

Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists Limited	Document No.	HKIST-A-BOK-v1
	Issue Date	12 /08 /2025
Body of Knowledge of Speech Therapists in Hong Kong	Review Date	11 /08 /2027
	Page	1 of 3

Body of Knowledge of Speech Therapists in Hong Kong

Version	Effective Date
1.0	12/08/2025

Document Number	HKIST-A-BOK-v1
Author	HKIST Registration Committee
Custodian	Chairperson of Registration Committee, HKIST
Approved / Endorsed By	HKIST Professional Council
Approval Date	11/08/2025

Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists Limited	Document No.	HKIST-A-BOK-v1
	Issue Date	12 /08 /2025
Body of Knowledge of Speech Therapists in Hong Kong	Review Date	11 /08 /2027
	Page	2 of 3

1.0 Objective

- 1.1 This body of knowledge refers to comprehensive and structured set of principles, concepts, and practices that define the field of speech therapy and are essential for speech therapists, as established by Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists.
- 1.2 Speech therapy encompasses a wide range of areas, from articulation and language development to fluency, voice, and swallowing across the lifespan.
- 1.3 This comprehensive body of knowledge enables speech therapists in Hong Kong to provide exemplary, culturally appropriate, and evidence-based care for individuals with communication and swallowing disorders, in alignment with current professional standards and societal expectations.

2.0 Major areas within the speech therapist's Body of Knowledge

- 2.1 Human communication
 - 2.1.1 Comprehensive knowledge of the development, underlying mechanisms, and pathologies of human communication, encompassing speech, language, and cognitive-communication abilities.
- 2.2 Swallowing Disorders
 - 2.2.1 Expertise in the assessment and management of dysphagia, addressing impairments in oral, pharyngeal, and esophageal phases of swallowing.
- 2.3 Assessment and Diagnosis
 - 2.3.1 Proficiency in employing a range of standardized tools and diagnostic techniques to evaluate communication and swallowing functions, accurately identify disorders, and formulate evidence-based intervention plans.
- 2.4 Treatment and Intervention
 - 2.4.1 Application of empirically supported therapeutic approaches tailored to individual client needs, aimed at improving communication and swallowing capabilities.
- 2.5 Prevention and Promotion
 - 2.5.1 Designing and implementing preventive measures and health promotion strategies to mitigate the incidence of communication and swallowing disorders throughout the lifespan.

Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists Limited	Document No.	HKIST-A-BOK-v1
	Issue Date	12 /08 /2025
Body of Knowledge of Speech Therapists in Hong Kong	Review Date	11 /08 /2027
	Page	3 of 3

2.6 Collaboration and Advocacy

- 2.6.1 Engagement in multidisciplinary teamwork and advocacy efforts with clients, families, communities, and professionals to enhance communication and swallowing outcomes.

3.0 Specific areas of practice

3.1 Articulation and phonology

- 3.1.1 Addressing and remediating difficulties related to the production and organization of speech sounds.

3.2 Fluency

- 3.2.1 Providing assessment and intervention for fluency disorders, including stuttering and related dysfluencies.

3.3 Language

- 3.3.1 Supporting the development and use of receptive and expressive language skills.

3.4 Voice and resonance

- 3.4.1 Diagnosing and treating voice disorders affecting voice quality, pitch, loudness, and resonance.

3.5 Cognitive-communication

- 3.5.1 Assisting individuals with cognitive impairments that adversely impact communication abilities.

3.6 Social communication

- 3.6.1 Enhancing pragmatic language skills to improve effectiveness and appropriateness of social interactions.

3.7 Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

- 3.7.1 Facilitating communication for individuals utilizing AAC systems and technologies.

3.8 Hearing

- 3.8.1 Evaluating and addressing the effects of hearing impairment on speech and language development and communication.