

Kennedy Krieger Institute Rehabilitation Programs at Columbia

Speech-Language Therapy

Who We Are

The Speech and Language Outpatient Clinic provides clinical services to children of all ages who have difficulties with understanding and using language, cognitive-linguistic deficits, difficulty producing speech sounds, and feeding difficulties. The goal is to help patients achieve their potential and participate as fully as possible in family, community, educational and vocational settings.

Who We Serve

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) provide comprehensive diagnostic evaluations and therapeutic treatment for speech, language and communication disorders for children from birth through age 21.

We serve patients who have a wide variety of diagnoses, including:

- Acquired and congenital brain injury
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
- Cleft palate/craniofacial anomalies
- Developmental delay
- Down syndrome and other genetic disorders
- Dysarthria (i.e., weakness or incoordination of speech musculature, resulting in imprecise speech)
- Dyslexia
- Feeding, swallowing and oral motor disorders
- Fluency disorders
- Hearing loss
- Intellectual disability and developmental delay
- Pragmatic (i.e., social communication) disorders
- Receptive and expressive language disorders
- Speech sound production disorders



Our SLPs are certified through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and are licensed by the state of Maryland. We deliver family-centered clinical care and work closely with families and professionals to teach them how to support their children's growth and development.

Additionally, we work closely with experts from many of Kennedy Krieger's clinical programs, including in the fields of neurology, rehabilitation, psychiatry, mental health, audiology, feeding, brain injury, assistive technology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, behavioral psychology and social work.

We are all born with great potential.
Shouldn't we all have the chance to achieve it?

Our Approach

Evaluation and Testing

The key to an effective speech and language treatment program is beginning with a comprehensive evaluation. Kennedy Krieger SLPs consider a number of factors when completing evaluations (e.g., the child's age, social and medical history, related difficulties, and possible diagnoses). They use a variety of tools to hone in on areas of concern, such as:

- Understanding and using language
- Pragmatic (i.e., social or contextual) language
- Fluency (i.e., speaking smoothly and without effort)
- Oral motor and feeding skills
- Articulation (i.e., speaking clearly and producing speech sounds accurately)
- Cognitive skills (i.e., language memory and attention as related to communication)
- Reading and writing skills

Treatment

After completing an evaluation, our SLPs make recommendations that are individualized to meet each child's needs. Speech-language therapy activities are also adapted to your child's age, developmental level and interests in order to best target therapy goals.

Often, SLPs at the Institute work with specialists in other areas such as medicine, mental health, cognition, education, behavior management, motor skills and sensory issues. SLPs offer treatment focused on helping children and their parents learn strategies for improving functional communication, speech intelligibility and feeding skills. Treatment sessions can be coordinated with other disciplines (e.g., physical and occupational therapies), if your child needs more than one type of treatment.



Contact Information

Kennedy Krieger Institute Rehabilitation Programs at Columbia

For more information, please call **443-923-9400**, or call toll-free at **888-554-2080**. TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.

KennedyKrieger.org

Physicians and Healthcare Professionals

To make a referral, call our Physician Referral Line at **443-923-9403**.

Program Location

9730 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 200
Columbia, MD 21046

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of patients and their families and treats them with courtesy and dignity. Kennedy Krieger Institute provides care that preserves cultural, psychosocial, spiritual and personal values, beliefs and preferences. Care is free from discrimination based on age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, physical or mental disability, socioeconomic status, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression, including transgender. We encourage patients and families to become active partners in their care by asking questions, seeking resources and advocating for the services and support they need. 04/2017



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