

VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10

FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPISTS



**A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR
ON CLEFT PALATE SPEECH AND
VELOPHARYNGEAL INSUFFICIENCY (VPI)**

**DECEMBER 2, 2024
KO AWATEA CENTRE, MIDDLEMORE HOSPITAL,
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND**



**C O U N T I E S
M A N U K A U**

H E A L T H



Register using
this QR code or
the link below:



<https://www.middlemorefoundation.org.nz/event-details/vpi-update-seminar-10>

VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10 INFORMATION

2 December, 2024

Kia Ora!

On behalf of the Cleft Palate Team at Middlemore Hospital in Auckland, and in conjunction with our colleagues at The Children's Hospital at Westmead and John Hunter Children's Hospital in NSW, Australia, we would like to invite you to participate in VPI Update Seminar 10, to be held on December 2, 2024.

The VPI Update Seminar is a very popular professional development event **designed specifically for Speech-Language Therapists (SLTs)**. We are very excited that after successful seminars in 2013 and 2018, the seminar is once again back on New Zealand soil!

The VPI Update Seminar is widely regarded as the premier local event for the continuing education of SLTs in the important clinical areas of **cleft palate speech and velopharyngeal insufficiency (VPI)**.



Velopharyngeal Insufficiency (VPI)

As the title of the seminar suggests, this programme will address the common assessment parameters associated with 'cleft palate speech' and VPI, including hypernasality, hyponasality, nasal emission and nasal turbulence as well as the common **articulation and phonology patterns** seen in children presenting with cleft palate speech. We will be highlighting the obligatory patterns of speech disorder (that we as SLTs cannot treat) as well as those compensatory patterns that we can treat. So if you have ever wondered why your Cleft Palate Clinic Team has recommended speech therapy for the child who appears to have 'hypernasality' only on the /s/ and /z/ sounds, then by the end of the seminar you will know exactly why this disorder is not hypernasality at all - and more importantly, you will know how to treat this problem.

Therapy!

We know that the SLTs who attended the VPI Update Seminar in 2013 and 2018 all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. While the low registration price, the prizes that we give away, and the opportunity to hear national

and international experts are big drawcards - it is the actual **speech therapy** advice that most impressed the SLTs who attended. After all, this is a seminar "for Speech Language Therapists". As such, we are not aiming to turn you into experts in VPI and cleft palate speech - but we do want to give you a range of **practical treatment techniques and ideas for speech therapy** from a number of experienced SLTs who work in this clinical area. And as you will see, many of these techniques are useful for other areas of speech therapy.

International Speakers

Our international invited speakers for this year's seminar include, from Australia, **David Fitzsimons**, Speech Pathologist from The Children's Hospital at Westmead in Sydney, and **Jana Carr**, Speech Pathologist from John Hunter Children's Hospital in Newcastle. David and Jana have been involved with each of the previous VPI seminars dating back to 2005 and both are the lead Speech Pathologist on their respective Cleft Palate Teams. David and Jana are both passionate about education for local SLTs and are excited to be coming to New Zealand again.

We are also excited to have **Mikaela Bow**, Speech Pathologist also from The Children's Hospital at Westmead's Cleft Palate Team. In addition to her work at Westmead, Mikaela also volunteers for outreach work for Global Smile Foundation.

Local Expertise

To complement the international expertise from the Australia, we are also excited to have SLTs from our local Cleft Palate Teams heavily involved in the seminar. These therapists include **Maeve Morrison** and **Felicity Johnston** from Middlemore Hospital in Auckland, **Nicki Mason** from Christchurch Hospital in Christchurch, and **Bryony Forde** from Lower Hutt Hospital in Wellington.

Maeve, Nicki and Bryony have each been involved in the previous VPI Update Seminars held in New Zealand and are excited to be involved again for VPI 10.



VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10 INFORMATION

2 December, 2024

Keeping Down the Cost of Continuing Professional Development

The VPI Update Seminar has always been a very affordable professional development event, and this year's seminar will be no different. The registration fee for the seminar is only **NZ\$ 82**.



We will be offering the seminar both face-to-face and online via a virtual link (through Microsoft Teams). If registering for the online option, ideally you should use a pair of headphones rather than a speaker to hear the video recordings of the included speech samples.

Please note that **the seminar will not be recorded**.

Registration

Registration for VPI Update Seminar 10 is now open. To register, please either follow the link below or scan the following QR code:

<https://www.middlemorefoundation.org.nz/event-details/vpi-update-seminar-10>



We would encourage all SLTs who are interested in attending, to register as soon as possible, and also take the time to read the “**Additional Information**” and “**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**” section of this brochure.

We look forward to seeing you for what will be a practical, interactive and fun educational experience. If you have any questions about the seminar, please do not hesitate to reach out.

