



**LEADERSPROJECT**  
TEACHERS COLLEGE • COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

## Diagnostic Evaluation and Interview for Cleft Palate

1. *Present Concern* (parent's concern, who referred, why, been evaluated before? Treatment before (how long, how many times/individual, goals in therapy?)
2. *Sound system* (which sounds child uses, do you/others understand him/her, leave out sounds sounds/hard to produce sounds)
3. *Resonance* (child sound hyper or hypo nasal?)
4. *Language* (Understands language? How communicates words/gestures/intonation? Combines words?)  
Most advanced communications? How does he compare to peers his own age or his siblings when they were his/her age?
5. *Medical History* (pregnancy?, surgeries?, hearing test?, ear infections?, medical issues?)
6. *Developmental History* (speech and motor milestones)
7. *Feeding Skills* (difficulty sucking, chewing, weight gain)
8. *Voice* (raspy, hoarse)
9. *Speech Sample*
  - a. *Single sound assessment* – easily allows to see patterns
  - b. *Syllable Repetition* – isolate phoneme, determine if phoneme specific nasal air emission
  - c. *Sentence Repetition* – test contains each phoneme, including high pressure, voiced/voiceless phonemes, differentiate sentences containing oral vs. nasal sounds.
  - d. *Connected Speech* (alphabet, numbers)- hypernasality and hyponasality and nasal emission more apparent since taxing the velopharyngeal system, allows to see overall speech. Intelligibility, influence of context, and consistency of sound errors
  - e. *Stimulability testing*- identify strategies which facilitate correct production, identify sounds that are easily modified.