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Guideline for use of equipment in speech therapy	Review Date	24/08/2024
	Page	1 of 3

# Guideline for Use of Equipment in Speech Therapy

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Guideline for use of equipment in speech therapy	Review Date	24/08/2024
	Page	2 of 3

## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Speech therapists use a variety of equipment in assessment and intervention of communication and swallowing. Safety and proper use of equipment should be ensured during administration. The document guides speech therapists to assure their safe and proper use of equipment in speech therapy service.

## 2.0 Scope

2.1 All accredited speech therapists in the Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists Limited (HKIST) should comply with this use of equipment guideline.

## 3.0 Principles

- 3.1 Speech therapists should select appropriate equipment in communication and/or swallowing management with consideration of clients' health condition, compliance, cognition and personal choice.
- 3.2 Evidence-based practice is recommended in the use of equipment.
- 3.3 Manufacturer's instructions, specifications and recommendations should always guide the use of equipment. Proper calibration of instruments and good maintenance of calibration records should be assured.
- 3.4 Should the equipment/instrument associates with possible risks, speech therapists should have adequate communication with client and/or carers regarding the risks prior to administration.
- 3.5 Contraindications for the use of equipment should be ruled out before clinical application.
- 3.6 Cleansing, disinfection, and/or sterilization of equipment should be carried out before and after use based on manufacturer's instructions and the infection control guideline.
- 3.7 Proper supervision and credentialing are encouraged in clinical application of particular equipment/instrument which require more advanced techniques.

## 4.0 Examples of Equipment/ Instrument in Speech Therapy

### 4.1 Swallowing

- i. Expiratory Muscle Strength Training (EMST)
- ii. Fiberoptic Endoscopic Examination of Swallowing (FEES)
- iii. Iowa Oral Performance Instrument (IOPI)
- iv. Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES)
- v. Surface electromyography (sEMG)
- vi. Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS)
- vii. Transcranial Magnetic Simulation (TMS)
- viii. Ultrasonography
- ix. Videofluoroscopic Swallowing Study (VFSS)

### 4.2 Communication

- i. Analysis of Dysphonia in Speech and Voice (ADSV)

Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists Limited	Document No.	HKIST-C-EQG-v2
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Guideline for use of equipment in speech therapy	Review Date	24/08/2024
	Page	3 of 3

- ii. Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)
- iii. Electrolarynx / Speaking Aids
- iv. Multidimensional Voice Program (MDVP)
- v. Nasometer
- vi. Phonatory Aerodynamic System (PAS)
- vii. Speaking valve
- viii. TalkTools®

## **5.0 Use of new equipment**

HKIST Council regularly review new equipment (if any). Recommendations on the use of equipment, including dissemination of information about pros and cons of the equipment, are posted on HKIST website with timely update.