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Maeve and Felicity

Maeve Morrison and Felicity Johnston
Speech-Language Therapists
Middlemore Hospital, Auckland

***** ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *****

Seminar Location

The VPI Update Seminar will again be held at the Ko Awatea Centre at Middlemore Hospital:

Tiered Lecture Theatre
Ko Awatea Centre
54/100 Hospital Rd, Middlemore Hospital



Parking

Paid parking is available around Ko Awatea and Middlemore Hospital. The last page of this brochure includes a map of the car parks in the Middlemore precinct. Parking areas 4 and 5 are nearest to Ko Awatea. There is also free street parking available within a 15 minute walk to Ko Awatea. Further information on getting to Ko Awatea and Middlemore Hospital can be found at the link below:

<https://www.countiesmanukau.health.nz/ko-awatea-centre/location-and-maps/>

Train

Middlemore train station (pictured below) is located at the entrance of Middlemore Hospital. For train timetables, please visit the Auckland Transit Journey Planner website at: <https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/journey-planner/>



VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10 SPEAKERS

2 December, 2024

Invited Speakers

David Fitzsimons, PhD

David is a Clinical Specialist Speech Pathologist from The Children's Hospital at Westmead in Sydney. He is the lead clinician on the Hospital's Cleft Palate Team with over 29 years experience in the perceptual assessment of cleft palate speech as well as the objective assessment of velopharyngeal insufficiency (VPI). David has been the convenor of the VPI Update Seminar since 2005. David is a past president of the Australasian Cleft Lip and Palate Association and past Chairman of the Australasian Cleft Lip and Palate Association's Education Fund. He is an active member of the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA). David completed his doctoral thesis in 2019 through the Faculty of Medicine at The University of Sydney focussed on the development of a new perceptual speech assessment of VPI in children.



Jana Carr

Jana is a Speech Pathologist specialising in the assessment and management of children with cleft palate and velopharyngeal insufficiency. She has been a member of the Cleft Palate Team at John Hunter Children's Hospital in Newcastle, NSW Australia, for over 20 years. This team provides cleft care to a large geographical area in Northern NSW spanning over 160,000 km². This creates challenges of distance and access to services for patients and their families. Jana is passionate about improving access to cleft care, including outreach and telehealth clinics, as well as collaboration with and clinical support for local treating Speech Pathologists. Jana has worked on a number of projects to improve clinical outcomes and access to cleft care, including improving services to Aboriginal children and their families, and the creation of a website to support Speech Pathologists working with children with cleft palate. Jana also specialises in paediatric dysphagia and infant feeding in an acute inpatient and outpatient setting. She provides cleft palate lectures and clinical



placements in the area of acute paediatric feeding to Speech Pathology students from the University of Newcastle. She is a member of the Australasian Cleft Lip and Palate Association and The American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association.

Maeve Morrison

Maeve is a specialist Speech-Language Therapist with the Cleft Lip and Palate team based at Middlemore Hospital in Auckland, New Zealand. Maeve has over 25 years experience specialising in the management of children with cleft lip and palate and velopharyngeal impairment (VPI) and has a particular interest in the communication disorders seen in children with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome. Maeve has led the speech section of the New Zealand Cleft Clinical Outcomes Audit study published in 2022. This is part of the ANZCleft Speech Pathology Clinical Outcomes Audit. Maeve is a graduate from Manchester University and also holds a post graduate qualification in cleft palate speech from Cambridge, United Kingdom.



Bryony Forde

Bryony has been practicing as a Speech Language Therapist for 24 years, the last 14 of which have been as a SLT with the Wellington Regional Cleft Palate Team. She manages the speech of the region's cleft population, providing assessment and diagnostic therapy for cleft lip +/- or palate, and velopharyngeal disorders. She plays a consultative role for families/whānau and community speech therapists for speech issues, and is passionate about helping those living and working with those affected by cleft. A Scottish-born SLT, Bryony has worked across a range of settings including Health, Research, Education and Disability in both the UK and NZ. Recently Bryony led a group of SLTs across both the health and education sectors to create New Zealand's first National Cleft Guideline, which was endorsed by NZSTA earlier this year. Bryony's latest adventure involves the provision of parent education webinars using an evidence based online speech therapy resource for SLTs and parents targeting the speech difficulties associated with cleft palate.



VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10 SPEAKERS

2 December, 2024

Nicki Mason

Nicki is a specialist Speech Language Therapist for the Christchurch Regional Cleft service, covering much of the South Island. She provides assessment and diagnostic therapy for individuals with cleft palate and velopharyngeal disorders, and supports the establishment and management of oral feeding for babies born with a cleft lip and/or palate. Nicki works collaboratively with families/whānau, community SLTs and health professionals, providing consultation and education regarding feeding and speech to improve understanding and outcomes for these individuals, especially for those who have a coinciding diagnosis. Nicki provides regular consultations and education to community based SLTs regarding cleft palate and velopharyngeal disorders. Her current projects include exploring different ways of supporting local and community SLTs to deliver effective intervention for this population within funding constraints. Nicki contributed to the aesthetic and speech sections of the New Zealand Cleft Clinical Outcomes Audit. She also works at Christchurch Hospital in acute and outpatient paediatric dysphagia, primarily with infants. Nicki has a particular interest in Te Ao Māori and equitable care. Nicki is a huge fan of the TV show Bluey, and incorporates Bluey into as much of her therapy as possible!



focuses on upskilling local healthcare providers to deliver sustainable cleft services. Additionally, Mikaela runs a private practice, supporting children and families in her community.

Felicity Johnston

Felicity is a specialist Speech Language Therapist for the Cleft Lip and Palate Team at Middlemore Hospital. This service supports patients from Mercer to Cape Reinga. Alongside the diagnostic assessment and therapy within the role, and collaboration with the surgical team, Felicity's work also involves working closely with other health care and education-based professionals and providing training to local Speech Language Therapists within the Ministry of Education and special schools. Felicity provides lectures to the University of Auckland covering cleft speech and velopharyngeal impairment and is passionate about teaching others. Felicity has been working with infants and children with communication and dysphagia needs for nine years and is passionate about whanau-centred care with meaningful and accessible therapy. She has also worked in specialist hospitals in London, United Kingdom, and additionally provides private and publicly funded therapy to Australian patients via teletherapy.



Mikaela Bow

Mikaela is a Speech Pathologist on the Cleft and Craniofacial Team at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. In addition to her clinical role, she is a PhD candidate at The University of Sydney, where her research is focused on enhancing collaboration between cleft speech pathologists, community-based speech pathologists, and parents to improve outcomes for children with cleft palate. Mikaela also lectures at The University of Sydney, covering a range of topics including cleft and velopharyngeal dysfunction. She is actively involved with Global Smile Foundation, volunteering as a speech pathologist to provide cleft care in underserved countries. Through this work, she



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Will lunch be provided during the seminar for on-site attendees?

The registration price for the seminar will include morning and afternoon tea for those SLTs attending face-to-face in Ko Awatea, but unfortunately lunch will not be provided. There are a number of locations in and around Ko Awatea and Middlemore Hospital where attendees can purchase lunch for much less than the cost of having lunch catered.

Can I record the seminar for our colleagues who are unable to attend?

Unfortunately not. To enhance the presentations, speakers will be showing video recordings of individual (and identifiable) patients. The children's parents have been informed that the seminar will not be recorded.

VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10 PROGRAM

2 December, 2024

08:00 Registration

08:30 Welcome and Opening

Crisna Taljaard

Service Manager, Auckland Regional Centre for Plastic Reconstructive & Hand Surgery and New Zealand National Burn Centre

08:35 Overview

David Fitzsimons

08:45 Introduction to Orofacial Cleft Conditions

Megan Sanders

Clinical Nurse Specialist
Cleft & Craniofacial Team
Middlemore Hospital

09:00 Cleft Palate Feeding

Nicki Mason and Jana Carr

- General Feeding Principles
- Complex Feeding Cases incl. Pierre-Robin Sequence

09:30 Cleft Palate Speech Assessment

David Fitzsimons, Jana Carr, Maeve Morrison, Bryony Forde, Nicki Mason, Mikaela Bow and Felicity Johnston

- Overview
- Global Measures of Speech
- Specific Measures of Speech

10:30 Morning Tea

10:50 Speech Assessment (Continued)

David Fitzsimons, Jana Carr, Maeve Morrison, Bryony Forde, Nicki Mason, Mikaela Bow and Felicity Johnston

11:30 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome

Maeve Morrison

11:45 Psychosocial Impact of a Cleft Condition

Amrita D'Souza

Health Psychologist

12:00 Lunch

12:45 Cleft Palate Speech Intervention

David Fitzsimons, Jana Carr, Maeve Morrison, Bryony Forde, Nicki Mason, Mikaela Bow and Felicity Johnston

- Overview & Intervention Principles
- Techniques and Strategies for Cleft Palate Speech
- Parent Training
- Telehealth Therapy Considerations

15:00 Afternoon Tea

15:20 Case Studies

David Fitzsimons, Jana Carr, Maeve Morrison, Bryony Forde, Nicki Mason, Mikaela Bow and Felicity Johnston

16:20 Panel, Quiz (and Prizes)

