



## LSVT Global Public Webinar

**Title:** Expand your Clinical Reach: How to Apply LSVT Treatments Beyond Parkinson's Disease

**Panelists:** Heather Hodges, MA, CCC-SLP  
Laura Gusè, BSPT, MPT

**Date Presented:** July 20, 2022

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**Expand your Clinical Reach:  
How to Apply LSVT Treatments Beyond Parkinson's Disease**



**LSVT**  
GLOBAL Innovation in Science. Integrity in Practice.®

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**Presenters**



**Heather Hodges**  
MA, CCC-SLP  
LSVT LOUD® Faculty  
LSVT Global, Inc.



**Laura Gusè, BSPT, MPT**  
LSVT BIG® Faculty &  
Chief Clinical Officer  
LSVT Global, Inc.

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**Presenter  
Biographies**

**Heather Hodges, MA, CCC-SLP**  
Ms. Hodges received her master's degree in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences from the University of Colorado. She has been part of Dr. Ramig's research team since 2004. Ms. Hodges is a consultant, expert clinician, training and certification faculty and CE Administrator with LSVT Global. She also enjoys her role within LSVT Global collaborating and presenting on Google's Project Euphonia, which aims to improve voice recognition software for those with dysarthria and dysphonia. In addition to specializing in neurogenic voice and speech disorders, Ms. Hodges worked for 13 years at an outpatient hospital specializing in diagnosing and treating dysphagia, dysphonia, and upper airway disorders. She has presented nationally and internationally on LSVT LOUD, Parkinson's disease, PVP/WVCD, cough, and dysphagia. Ms. Hodges has published articles and a book chapter on speech treatments for upper airway disorders. Educating others on the diagnosing and treatment of upper airway disorders remains a focus and passion for her.

**Laura Gusè, BSPT, MPT**  
Ms. Gusè has extensive experience treating people with neurodegenerative disorders in various practice settings. She was LSVT BIG certified in 2009 and now serves as Chief Clinical Officer of LSVT BIG. Ms. Gusè oversees the training, curriculum and product development related to LSVT BIG, and has helped to create many of the current LSVT BIG treatment tools, webinars, and courses. She has spoken at many national and international conferences on topics related to LSVT BIG.

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## Disclosures

- All LSVT faculty have both financial and non-financial relationships with LSVT Global.
- Non-financial relationships include a preference for LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG as treatment techniques.
- Financial Relationships include:
  - Ms. Hodges is a consultant for LSVT Global and receives lecture honorarium. Ms. Gusé is an employee of and receives lecture honorarium from LSVT Global, Inc.

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## Webinar Logistics

- Microphones muted
- How to ask questions
- Handouts
- Survey
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

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### Information to Self-Report CE Activity

- This LSVT Global webinar is NOT ASHA or state registered for CEUs for speech, physical and occupational therapy professionals, but it may be used for self-reported CEU credit as a non-registered/non-preapproved CEU activity.
- If you are a speech, physical, or occupational therapy professional and would like to self-report your activity, e-mail [webinars@lsvtglobal.com](mailto:webinars@lsvtglobal.com) to request a certificate after completion of the webinar which will include your name, date and duration of the webinar.
- Licensing requirements for CEUs differ by state. Check with your state PT, OT or Speech licensing board to determine if your state accepts non-ASHA registered or non pre-approved CEU activities.
- Attendance for the full hour is required to earn a certificate.

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### Learning Objectives

Upon conclusion of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Explain the rationale for using LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG in conditions beyond Parkinson disease.
- Describe six non-PD diagnoses in adults and children where LSVT LOUD and/or LSVT BIG has been used.
- Discuss the outcomes of effectiveness, as self-rated by LSVT therapists in non-PD conditions and challenges associated with applying this treatment beyond PD.
- Outline the process of decision making when applying LSVT LOUD or LSVT BIG beyond PD.

