



Speech-Language &
Audiology Canada
Communicating care

TERMS OF REFERENCE

IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DISORDERS POSITION STATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE

Mandate

The primary objective of the Identification and Classification of Childhood Language Disorders Position Statement Ad Hoc Committee (hereafter referred to as 'Ad Hoc Committee') is to develop a position statement for the use of members, associates and the association to respond to issues regarding this topic. This statement will be used to:

- Educate members and associates, other professional groups and the general public about recent research by the CATALISE Consortium regarding the identification and classification of childhood language disorders (see references below).
- Identify issues related to the adoption of the recommendations of the CATALISE project in Canada;
- Recommend preferred criteria and terminology related to the identification and classification of childhood language disorders;
- Promote the important role of speech-language pathologists in assessing, identifying, diagnosing and managing language disorders in children.

Reporting Relationship

The Ad Hoc Committee reports to the Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC) Board of Directors.

Nomination

The members of the Ad Hoc Committee are SAC speech-language pathologist members selected from a call for volunteers. Ad Hoc Committee members are appointed by the Executive Committee.

Membership

The Ad Hoc Committee shall be composed of a minimum of four and maximum of six SAC speech-language pathology members that reflect the diversity of the membership, including one Ad Hoc Committee member with a strong research background on this topic. The staff liaison supports the Ad Hoc Committee, is non-voting and is not included in the minimum or maximum number of Ad Hoc Committee members. For this Ad Hoc Committee, the staff liaison is the SAC Speech-Language Pathology Advisor.

Chair

One Ad Hoc Committee member shall serve as the Ad Hoc Committee Chair. The Ad Hoc Committee Chair will be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Term

Ad Hoc Committee members and the Chair will serve for the duration of the project, expected to be six to nine months with an anticipated start date of early 2018.

Removal of Chair/Members

Ad Hoc Committees serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. Accordingly, the Board can remove Ad Hoc Committee members at will and without explanation. A member may be removed if, in the opinion of the Board, the member is incapacitated or unable to carry out the duties of the office or otherwise for good cause. The Speech-Language & Audiology Canada Chair may communicate the decision or may delegate such authority to the Ad Hoc Committee Chair.

Meetings

The Ad Hoc Committee will meet by teleconference (or other electronic means) that permit each member of the Ad Hoc Committee to communicate adequately, provided that a majority of the members of the Ad Hoc Committee consent to the meeting being held in that manner.

Quorum

50% + 1 shall constitute quorum.

Decision-Making

The position statement developed by the Ad Hoc Committee will be completed by consensus. The Speech-Language & Audiology Canada Board of Directors will be responsible for the final approval of the Identification and Classification of Childhood Language Disorders Position Statement.

Agenda

The Chair will develop and circulate all agendas in advance of the meetings with the assistance of the staff liaison.

Minutes

Minutes are not required.

End Product

The Identification and Classification of Childhood Language Disorders Position Statement is the end product for the Ad Hoc Committee.

References

Bishop, D. V. M., Snowling, M. J., Thompson, P. A., Greenhalgh, T., & CATALISE Consortium. (2016). CATALISE: A multinational and multidisciplinary Delphi consensus study. Identifying language impairments in children. *PLoS ONE*, 11 (7), e0158753. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4938414/>

Bishop, D.V.M., Snowling, M. J., Thompson, P.A., Greenhalgh, & the CATALISE-2 Consortium (2017). *The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 58 (10), 1068-1080. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5638113/>

Approved by the Executive Committee: November 23, 2017