia services if they pass an online test. There is concern that if requirements continue to increase, supply of staff will decrease, and this contributes to encroachment. However, we also acknowledge the depth of our field and the need for the levels of preparation that exist.
9. Speech Pathology Speaker's Bureau – committee members could be resources for university programs to speak on various issues of dysphagia.
10. Anne is doing an informal survey to find out who is still using blue dye and if so, how much. Anne is researching blue dye and amounts that have been shown in the literature.
11. Next meeting will be the continuing education activity March 2, 2005, at Ken-Crest Services in Plymouth Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Smith, Ph.D., CCC