

## **How do primary health-care practitioners identify and manage communication impairments in preschool children?**

*Sue Woolfenden<sup>A,F</sup>, Kate Short<sup>B</sup>, Roger Blackmore<sup>C</sup>, Rene Pennock<sup>D</sup> and Michael Moore<sup>E</sup>*

<sup>A</sup>Sydney Children's Hospital Network – Community Child Health, corner Avoca and Barker Street, Randwick, Sydney, NSW 2031, Australia.

<sup>B</sup>South West Sydney Local Health District – Speech Pathology Department, corner Goulburn and Campbell Streets, Liverpool, Sydney, NSW 2170, Australia.

<sup>C</sup>South West Sydney Local Health District – Community Paediatric Department, Hugh Jardine Building, Elizabeth Street, Liverpool, Sydney, NSW 2170, Australia.

<sup>D</sup>South West Sydney Medicare Local, PO Box 5919, Minto DC, Sydney, NSW 2560, Australia.

<sup>E</sup>Inner West Sydney Medicare Local, Level 1, 158 Liverpool Road, Ashfield, Sydney, NSW 2131, Australia.

<sup>F</sup>Corresponding author. Email: [susan.woolfenden@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:susan.woolfenden@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au)

## Appendix S1. Survey

1. Are you? **General Practitioner** or **Practice Nurse** ( please circle which one applies)
2. Are you a Solo Practitioner? (Circle one answer) **Yes** **No**
3. What is your gender? (Circle one answer) **Male** **Female**
4. What age group are you in? (Circle one answer)  
**< 35** **35- 44** **45-60** **> 60 years**
5. How many years have you been in Practice? (Circle one answer)  
**<5** **5-10** **11-15** **>15 years**
6. How many preschool paediatric patients (aged 5 years or under) do you estimate that you see each day?  
(Circle one answer) **a) <5** **b) 5–10** **c) 11–15** **d) >15**
7. What percentage of these consultations do you estimate would be with children from a Non English Speaking Background (Circle one answer)  
**0–25%** **26–50%** **51–75%** **76–100%**
8. How would you rate your understanding of communication development and impairments (eg use of gesture, pointing, talking and listening) in children aged 5 years or under (Circle, 1 is poor, 5 excellent)?  
**1** **2** **3** **4** **5**
9. How would you rate your training in communication development and impairments (eg use of gesture, pointing, talking and listening) in children aged 5 years or under (Circle, 1 is poor, 5 excellent)?  
**1** **2** **3** **4** **5**
10. A mother brings her 2.5 year old son to see you because she is concerned that he only speaks in single words. Do you ( Circle 1 answer)?
  - a) Reassure her as boys are slower to talk in sentences than girls
  - b) Reassure her and plan to review his language in 6 months
  - c) Refer him on for further assessment
  - d) None of the above
  - e) Other ( please specify) -----

11. By what age would you expect a normally developing child to (tick box)?

	6 mths	12 mths	18 mths	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
Babble (eg bababa)							
Point to communicate eg pointing to parents							
Use gesture to communicate (eg shake head for no)							
Turning consistently to their name when called							
Say clear single words							
Join two words together spontaneously (eg "more drink")							

12. How do you identify communication impairments (problems with talking and listening) in children aged 5 years or under in your daily practice (circle whichever apply):

- a) a list of developmental milestones concerns they have
- b) asking the parents about any
- c) clinical observation and judgement name of the tool:
- d) a screening tool If yes, what is the

- e) use the Blue Book
- f) use 4 yr old Healthy Kids Check
- g) all of the above
- h) none of the above
- i) other (please specify)-----

13. If you are concerned about a child's communication what recommendations might you make for further assessment or intervention? (tick whichever apply)

	Yes	No
Hearing test		
Playgroup		
Day care/preschool		
Public Speech Pathology ( community health /hospital)		
Private Speech Pathology		
Paediatrician		

Other (Please specify)\_\_\_\_\_

14. Please indicate your response to each of the following statements by ticking one of the boxes.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Communication impairments are a common developmental problem for preschool children					
Problems with talking and listening can be identified in children as young as 2 years of age.					
Screening tools should be used in general practice to assess children's development					
Parents are accurate judges of their children's talking skills					
Parents are accurate judges of their children's listening skills (understanding what is said to them)					
Loss of any language and social skills in a preschooler requires further assessment					

15. Do you think there are barriers to referring children with talking and listening problems (circle)

**Yes**

**No**

If Yes—please list what these are:

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16. Are you interested in learning more about communication development and impairments in children?

**Yes**

**No**

Additional Comments:

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***Thank you for your time and valuable help***