

SpeechEasy



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Classification of the SpeechEasy

- The SpeechEasy can be classified as a form of stuttering modification/reduction.
- The SpeechEasy uses altered auditory feedback in the form of auditory delays and frequency shifts.
- It uses choral speech to simulate talking amongst a group of people.



Theoretical Rationale

- The SpeechEasy was based on the connection between stuttering and the neurological coordination of speech.
- Research has been done for 10 years at East Carolina University.
- The SpeechEasy was based on 10 years of peer-reviewed scientific research on the effects of altered auditory feedback in people who stutter.
- Efficacy studies are being conducted at the Stuttering Research Lab.



Style of Presentation

- An individual needs to follow a sequence of events to acquire a device.
 - Hearing Test and Ear Impression
 - Stuttering evaluation
 - Device demonstration
 - Counseling
 - Correct Fitting for maximum fluency
 - Decision to purchase
 - Payment
 - Follow-up visit
- After an individual has been custom fit with their device, fluency effects are seen within 20-90 minutes.



Success... How effective is the SpeechEasy?

- The SpeechEasy has been tested in over 200 people that stutter.
- The levels of fluency enhancement varied from 50%-95% improvement.
- A continual enhancement of fluency is expected.



Maintenance and Generalization

- Minimal training may be required by some device users to benefit from the SpeechEasy.
- The SpeechEasy has a one year warranty for mechanical defects. You can return the device within 30 days if you are not satisfied and you will receive 90% of the purchase price back.
- Software upgrades are free to current customers to reduce problems with external noise.
- Individuals can use this device in a variety of settings. For example: talking on the phone, speaking in front of an audience, and ordering at a restaurant.



Benefits of the SpeechEasy

- It has an 80%-90% success rate among 200 patients of all ages who suffer from fluency disorders.
- The SpeechEasy has a variety of models to best fit an individual's needs. For example, behind the ear, in the canal, or completely in the canal.
- Custom modeled to fit comfortably and unnoticeably when worn.



Weaknesses of the SpeechEasy

- Although there has been 10 years of research at East Carolina University, there has been no long term data available concerning Altered Auditory Feedback used with in-the-ear devices.
- Device may pick up external noise or a person's own speech, causing distraction.
- It cannot be considered a cure for stuttering.



Personal Recommendations

- We believe that the SpeechEasy is an option to reduce non-fluent behaviors.
- The SpeechEasy may be considered to be a supplement to traditional therapy approaches.
- It cannot be considered as a “quick fix” to cure all stuttering behaviors.