

Ca, ca, ca, can...
I, I, I, I, have a...
lol, lol, lol, lollie...
d, d, d, dog
a, a, a, and...
ch, ch, chips please?

Does this sound familiar?

Perhaps your child is stuttering or perhaps your child has normal disfluency and is likely to recover naturally.

At Box Hill Speech Pathology we are here to help!



Contact Us

If you have any concerns about your child's fluency seek an assessment and therapy early.

For appointments with **Vince** call:
9899 5494

Our Clinic is located at:
**662 Elgar Road,
Box Hill North, 3129**

For further information visit our website of **Box Hill Speech Pathology** at:
www.speech-therapy.com.au

For information about stuttering treatment visit the website of **The Australian Stuttering Research Centre** at:
www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/asrc



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NB: The information contained herein is not advice. It is general information for adults on children's communication development. It is not intended to be used as a sole means of identifying children with communication difficulties. Advice from a certified Paediatric Speech Pathologist trained in the Lidcombe program is recommended. This information is copyright Vincent A Borg.

Stuttering In Pre-School Children

Information Brochure No. 12



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Twelfth of a series of information brochures aimed at Health & Education professionals and parents.

Identifying the Problem

Facts you should know:

- Around 5% of pre-school children stutter
- Around 30% of these children will not recover from stuttering naturally.



In other words...

Up to 1/3 of all children who stutter will NOT "grow out" of it naturally over time.

It is very difficult to identify from a child's speech which children will recover naturally and which children will require therapy, however the impact of stuttering may cause some children to be distressed when speaking or even be teased by other children.

Some children may also withdraw from speaking situations because of their stuttering. Stuttering can become chronic in adolescence and adulthood and can be associated with social anxiety and social phobia.

Early Intervention

Treatment in the early pre-school years:

- A far better outcome
- Simpler
- More effective
- Requires less time than when older, at school age
- Can prevent other social/emotional issues developing.

Children who are stuttering therefore should be referred early to a Speech Pathologist who is trained in the assessment and treatment of Pre-school children who stutter should be referred, at the earliest possible age, to a Speech Pathologist.

After considering all the factors for the individual child, the Speech Pathologist may suggest waiting a short period, while monitoring the child's speech, to see if the stuttering is on a path to resolve naturally. However, if there are more immediate concerns, the Speech Pathologist may suggest undertaking an evidence-based stuttering treatment program, such as the Lidcombe Program, developed here in Australia.

Treatment

It is recommended that children are assessed and treated before 5 years of age. If treatment is recommended, therapy is most effective in young children.

Here at Box Hill Speech Pathology, Vince Borg is trained in the Lidcombe Program and has extensive experience assisting pre-school children who stutter. Vince was a founding member of Speech Pathology's Stuttering Interest Group (STIG) in Victoria, and was the convenor for many years. Still an active member of this professional group, he continues to maintain a special interest in the diagnosis and treatment of pre-school children who stutter.



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