

# A Randomized Controlled Trial comparing Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing with usual care for Childhood Apraxia of Speech

ACTRN12621000666820

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Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	The University of Sydney
Enrollment	120 participants

## Plain Language Summary

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Childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) is a motor speech disorder where a child has difficulty planning and coordinating the movements needed to produce clear speech. It is not caused by muscle weakness but rather by challenges in programming the precise sequences of movement. Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing (DTTC) is a well-regarded therapy approach that uses carefully timed physical and verbal cues to help children learn these movement patterns. Despite promising results in small studies, it has never been tested in a proper randomised controlled trial.

This study compares DTTC with the usual speech therapy that children receive in the community, in children aged 3 to nearly 8 years old with moderate-to-severe CAS. The study also evaluates the cost-effectiveness of each approach.

Your child may be eligible if they have been formally diagnosed with apraxia of speech, are between 3 years and 7 years 11 months old, have a moderate to severe speech impairment, have normal hearing and vision, and use English as their primary language. Children with a concurrent diagnosis of autism, global developmental delay, or a structural issue such as cleft palate are not eligible.

## Key Eligibility Criteria

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### Inclusion (5)

- Confirmed diagnosis of Apraxia using the criteria operationalised in the Diagnostic Evaluation of Motor Speech Skills (DEMSS).
- Aged 3 years old- 7 years and 11 months at the time of the baseline probe.
- Speech impairment in moderate-severe range as per the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation-3 (Goldman & Fristoe, 2015).
- Normal hearing and vision with or without corrective devices [glasses, hearing aids].
- English as primary language of the child.

### Exclusion (2)

- Concomitant genetic or neurodevelopmental disorder e.g. autism, global developmental delay, primary dysarthria diagnosis.
- Oral or facial structural deficit e.g. cleft palate.

## Locations (2 total)

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Philadelphia, United States of America  
New York, United States of America

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<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12621000666820>

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