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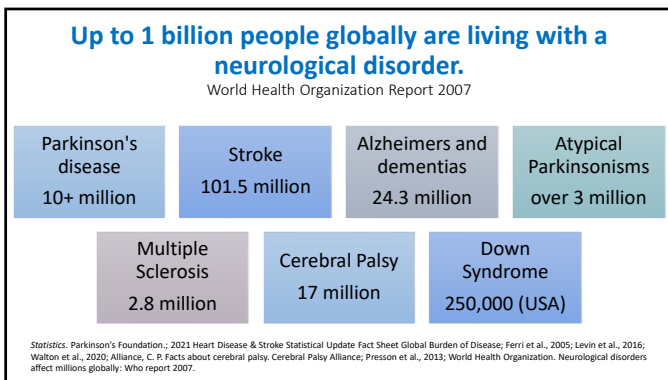
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### Negative Impact of Dysarthria on Communication

- Decreased intelligibility
- Decreased naturalness
- Encounter negative attitudes or discrimination
- Diminished engagement in communication
- Non-motor symptoms
- Complex – challenging to treat



Dickson et al., 2008. Walshe et al., 2009

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### Negative Impact of Neural Impairment or Aging on Mobility & ADLs

- Balance problems
- Gait and mobility challenges at home and in the community
- Difficulty dressing, feeding, bathing and other ADLs/IADLs
- Fear of falling, falls
- Reduced activity, deconditioning
- Complex – challenging to treat



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### Treatment Options

-  Restore or improve function
-  Promote the use of residual function (compensatory strategies)
-  Maximize the external environment for communication and movement
-  Incorporate assistive devices for communication and movement

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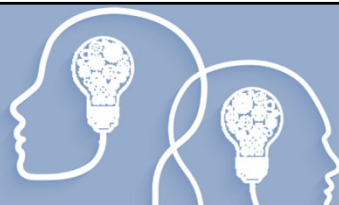
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**WHAT IF?**

Opportunity

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**LSVT Protocols: Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapies Developed for People with Parkinson's Disease**

LSVT LOUD -  
speech therapy

LSVT BIG -  
occupational or  
physical therapy

Delivered by  
LSVT Certified  
therapists

**LSVT = Lee Silverman Voice Treatment**

13

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**Why LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG Beyond PD?**



Established Treatment Approach

Applied to a different population

LSVT Protocols  
30+ years research

Phase 4 research

- LSVT focuses on restoring residual function in damaged or degenerative conditions
- LSVT may help facilitate motor control for communication, gait, and activities of daily living in neurodevelopmental diagnoses

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**Incorporates:**

- Principles of neuroplasticity
- Motor learning techniques
- Extrinsic feedback provided via LSVT teaching techniques

**Promotes:**

- Intrinsic feedback using calibration to help patients “re-set” their internal motor program
- Generalizability to other activities outside of treatment

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## Key Concepts of LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG Apply to a Range of Neurological Disorders

**TARGET:**  
Amplitude (LOUD or BIG)

**MODE:**  
Intensive and High Effort

**CALIBRATION:**  
Addresses barriers to  
generalization outside of  
treatment room

Ramig, 1992; Dromei, Ramig, Johnson, 1995; Sapir et al., 2003; 2007; Fox et al., 2002; Fox et al., 2012

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### TARGET – Amplitude (Loud or Bigness)

Voice too soft/movements too small

Drive effort to increase amplitude



Healthy Vocal  
Loudness

Single Target - Triggers  
Activation across  
motor systems



Healthy  
Amplitude

Berardelli et al, 1986;  
Hallett, 2011

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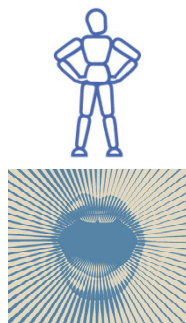
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## Amplitude – Size of Control

In LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG, the target of amplitude is sometimes to learn control of movement vs. overriding soft voice/small movement

Training stability of normal loudness and bigness or improving strength is the goal:

