



**Application of Self-Efficacy Training in Group Audiologic Rehabilitation:
An Interprofessional Collaborative Model**

Researcher(s):

Stephen Roberts, Ph. D., Associate Professor
Department of Communicative Sciences and Deaf Studies

Nancy Delich, Ed.D., LCSW, Assistant Professor
Department of Social Work Education, Fresno State

Abstract:

There is a lack of research that has explored the role of communication self-efficacy training on hearing loss-related quality of life (HLQoL) in adults with hearing loss, yet alone on the HLQoL of their communication partners. Communication self-efficacy refers to the beliefs that persons have about their abilities to manage difficult communication situations. Self-efficacy training was used to address HLQoL issues with persons with hearing loss (PHLs) and their communication partners (CPs) during a two-day Interdisciplinary Psychosocial Group Audiologic Rehabilitation (IPGAR) workshop. The goal of this poster is three-fold. First, a brief overview of the theoretical foundations of Bandura's self-efficacy theory will be provided. Second, a self-efficacy intervention model will be introduced to increase the communication self-efficacy of PHLs and their CPs. This intervention plan incorporates the four sources of Bandura's self-efficacy used in formulating a person's self-efficacy beliefs – enactive mastery experience, vicarious experience, verbal persuasion and physiologic and affective states. Third, the results of a two-day IPGAR workshop with four PHLs and their four CPs (i.e., four couples) will be provided. The IPGAR workshop involved a series of evidence-based interventions including short lectures, communication strategies training, psychosocial exercises and interactive group discussions relevant to the mutually established shared goals for each couple. Treatment outcomes for PHLs were measured from self-report assessments of the Self-Efficacy for Situational Management Questionnaire (SESMQ) and IPGAR Workshop Evaluation for PHLs. Treatment outcomes for CPs were measured from the Self-Efficacy for Situational Management Questionnaire (SESMQ) Proxy and IPGAR Workshop Evaluation for CPs. This study presents the treatment outcomes of the communication self-efficacy training for both PHLs and their CPs. Themes that emerged from both PHLs' and CPs' comments included: (a) better understanding of hearing loss, (b) supplementing hearing technology with communication strategies and (c) powerful modeling of communication strategies by presenters.