**About the Speaker**

Katherine Verdolini Abbott, PhD, CCC-SLP, is Professor of Communication Science & Disorders in the School of Health & Rehabilitation Services at the University of Pittsburgh. Her current research focuses on the role of vocalization for laryngeal wound healing in the larynx, motor learning principles applied to voice therapy, and clinical trials in voice therapy. Other interests are in mind-body relations in voice. She has received continuous funding for her research from the National Institutes of Health since 1997. She is a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association from which she received the highest honors in 2009. She conducts workshops on voice therapy for adults (Lessac-Madsen Resonant Voice Therapy and Casper-Stone Confidential Flow Therapy) and children (Adventures in Voice).

**Disclosures**

**Financial:** Dr. Verdolini Abbott is a salaried Professor at the University of Delaware. She also receives salary support from the National Institutes of Health for her research. She receives royalties for publications with Plural Publishing Company and the National Center for Voice and Speech. Rarely, she receives compensation for reviews of others’ scholarly work. She is given an honorarium for the presentation of her continuing education courses, including this one. **Non-financial:** Dr. Verdolini Abbott serves as reviewer, editor, and associate editor for several publication entities. Dr. Verdolini Abbott is on the editorial board for several professional journals and has published numerous scholarly articles relevant to the course content.

**Manuals**

See links on http://visionsinvoice.com/ register/vts/
About the Course: Increasing emphasis has been placed on the use of standardized voice therapies for the treatment of voice problems. This approach has lent itself well to evidence-based investigations of voice therapy and a standardization of clinical training. The Voice Therapy Spectrum course aims to address this issue systematically. The basic premise in the "Spectrum" approach to voice therapy is that a single theoretical framework for therapy can be applied different ways, for different patients. The framework of interest identifies three broad parameters to address in voice therapy and training: the "what" of training (what is the biomechanical target); the "how" of training (how do people acquire and habituate new physical behaviors); the "if" of training (what are factors affecting patient and student "compliance" with instructional suggestions). On Day 1 of the seminar, Basic Science Foundations for the foregoing issues will be reviewed.

On Day 2: Voice Therapy Spectrum—two different standardized applications of the principles will be described and trained: Lessac-Madsen Resonant Voice Therapy (LMRVT) and a newly created Casper-Stone Confidential Flow Therapy (CSCFT). The two methods differ in the specific biomechanical target of training; LMRVT targets relatively more complete vocal fold closure and the use of a semi-occluded vocal tract during phonation as compared to CSCFT, which targets slightly greater abduction without semi-occluded tract. Of note, both targets fall within the range of what has been identified as “optimal vocal economy,” which favors both good acoustic output and relatively minimal vocal fold impact stress and thus putative protection from injury. Both methods retain principles of motor learning and patient compliance. The choice of one approach over the other will depend on clinician and patient preference, and patient pathology. Outcome data will be presented for LMRVT and CSCFT, based on results of recent clinical trials. Day 2 of the seminar will conclude with exposure to methods for creating individualized voice therapy for patients.

Learning Outcomes—AIV
A Voice Therapy Spectrum—Basic
Upon completing this course, participants will be able to:
1. Describe the basic science foundations of LMRVT & CSCFT
2. List the steps of the LMRVT & CSCFT methods
3. Evaluate demonstrations of LMRVT & CSCFT in vocal training
4. Apply LMRVT & CSCFT during self-practice & with appropriate clients
5. Identify patients who may be appropriate to receive. LMRVT and CSCFT
6. Determine integration of methods for individualized therapy "in the moment"

Earn 1.45 ASHA CEUs

Schedule

Day 1: Basic Voice Science
8:30-9:00 AM Registration & Troubleshooting
9:00-9:30 AM Introduction
9:30-12:45 PM Phonation Science
12:45-1:15 PM Lunch (on your own)
1:15-3:30 PM Learning Science
3:30-4:30 PM Patient Compliance

Day 2: Voice Therapy Spectrum (VTS)
8:30-9:00 AM Registration & Troubleshooting
9:00-9:30 AM Knowledge Assessment Quiz
9:30-11:00 AM Overview of LMRVT and CSCFT
11:00-11:30 PM Lunch (on your own)
11:30-3:45 PM Step by Step
3:45-4:30 PM Patient and/or Participant Practice
4:30-5:00 PM Questions and Answers; Tricks and Tips

Cancellation Policy
There are no cancellations for this course. No fees will be returned. We are not responsible for any adverse events relating to travel to the course. We reserve the right to cancel the course prior to the course date with full refund of course fee if registrations are insufficient to support the course. If we cancel or reschedule, we are not responsible for any travel expenses or penalty fees incurred by the registrant.

Confirmation
Confirmation of registration will be sent by e-mail a day in advance of course start date, along with links to download course handouts and knowledge assessment. Participants will receive a link by e-mail to access the webinar.