- Ataxic movements
- Hyperkinetic movements (S/P DBS)
- Impulsivity
- Hyperfunction (voice)
- Weakness



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## Voice as a Source by Dysarthria Type

Dysarthria Type	Example Populations	Voice Component (Voice as "Point of entry")	Rationale for LSVT LOUD
Hypokinetic	Parkinson's disease	Reduced loudness, breathy or hoarse vocal quality, monoloudness	Increase amplitude of output, improve vocal quality
Spastic	Cerebral Palsy, stroke, TBI, tumor, encephalitis	Strain/strangled vocal quality, breathy voice quality, reduced loudness	improve vocal quality, control over voice
Ataxic	Cerebellar ataxia, Friedrich's ataxia, stroke, TBI - cerebellum, surgical trauma	Variations in loudness (too soft/too loud), harsh vocal quality	Control of vocal loudness, improve vocal quality, stability in vocalization
Flaccid	Down syndrome, stroke, TBI, tumor, surgical trauma	Breathiness, reduced vocal loudness	improve vocal quality
Hyperkinetic	Chorea, Huntington's disease	Harsh, strained/strangled vocal quality, excess loudness variations	improve vocal quality, control over voice
Mixed	Multiple Sclerosis, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, Multi-System Atrophy	Characteristics of multiple dysarthria types	Varies depending on dysarthria types present

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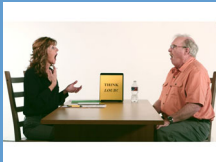
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SLP shapes and models normal **LOUDNESS** with healthy vocal quality, which can also impact...



### Voice as a Trigger

- Deep breath
- Open mouth
- Intonation
- Improved articulation
- Reduced rate
- Naturalness
- And more!

Mahler et al., 2015; Huber et al., 2003; Spielman et al., 2003; El Sharkawi et al., 2002; Sapir et al., 2003; Sapir et al., 2007

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PT and OT shape and model normal **BIGNESS** with good quality, which can also impact...

- Balance
- Gait
- Endurance
- Posture
- Safety
- Confidence
- Independence with mobility and ADLs
- And more!



21

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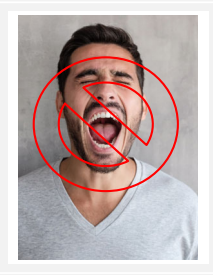
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- Cueing increased loudness does NOT mean you are teaching clients to talk “too loud”.
- Cueing increase bigness does NOT mean you are training clients to use exaggerated movements.
- Loudness or bigness is what the client *may feel* in order to have voice or movement that is **WITHIN NORMAL LIMITS**.
- **You are training healthy vocal loudness or health movement amplitude.**



Countryman et al., 1997; Smith et al., 1995; Fox & Boliek, 2012

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### Mode of delivery: Intensive and High Effort

- Important for both healthy and disordered motor systems
- Key to effecting behavioral changes that last over time
- Applicable for adults and children
- Consistent with principles that drive activity-dependent neuroplasticity

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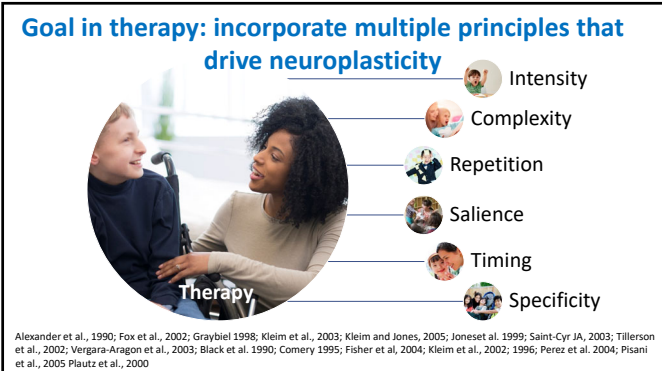
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### Goal in therapy: incorporate multiple principles that drive neuroplasticity



