

Module 2 - Evidence Based Practice in Motor Speech Disorders

Contact Hours: 30

Rationale

Speech and language therapists practise in an environment where there is an expectation that the best available evidence will be applied to clinical problem solving. Students undertaking the postgraduate certificate in motor speech disorders should be equipped with the skills to both evaluate published research for its strengths and weaknesses and also to make their own contribution to this evidence base .

Students will vary in their familiarity with research methodology but as practising speech and language therapists most will have undertaken modules in research methods and data analysis as undergraduates. However some geographical variation is anticipated. This module builds on students' prior learning in research methods and statistics to give them the necessary methodological framework for which to undertake evidence based evaluations and studies

The module articulates with the complementary modules, Assessment of Motor Speech Disorders and Management of Motor Speech Disorders.

Learning Outcomes

Demonstration of in depth knowledge and critical evaluation of published research in the chosen field of enquiry;

Determination of a relevant area for investigation and ability to set appropriate research question(s);

Selection, explanation and justification of appropriate methods for addressing the question(s) showing due regard for ethical considerations;

Selection, explanation and justification of appropriate procedures for analysis of the data;

Recognition of limitations and potential contribution of the planned research

Key/Transferable Skills

Knowledge and understanding

Integration of the main areas of the subject

Critical understanding of the principal theories, principles and concepts

Detailed and critical knowledge and understanding of the specialism, informed by developments at the forefront of the field

Critical awareness of current issues in the field

Applied knowledge and understanding

Use of a range of skills, techniques and practices which are at the forefront of the field

Practice in a wide variety of professional contexts

Planning of a significant project of investigative research

Demonstration of originality or creativity in the application of knowledge, understanding and/or practices

Generic cognitive skills

Application of critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to issues which are at the forefront of the field

Identification and conceptualization of new and abstract problems and issues

Development of original and creative responses to problem and issues

Critical review and consolidation of knowledge, skills, practices and thinking in the field

Making informed judgements in the absence of complete and consistent data

Communication, ICT and numeracy skills

Communication at an advanced level with colleagues and specialists, using appropriate methods

Critical evaluation of a wide range of numerical and other data

Autonomy, accountability and working with others

Exercising of substantial autonomy and initiative in professional activities

Taking responsibility for own work

Demonstration of leadership and initiative and making an identifiable contribution to change and development

Practicing in ways which draw on critical reflection on roles and responsibilities

Dealing with complex ethical and professional issues and making informed judgments

Outline of Module

The nature and levels of research evidence

Case presentation and discussion

In depth seminars / lectures on topics of current interest in motor speech disorders

Project planning, including relevant methodologies

Learning and Teaching Approach(es)

Lectures / Seminars

Student presentations and discussions

Research tutorials

Self-directed facilitated learning

Assessment Method(s)

Research proposal: 3000 words plus relevant appendices

Regulations

The pre-requisite for this module is Module 1.

Bibliography

Crombie, I.K. 2007 *The pocket guide to critical appraisal: a handbook for health care professionals*. . London : BMJ Publishing

Dollaghan, C. 2007 *The handbook for evidence-based practice in communication disorders*. Baltimore: Brookes

Greenhalgh T. 2007 *How to read a paper. The basics of evidence based medicine*. 3rd edition. London: BMJ Book

Pring, T. 2005 *Research methods in communication disorders*. London: Whurr

Reilly , S. et al (Eds) 2004 *Evidence based practice in speech pathology*. London: Whurr

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/eps/courses/aer/materials/>

Plus specific references as appropriate to the field of study.