



# Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

## Communication Disorders Department

### Policy and Procedure

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**SUBJECT: PATIENT AND FAMILY COUNSELING AND TRAINING**

**Policy No.: 508.1**

**Supersedes: May 2001**

**Revision Date: February 2022**

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#### **PURPOSE**

To identify the information provided by the speech/language pathologist during a counseling/training session.

#### **POLICY**

Counseling/training services are offered as part of speech/language or dysphagia screening, assessment, or treatment, or upon request or referral. Counseling/training sessions are designed to facilitate the patient's recovery from or adjustment to a communication or swallowing disorder.

**Counseling is conducted according to the Fundamental Components of Preferred Practice Patterns**

#### **PROCEDURES**

1. Counseling/training services for patients and their families may occur at any time regardless of type of visit. These services may include but are not limited to the provision of information regarding:
  - a. Test results and recommendations.
  - b. Cooperative development of treatment goals and procedures.
  - c. Use of strategies to modify behavior and/or the patients' environment.
  - d. Safety and effective use of equipment (i.e., Augmentative devices, pocket talkers etc.).
  - e. Development and coordination of patient and family self-help and support groups.
2. Speech-language pathologists are responsible for ensuring that the patient and family receive adequate counseling.
3. Counseling is conducted in a setting conducive to patient and family comfort, confidentiality, and uninterrupted privacy.
4. Patient and/or family education is to be documented in the Medical Record in a timely manner. Documentation may occur in any speech-language pathology note, regardless of type of visit.