- Intensity
- Complexity
- Repetition
- Salience
- Timing
- Specificity

Alexander et al., 1990; Fox et al., 2002; Graybiel 1998; Kleim et al., 2003; Kleim and Jones, 2005; Jones et al. 1999; Saint-Cyr JA, 2003; Tillerson et al., 2002; Vergara-Aragon et al., 2003; Black et al. 1990; Comery 1995; Fisher et al., 2004; Kleim et al., 2002; 1996; Perez et al. 2004; Pisani et al., 2005; Pliutz et al., 2000

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## Plasticity principles also apply to children

### Plasticity occurs when treatments incorporate:

- Intensive task repetitions
- Progressive challenges to the learner with increasing difficulty
- Presence of motivators and rewards (internally driven)
- Active participation
- Skill acquisition of a functional goal
- Practice must be structured

Shertz & Gordon, 2008



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## MODE – Intensive & High Effort

**LSVT LOUD**



**LSVT BIG**

### Delivery LSVT LOUD

- Certified LSVT LOUD Speech Therapists
  - 1:1 intervention

### Time of Practice

- 4 consecutive days per week for 4 weeks
- 16 sessions in one month
- 60-minute sessions
- Daily carryover assignments (30 days/entire month)
- Daily homework (30 days/entire month)

### Delivery LSVT BIG

- Certified LSVT BIG Physical and Occupational Therapists
  - 1:1 intervention

### Time of Practice

- 4 consecutive days per week for 4 weeks
- 16 sessions in one month
- 60-minute sessions
- Daily carryover assignments (30 days/entire month)
- Daily homework (30 days/entire month)

26

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## Calibration in Treatment

### Parkinson's Disease

- Sensory mismatch
- Problem with internal cueing
- Subtle neuropsychological changes
  - Slower thinking
  - Slower learning
  - Problems shifting cognitive set

### Other Neurological Conditions

- Sensory disorders
- Effort required for improved speech or movement
- Social stigma
- Cognitive challenges
  - Language deficits
  - Difficulty with attention, memory, reasoning, decision making

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<p><b>Link to Function and Task Specific Practice Personalized to Each Client is VITAL for Generalization as part of calibration</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate tasks that are meaningful and salient to person – enhances motivation</li> <li>• Link program to functional goals</li> <li>• Hobbies and passions should be incorporated and used to achieve self-realization and improved communication, movement, gait and ADLs</li> </ul>

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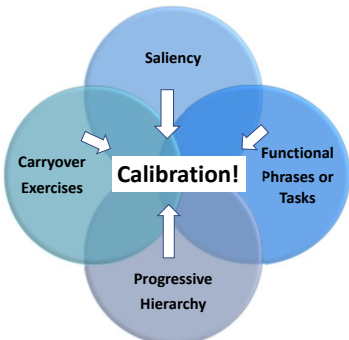
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**Focus on Function in LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG**

**Goal:** PERSON automatically uses improved voice or movement in daily living and the improvements last over time.



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**The treatment dosage and framework are not changed or modified when delivered beyond PD**



- LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG are delivered per protocol
- You do not take "parts" of LSVT LOUD or LSVT BIG and apply them beyond PD; do the entire treatment or none at all
- Core fundamentals of intensity, complexity, repetition, task specificity and saliency apply beyond PD

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### What is the research on the use of LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG with conditions other than PD?

- Parkinson Plus (Countryman et al., 1994)
  - Post Surgery, Fetal cell (Countryman, et al., 1993)
  - Stroke (Fox et al., 2002; Mahler et al., 2009; Mahler et al., 2012; Proffitt et al., 2018, Metcalfe et al., 2019; Proffitt et al., 2021)
  - Idiopathic Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (Fillmore et al., 2020)
  - Multiple Sclerosis (Sapir et al., 2001; Crispiatico et al., 2021)
  - Ataxia (Sapir et al., 2003)
  - Cerebral palsy (Fox et al., 2012; Boliek et al., 2014; McInerney et al., 2021; Moya-Galé et al., 2021; Ertan et al., 2021)
  - Down Syndrome (Boliek et al., 2016; Petska et al., 2006; Mahler et al., 2012; Boliek et al., 2021)
  - Aging (Ramig et al., 2001)
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder (Galgano et al., 2021)
- (Single-subject, case study and small group designs. LSVT LOUD studies in black. LSVT BIG studies in blue.)*

