

Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Committee on Dysphagia
October 6, 2004
Plymouth Meeting, PA

Members present: Pip Shafer, Jim Lemma, Pam Smith

Many members are absent today. We hope those who are ill are feeling better and we thank those who let us know they could not attend.

List serve: It seems to be going well so far. Some people have trouble opening attachments. Jim asked how other people who might be interested could join the list serve. The easiest way would be to have them email Pam at LOBSTERPAM@aol.com.

Minutes on web site. The minutes have been sent to the webmaster, but we need to have an introduction for our "section" on the site. It was suggested on the list serve that there is already a brochure that was written describing the committee. This brochure could probably be revised and used not only on the list serve but also be placed on the PSHA table in the exhibit hall at ASHA. Pam has not received the brochure; she will email Irina to see if she has a copy before writing a new document.

Policy on joining the committee. In the past there were efforts made to limit membership of the dysphagia committee to have a balanced committee. While there is certainly merit to attempting to assure representation from various work settings, because we are part of PSHA it seems unlikely that membership in a committee can be limited. The opportunity to participate and network in committees is a member benefit and should not be denied to any member of PSHA. Pam will find out the PSHA bylaws and see what is already stated regarding membership in committees.

Continuing education: March 2: Blue dye - information and alternatives (Jim); Vital Stim - discuss case examples and reimbursement issues (Pip), and DPNS (Irina?).

May 4: Scary videos and functional eaters ("Tales from the Crypt") We had a lengthy discussion of cases whereby the videofluoroscopy was horrendous, yet the individual was eating without evident distress or pulmonary complications. It was proposed that this might make a good session wherein participants would bring a case study to discuss.

Another issue pertinent to a discussion might be standard viscosities in instrumental exams.

The logistics of holding a major continuing education activity were discussed. Since such an event would probably be held in Philadelphia, Pam suggested that perhaps individuals who were local might want to examine possibilities and assume responsibility for planning such an event. Issues of speaker cost, facility cost, and timing were discussed.

The next planning meeting will be January 12. Members are encouraged to communicate using the list serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Smith, Ph.D., CCC/SLP