

Tabitha H. Kao, MS, CCC-SLP

Education

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| MGH Institute of Health Professions , Boston, MA Philosophy Doctor, Rehabilitation Sciences | Expected 2025 |
| University of Texas at Dallas , Richardson, TX Master of Science, Communication Disorders | 2015 |
| University of North Texas , Denton, TX Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, minor: Speech and Hearing Sciences | 2013 |

Clinical Experience

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| Doctoral Research Fellow, MGH Institute of Health Professions , Boston, MA | 2021 – Current |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member of the Swallowing and Communication Collaborative lab under the primary supervision of Dr. Bridget J. Perry with a focus on patient-centered swallowing and motor speech in neurodegenerative population (e.g., amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, X-linked dystonia-parkinsonism).• Member of the Speech and Feeding Disorders lab under the secondary supervision of Dr. Jordan R. Green.• Paid and unpaid teaching assistant for graduate-level motor speech disorders and implementation science courses. | |
| Speech-Language Pathologist, AdventHealth Central Texas , Killeen, TX | 2016 – 2021 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary speech-language pathologist at inpatient acute care hospital and associated swing-bed unit specializing in speech and swallowing disorders in adult neurogenic populations (e.g., cerebrovascular infarction, dementia, Parkinson's disease).• Speech-language pathologist in outpatient clinic specializing in speech and swallowing disorders in the pediatric and adult populations.• Experienced in instrumental evaluations of swallowing (e.g., videofluoroscopy, fiberoptic endoscopy) in inpatient and outpatient settings.• Author and recipient of \$36,000 grant from Foundation Board of hospital for fiberoptic endoscopic equipment for swallowing assessment.• Developer of hospital protocols for fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing.• Member of hospital stroke committee and nominated advocator for hospital initiatives.• Supervisor of two University of Texas Health San Antonio students in 2019 and 2020. | |
| Speech-Language Pathologist, Aspire Home Health , Central Texas, TX | 2017 – 2021 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent contractor providing home health care services of speech and swallowing disorders in adult and pediatric populations residing in Killeen, Belton, and Temple. | |
| Clinical Fellow, Reeves Rehab Speech Therapy Center , San Angelo, TX | 2015 – 2016 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinical fellow addressing speech and swallowing disorders in adult and pediatric populations in early childhood center, public elementary school, outpatient clinic, skilled nursing facility, and home health care settings. | |

Certifications

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| Certificate of Clinical Competence , 14091092 | 2016 – December 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">American Speech-Language-Hearing Association | |
| Texas Speech-Language Pathologist , 111678 | 2016 – February 2026 |
| Massachusetts Speech-Language Pathologist , 78186 | 2021 – February 2026 |

Memberships

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| American Speech-Language-Hearing Association | 2016 – December 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Special Interest Group 2: Neurogenic Communication DisordersSpecial Interest Group 13: Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders | |
| Dysphagia Research Society | 2018 – December 2024 |

Training

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| Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT-LOUD®) , DATX0416-24 | 2016 – April 2022 |
| McNeill Dysphagia Therapy Program (MDTP) | 2017 – Current |
| Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) | 2016 – Current |
| Modified Barium Swallow Impairment Profile (MBSImP) | 2018 – October 2028 |

Publications

- Kao TH**, Rowe HP, Green JR, Stipancic KL, Sharma N, de Guzman JK, Supnet-Wells ML, Acuna P, & Perry BJ. (2024). Oral diadochokinetic markers of X-linked dystonia-parkinsonism. *Parkinsonism and Related Disorders*, 120, 105991. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.parkreldis.2024.105991>
- Kao TH**, & Perry BJ. (2023). The current state and future directions of swallowing care in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. *Current Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Reports*, 11, 199-211. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40141-023-00396-5>
- Lu F, **Kao T**, Gilmore A, Gomez G, & Sun D. (2019). Prophylactic measures and intervention for post-surgical dysphagia after anterior cervical discectomy and fusion. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 100(12), e216. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apmr.2019.10.172>
- Lu F, **Kao TH**, Meaux V, Thomas S, Rattan K, & Sun DY. (2019). Understanding dysphagia following anterior cervical discectomy and fusion. *Dysphagia*, 34, 948. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00455-019-10022-z>

Conference Presentations

Kao TH, Gochyyev P, Perry BJ. (2024, March 12-15). *Predicting malnutrition in individuals with X-linked dystonia-parkinsonism*. 2024 DRS Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Haenssler AE, Green JR, Maffei M, Rowe H, **Kao T**, Scheier Z, Clark A, Burke KM, Onnela JP, Berry JD, & Connaghan KP. (2022, December 6-9). *Approaches to evaluating speech severity of remote speech recordings*. 33rd International Symposium on ALS/MND, Virtual.

Kao TH, Rowe, HP, Green, JR, & Perry, BJ. (2022, November 17-19). *Differentiating between X-linked dystonia-parkinsonism phenotypes using acoustic analysis of non-speech task*. 2022 ASHA Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, United States.

Lu F, **Kao TH**, & Cody J. (2021, November 18-20). *Motor speech profiles and genotypes of chromosome 18 deletion syndromes*. 2021 ASHA Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., United States.

Lu F, **Kao TH**, Chang S, & Hardeman M. (2021, November 18-20). *Multidisciplinary intervention for chromosome 18 deletion syndromes*. 2021 ASHA Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., United States.

Lu F, **Kao TH**, Zapata S, & Pitner G. (2021, April 15-17). *Multidisciplinary team care for managing dysphagia after anterior cervical discectomy and fusion*. 2021 TSHA Annual Convention, Austin, TX, United States.

Lu F, **Kao TH**, Zapata S, & Pitner G. (2021, April 15-17). *Motor speech disorders in chromosome 18 deletion syndromes*. 2021 TSHA Annual Convention, Austin, TX, United States.

Lu F, **Kao TH**, Chang S, Hardeman M, & Cody J. (2020, November 19-21). *Motor speech profiles and genotypes of chromosome 18 deletion syndrome*. 2020 ASHA Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, United States. (Conference cancelled)

Lu F, **Kao TH**, Gilmore A, Gomez G, & Sun DY. (2019, November 5-8). *Prophylactic measures and intervention for post-surgical dysphagia after anterior cervical discectomy and fusion*. 2019 ACRM Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, United States.

Lu F, **Kao TH**, Meaux V, Thomas S, Rattan K, & Sun DY. (2019, March 6-9). *Understanding dysphagia following anterior cervical discectomy and fusion*. 2019 Dysphagia Research Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, United States.

Kao TH, & Maxey G. (2012, October 25-27). *Golden-cheeked warbler population estimation to determine conservation methodology in Texas*. 2012 SWAAG Annual Meeting, Las Cruces, NM, United States.

Invited Presentations

Kao TH. (2023, March 28). *Current state & future directions of swallowing care in ALS*. MGH Institute of Health Professions Seminar Series, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston, MA.

Kao TH. (August 2022) *Motor Speech Characteristics of XDP*. MGH Institute of Health Professions Seminar Series, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston, MA, United States.

Lu F, Hardeman M, Chang SL, & **Kao TH.** (July 2020). *Speech and language impairments in individuals with chromosome 18p deletion syndrome*. Chromosome 18 Decoded Conference, University of Texas Health San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, United States.

Funding

Kao, TH. (2018) Fiberoptic Endoscope System. AdventHealth Central Texas Foundation, AdventHealth Central Texas, Killeen, TX, United States. \$36,000