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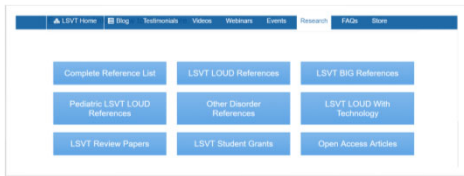
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### LSVT References

<https://blog.lsvtglobal.com/research/>



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### The real-world clinical use of LSVT LOUD in non-Parkinson's conditions



- 13 question online survey sent to LSVT LOUD speech therapists in 6 English speaking countries
- 248 speech therapists representing all six countries responded
- Respondents:
  - 95% professionals
  - 5% students

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94% of respondents reported providing LSVT LOUD to clients with PD

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Beyond PD, 75% of therapists reported using this treatment with adults with non-PD diagnoses

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15% of the therapists reported using LSVT LOUD with children

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### Survey Results from LSVT LOUD Clinicians

**LSVT LOUD Speech Therapy**

Disorder	Usage	Effectiveness*
<b>Movement Disorders</b>		
Progressive Supranuclear Palsy	30%	75%
Multi-System Atrophy	24%	79%
Lewy Body Dementia	19%	81%
Ataxia	14%	88%
<b>Other Disorders</b>		
Stroke	34%	96%
Multiple Sclerosis	19%	89%
Vocal Fold Paralysis	20%	92%
Aging Voice	17%	91%

Disorder	Usage	Effectiveness*
<b>Children</b>		
Cerebral Palsy	7%	100%
Down Syndrome	5%	100%
Vocal Fold Paralysis/Paresis	2%	80%
Developmental Disorders	2%	50%

\*Combined ratings of Very Effective and Somewhat Effective

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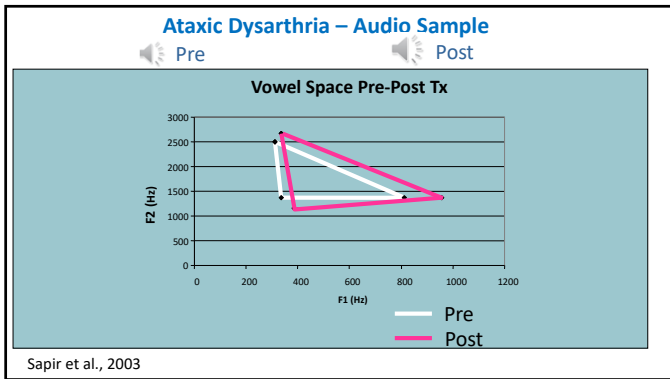
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Post-Stroke  
Dysarthria  
Pre/During  
LSVT LOUD  
Audio/Video  
Sample

Pre

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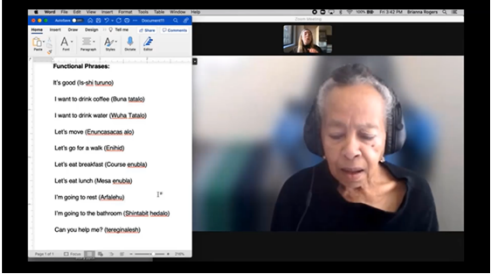
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s/p CVA: WEEK 2 LSVT LOUD



Functional Phrases:

- It's good (It'sh tshud)
- I want to drink coffee (Iwnt tdrnk kfif) (Buna tsbbs)
- I want to drink water (Iwnt tdrnk wtr) (Tshb tsbbs)
- Let's move (Lts mv) (tshtsbts tsbbs)
- Let's go for a walk (Lts g) (tsbbs)
- Let's eat breakfast (Lts et brkfst) (tsbbs)
- Let's eat lunch (Lts et lntsh) (tsbbs)
- I'm going to rest (Im gng t rest) (tsbbs)
- I'm going to the bathroom (Im gng t th bthrm) (tsbbs)
- Can you help me? (kn yu hlp m) (tsbbs)

