



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

Communication Disorders Department Policy and Procedure

SUBJECT: TREATMENT APPROACHES

Policy No.: 508
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PURPOSE

To outline the types of treatment approaches.

POLICY

The patient may be treated in one or more of the following approaches:

1. individual sessions
2. group sessions
3. co-treatment sessions
4. community outings

PROCEDURES

1. Guidelines for selection of different treatment approaches:
 - a. Individual therapy may be indicated when the patient's unique communication, swallowing and/or behavioral deficits require one-on-one intervention.
 - b. Group therapy may be indicated when patients:
 1. have similar communication and/or swallowing treatment goals
 2. have communication goals related to participation in social contexts
 3. will benefit from peer feedback
 - c. Co-treatment is indicated when a patient will benefit from treatment provided concurrently with another discipline (e.g. sensory stimulation, cooking evaluation, early intervention, etc.)
 - d. Community outings may involve individuals or groups who leave the Medical Center grounds in order to address treatment goals to improve communication and/or swallowing skills in community settings. (See Communication Disorders Department Policy- Community Outings)

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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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2. Guidelines for provision of group treatment:

- a. The structure and focus of each therapy group is designed to meet the individual needs of each patient/participant.
- b. Since the treatment group objectives change, it is the responsibility of speech-language pathologists to develop and implement treatment plans that define:
 1. The minimum and maximum number of patients to be treated. The patient therapist ratio not to exceed 4:1.
 2. The purpose and definition of the group treatment focus
 3. The type of population served
 4. The criteria and procedures for enrollment
 5. The objectives of treatment
 6. The procedure(s) for measurement of progress (including documentation procedures)

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