

MANAGEMENT OF SPEECH DISORDERS IN CLEFT LIP AND PALATE

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This conference will address intervention and prevention of communication disorders related to cleft lip and palate and velopharyngeal dysfunction. Since speech is used as a measure of outcome after primary repair of the palatal cleft and after treatment of velopharyngeal dysfunction, this conference will be of interest to all professionals involved in interdisciplinary management of cleft lip and palate, independent of area of practice. It will address: speech production and strategies for development of speech before and after primary palate repair; identification of predictors of velopharyngeal dysfunction during the first years of life (1y-3y); impact of timing of primary cleft palate repair and technique on speech outcome; optimization of timing of treatment of velopharyngeal dysfunction; the role of caregivers in prevention of compensatory articulations related to cleft lip and palate; and the role of the SLPs in craniofacial centers in working with caregivers in prevention of compensatory articulations.