Additional tasks: Speech

**MPT task** (Rvachew, Hodge and Ohberg, 2005)
- Used with children age 6-10
- Used to help assist us in diagnosing presence and nature of MSD.
- child performs prolongation of phonemes for maximum phonation duration and maximum fricative duration

**DDK task**
- Used to identify the child’s ability to sequence single syllables and tri-syllables that change place in rapid succession.
- No slower than 3 syllables per second is the norm for children ages 3-5 (Stackhouse & Wells, 2001)
- Additional norms for ages 6+ available through Robbins & Klee
Children with CAS: MPT and DDK

MPT:
• Once a child understands the task, a child with CAS will likely not have difficulty.

DDK:
• A child will likely produce a DDK rate slowly.
• A child with CAS will likely produce rates that are slower for trisyllabic syllables than monosyllables.
(Thoonen, et al., 1999)
• A child with CAS is likely to demonstrate difficulty sequencing syllables
Summary: assessing the key characteristics

1. Inconsistency:
   • Consistency subtest DEAP
   • Conversational speech

2. Coarticulatory Transitions:
   • DDK procedure
   • Syllable repetition task
   • Multisyllabic words probe

3. Prosody
   • Analysis of conversational speech (look at pitch, intonation, inconsistent rate, loudness, nasality)
Diagnostic statement examples

- Suspected CAS: _______ presents with a speech sound disorder best characterized at this time as suspected childhood apraxia of speech, supported by XXX.

- _____’s severe delay in speech acquisition is due primarily to deficits in motor planning and programming skill (Childhood Apraxia of Speech). Characteristics include XXX.

- *If you are ruling OUT a dx of CAS or dysarthria, following the diagnostic statement, you can supply the reader the evidence for no CAS or dysarthria by stating what the child DOES NOT demonstrate. For example, no vowel distortions, normal prosody and accurate articulatory movement gestures.

"Exploring CAS; Navigating Assessment and Designing Treatment", 2018 Speech-Language & Audiology Canada Conference, Lisa Mitchell M.S., CCC-SLP