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Phrase Level Play: Countdown to Liftoff



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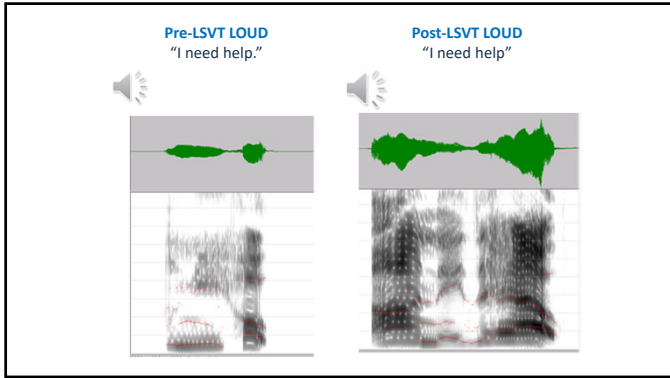
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### The real-world clinical use of LSVT BIG in non-Parkinson's conditions



- 13 question online survey sent to LSVT BIG physical and occupational therapists in 6 English speaking countries
- 541 therapists responded
- Respondents:  
97% professionals  
3% students

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### Survey Results from LSVT BIG Clinicians

Movement Disorder	Usage	Effectiveness
Secondary PD	26%	91%
Lewy Body Dementia	26%	70%
Progressive Supranuclear Palsy	20%	73%
Other Disorder	Usage	Effectiveness
Stroke	40%	86%
Aging Balance	36%	94%
Multiple Sclerosis	17%	82%

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## Summary of Evidence (Stroke)

	Proffitt et al. (2018)	Metcalfe et al. 2019	Proffitt et al. (2021)
<b>Design</b>	Mixed Methods Case Study	Single-Case Experimental Design	Randomized, wait-list, cross-over pilot feasibility trial
<b>Participants</b>	1	2	5
<b>Data Points</b>	Pre; Post; 6-week follow-up	Baseline; intervention; post	Baseline; after 4 weeks; after cross-over
<b>Outcomes</b>	COPM WMFT PASS SS-QOL Tone (MAS) ROM MMT	COPM REACH PQRS-OD CAHAI	Feasibility and Acceptability COPM WMFT PASS NIH PROMIS-43 Active ROM Tone (MAS)
<b>Results</b>	COPM - (1.7 for performance and 2.7 for satisfaction) 45% decrease in WMFT time Elbow flexor tone reduced	Increase performance in trained and untrained goals Improved CAHAI [not clinically significant]	4 of 5 participants rated performance and satisfaction of COPM higher Average task time on WOLF decreased Improved PASS scores PROMIS-43 changes

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## Clinical Pediatric Case Example

- 10-year-old female
- Diagnosed with Anaplastic Ependymoma grade 3 brain cancer 5 years prior
- Tumor extended from 4th ventricle into cerebellum
- History of 3 open brain surgeries for tumor removal
- 50 doses of targeted radiation



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## Why LSVT BIG?

Traditional therapies had improved strength and ROM, but limited improvements to functional independence or gait independence.

### Treatment Parameters

- Pre-assessment
- 4 sessions per week x 4 weeks
- LSVT BIG exercises conducted twice daily
- High parent buy in
- Post-assessment



46

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Pre/Post  
LSVT BIG

### 30 Second Sit to Stand 15 times (6 times at eval)



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## Post LSVT BIG

**6 Minute Walk Test using AD-1007 feet**  
(25.9% improvement from 800 feet at eval)

**Bruininks-Oseretsky Test of Motor Development (BOT-2) Scores** - 5<sup>th</sup> percentile for Body Coordination and Strength and Agility (improved from 1<sup>st</sup> percentile at eval)

