

Highlights of the committee's work program from 2019-2023

Committee Website

The committee updated and completed its page on the IALP website with an updated FAQ document, information (resource list) for the patient and information (resource list) for the professional.

Webinar Series

The committee ran a 3-part webinar series in 2022 on Speech Management for Children with Cleft Lip and Palate: State of the Art Management. This was held live via Zoom platform and included a dedicated Q and A session at the end of each webinar. Each webinar was attended by over 100 participants from across the globe. Recordings of the webinar series and speaker slides (including reference lists) are available for viewing and download (see above under 'Resources').

IALP Child Speech Panel Series (What's in a name? How should we describe and define speech sound disorder in children and why does it matter?)

Valerie Pereira presented a paper on "How differences in anatomy and physiology affect the way we label and describe SSD in children?"

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgAleRDG9zs>)

This is now published Pereira, V. J., & Sell, D. (2023). How differences in anatomy and physiology and other aetiology affect the way we label and describe speech in individuals with cleft lip and palate. *International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders*.

(<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/share/MII4IERMYJCGJNCIMUCG?target=10.1111/1460-6984.12946>)

Transforming Faces-IALP Mentoring Project

This project was initiated by Triona Sweeney, in consultation with the cleft charity Transforming Faces. The project aims to provide support to SLTs from lower- and middle-income countries where professional support and supervision are often limited. The project is currently in its third round. Members of the committee continue to participate actively as mentors. The committee has also been invited to present a Q and A webinar on cleft for all mentees and mentors in the second round. 2 sessions were run to meet both the Asia and Africa time zones.

14th International Cleft Congress, Edinburgh, 2022

On behalf of the committee, Valerie Pereira presented a paper entitled 'The Cleft Palate and Craniofacial committee of the International Association of Communication Disorders and Sciences (IALP)' to increase awareness of the committee's work and activities and engagement of potential new members. Triona Sweeney presented a paper entitled 'Evaluation of a mentorship program for speech & language therapists in resource-constrained contexts' which outlined the qualitative results of the first year of the mentorship project with IALP and the cleft charity Transforming Faces.

32nd World Congress of the IALP, New Zealand, 2023

Yoshiko Takei, Mikaela Bow and Valerie Pereira represented the committee for the Standing Committee session on "Evidence-based Speech Intervention in Cleft Palate/Velopharyngeal Dysfunction". In addition to the Standing Committee session, members presented other papers (oral and poster) at the congress.

Global Speech Task Force of the International Confederation of Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies (ICCPA)

Debbie Sell and Suraj Subramaniyan led the Global Speech Task Force. Although this was independent of our committee, several members were invited to be part of this Task Force: Triona Sweeney, Valerie Pereira and Yoshiko Takei. Our committee members therefore formed more than a third of the total group of 14 Task Force members.