

## You Know Good and Well I Don't Speak That

Beyond the Assessment  
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Feb 8, 2018

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## Collision Between Immigration and Communication Disorders in the USA

- Resulted in widely felt impact
  - 1) Economic
  - 2) Socio-political
  - 3) Health care system
  - 4) Education
    - i) special education
    - ii) speech language pathology

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- Majority of the research literature on bilingual speech and language disorders focused on Spanish speakers and some aspect of the Spanish language.
- Many new languages have been introduced into mainstream American culture and its education system.
- High incidence of speech and language disorders among speakers of those languages, however, not enough information exists about them to assist the SLP

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- Bilingual Speech and Language Disorders present challenges in four realms:
  - 1) How to accurately assess a child's communicative ability in more than one language
  - 2) How to best support language development in bilingual children with disabilities that affect their language learning
  - 3) What language to use in intervention
  - 4) How to counsel families who speak another language and come from a different culture

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## Assessment Recommendations

### 1) Go Beyond the Ceiling

Enables a therapist to measure how much more a child may be capable of knowing or doing when a limit is not imposed

### 2) Dynamic Assessment

- Widely considered as most effective assessment procedure for evaluating CLD children
- Differentiate between explanation for deficient performance: poor instruction or limited opportunity as opposed to disability

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## Assessment Recommendations

### Dynamic Assessment (cont'd)

- Gives information or insight into how child learns
- Gives insight into the modifiability of child, or the degree to which a child is capable of changing in response to intervention
- Most common model: test-teach-retest

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### Preferred language for intervention

- There is *hardly any research to support whether one language is superior when doing speech and language therapy*
- Most recommendations based on personal preference, informed judgements, or what seems to make sense
- Consider
  - 1) IFSP: What's used at home or natural environment
  - 2) IEP: What is used in school for the curriculum
  - 3) EBP: What do parents have to say about it

### Comfort Level

- Low level of comfort could be due to:
  - 1) Level of training
  - 2) Background knowledge
  - 3) Level of preparation
- Recommendation for improvement to better serve this population group
  - 1) Improve knowledge of second language acquisition
  - 2) Learn linguistic aspects and features of that language

### Language Comparison and Contrasts

- The dog is running.
- El perro esta corriendo.
- Chien an ap kouri.

### Language Comparison and Contrast

- The dog is running in the street.
- El perro esta corriendo por la calle
- Chien an ap kouri nan la ri an.

### Intervention Strategies

- Recommended approach to providing intervention to CLD clients
- If it is harmless or not detrimental, and supported by research...try it.
  - If it works keep it.
  - If it doesn't, toss it out.

### Intervention Strategies

- Indirect Language Stimulation
  - 1) Expansion
  - 2) Expansion plus (Expatriation)
  - 3) Intent contingency
  - 4) back channeling
  - 5) verbal scaffolding
  - 6) Breakdowns and build ups
  - 7) Sabotage