**Single Leg Stance:** R:L 3:4 sec (0 sec at eval)

**Tandem Stance** R:L 14:17 sec (0 sec at eval)

**Gait** - Using an anterior ETAC Walker only for long distance ambulation or uneven surfaces

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Decision  
Making  
Process for  
Applying  
LSVT LOUD  
or LSVT BIG  
Beyond PD

- LSVT LOUD and LSVT BIG are **not** for everyone – It is another tool in the toolbox!
- Medical diagnosis consideration, stimulability testing results, clinical judgment and client/family discussions should guide the decision to progress with treatment or not

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How to  
determine if  
LSVT LOUD or  
LSVT BIG  
are appropriate  
for other  
disorders?

- Evaluate the clinical diagnosis and rationale for focusing on improving voice or movement.
- Determine if there are medical contraindications (e.g. ALS, myasthenia gravis) by consulting with the patient's medical team.\*
- If there is a good clinical rationale, based on the physiology of the communication or movement disorder, then and LSVT Certified therapists can evaluate and do stimulability testing.
- If stimulability testing is successful, LSVT Certified Clinician can do a one-week trial treatment. Assess and proceed accordingly.

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After a Trial Week of LSVT LOUD or LSVT BIG Treatment

Can the client understand and approximate instructions?

Does the client show signs of motivation and engagement?

Is there compliance with homework and carryover exercises?

Do you hear or see changes?

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**Give everyone a chance!**

Don't discount successful treatment options just because a condition is severe, advanced or complex

The outcomes can be very impressive and greatly improve quality of life for client and family

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**Summary**

There is a solid rationale for applying LSVT LOUD & LSVT BIG to conditions with disordered speech beyond Parkinson's

Research evidence exists for select populations (case studies, single-subject designs and small group designs)

The effectiveness, as self-rated by treating therapists, of LSVT LOUD & LSVT BIG in non-PD conditions has been quite high for the conditions reported here

Use stimulability testing, trial treatment and clinical expertise to determine appropriate clients

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**How to ask questions**

1. Type in the question box on your control panel
2. Raise your hand! (click on the hand icon in your control panel)
3. Email [info@lsvtglobal.com](mailto:info@lsvtglobal.com)

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## Bonus webinar for PTs and OTs in August!

Let's get moving! Increase your activity level safely with uniquely designed mobility products

Representatives from the U-Step Neuro Walker and Urban Poling will demonstrate how their innovative walking devices, the U-Step Neuro Walker and Activator Walking Poles, are designed to prevent falls, increase mobility and function, and improve participation in life's activities.

**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022  
**Time:** 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

Register at <https://blog.lsvtglobal.com/events/>  
 Scroll down to August events


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## Join us in September!


Everything you need to know about LSVT LOUD® and LSVT BIG®: A guide for people with PD and those who support them!

Tune in for a general overview of the treatments, recommendations on how to help facilitate homework and carryover exercises outside of the treatment sessions, and suggestions for motivation and encouragement.

**Date:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022  
**Time:** 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

**Intended Audience:** Individuals with PD and their caregivers

Register at <https://blog.lsvtglobal.com/events/>  
 Scroll down to September events




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56

## LSVT Training and Certification Opportunities

- LSVT LOUD is open to SLPs, SLPAs and SLP Grad Students and Fellows
- LSVT BIG is open to PTs, PTAs, OTs, OTAs and students in those professions
- **Online and Virtual Live Training Options**
  1. Online (self-paced, asynchronous); 60-day course access
  2. Virtual Live (blend of 3-4 hours asynchronous + 2 days live instruction and practice via Zoom)
- Virtual Live 2-hour practice lab now offered quarterly for recently certified clinicians
- **\*\*\*NEW\*\* LSVT LOUD for Kids Course!**
  - ❖ Virtual Live on October 21-22, 2022

GET LSVT CERTIFIED

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**Thank you!**



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Please complete the survey that will display on your screen  
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