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Case Scenario—Navigating the Evidence

Case Scenario

You have a new student on your caseload. She is a 6-year-old girl with severe, unilateral hearing loss. She has good speech recognition abilities while using her hearing aids in therapy and in the classroom, but she struggles to communicate with her teachers and peers due to a comorbid articulation disorder.

You want to locate research regarding articulation treatment for children who are deaf and hard of hearing to determine the best treatment approach.

1. **Use relevant filters** to search for research on the [Language and Communication of Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#) or [Speech Sound Disorders](#) Evidence Maps.
2. **Note any barriers** to implementing the research, and try some strategies to overcome these barriers.

Potential Barriers	Strategies To Try
Limited or reduced quality research	<p>Alter your selected filters to capture a wider range of articles.</p> <p>Apply research findings from related populations (i.e., adults with hearing loss, children with typical hearing who have articulation disorders).</p> <p>Give greater weight to information from client perspectives and clinical expertise.</p>
Conflicting results	<p>Use details about the recency, design, and overall quality of each article to determine its trustworthiness. You will complete this process in Activity 5.</p>

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Make a Clinical Decision

1. Consider these questions to determine what weight you give these findings from research.

Questions for Consideration	Tips for Locating Information
How does the recency, type, and quality of the research impact its trustworthiness?	See the “Article Details” section for information about the included study designs, the years searched, and information about funding. Investigate the “Quality Appraisal” section.
What are the limitations and potential areas for bias within this article?	Determine if any limitations are noted in the article’s recommendations and conclusions .
Are there inconclusive or conflicting results?	See “Recommendations From This Guideline” or “Conclusions from this Systematic Review.”
What knowledge can you, your client, or additional experts contribute to answering this clinical question?	Search ASHA’s Practice Portal Pages for any related information. Note any relevant recommendations from the Clinical Practice Guidelines on the ASHA Evidence Maps . Consider your own experiences . Talk with your colleagues and your client about their own prior treatment experiences.

2. Use this information to determine a treatment plan.

Treatment, Strategy, and Selected: _____

Service Delivery Plan (e.g., dosage, format, setting): _____

Plan for monitoring progress: _____



Troubleshooting Common Obstacles to External Scientific Evidence: Resource List

Explore ASHA Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Tools and Resources

EBP Overview and Resources to Guide Implementation

- [ASHA Evidence-Based Practice \(EBP\) Homepage](#)
- [ASHA EBP Process](#)
- [ASHA EBP Toolkit](#)

Take a Deeper Dive Into EBP Concepts

- [Bias, Appraisal Tools, and Levels of Evidence](#)
- [How to Search for External Evidence in Communication Sciences and Disorders \(CSD\)](#)
- [Statistics Refresher](#)
- [Understanding Research Designs and External Scientific Evidence](#)

Printable EBP Worksheets

- [Create a PICO Question \[PDF\]](#)
- [Create a Search String \[PDF\]](#)
- [Track Your Results \[PDF\]](#)

Printable EBP Reference Information

- [Finding Free Access Research \[PDF\]](#)
- [Identify Biases \[PDF\]](#)
- [Study Design Features \[PDF\]](#)
- [The DECIDE Framework \[PDF\]](#)
- [Which Research Design Should You Find? \[PDF\]](#)

Additional ASHA Tools and Resources

- [ASHA Evidence Maps](#)
- [ASHA Practice Policy Documents](#)
- [ASHA Practice Portal Pages](#)
 - [Cultural Responsiveness Practice Portal Page](#)
- [ASHAWire](#)

Questions or feedback about EBP? Email us at ncep@asha.org.