David Fitzsimons, Jana Carr, Maeve Morrison, Bryony Forde, Nicki Mason, Mikaela Bow and Felicity Johnston

16:40 Finish



VPI UPDATE SEMINAR 10 MAP

2 December, 2024

Middlemore Guide

 Rainbow Corridor

Car parks

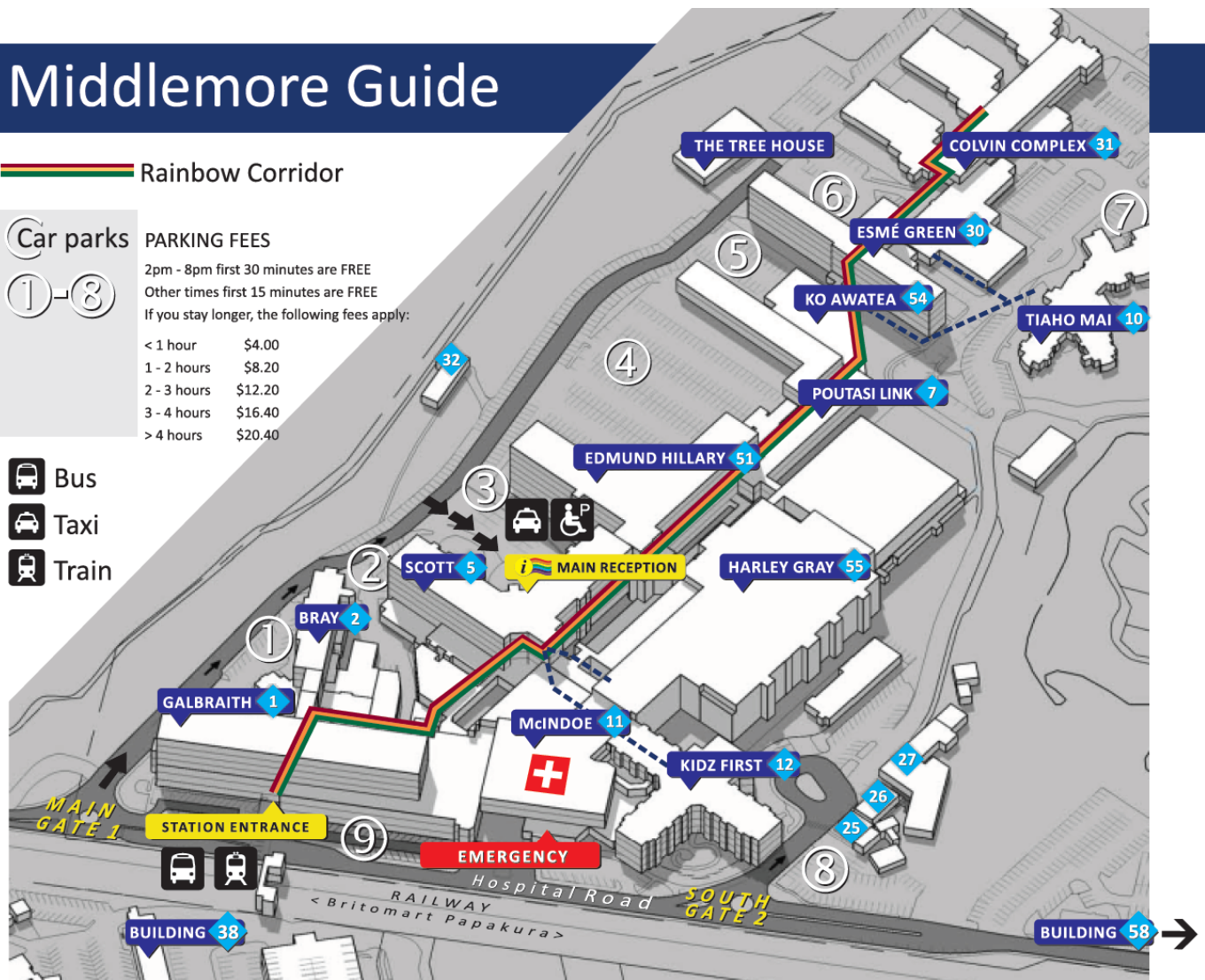
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PARKING FEES

2pm - 8pm first 30 minutes are FREE
 Other times first 15 minutes are FREE
 If you stay longer, the following fees apply:

< 1 hour	\$4.00
1 - 2 hours	\$8.20
2 - 3 hours	\$12.20
3 - 4 hours	\$16.40
> 4 hours	\$20.40

-  Bus
-  Taxi
-  Train



Main Reception    *(Main Gate 1)*

Emergency Emergency  all ages *(on Hospital Road)*

Kidz First Children's Hospital *(South Gate 2)*

BUILDING	SERVICES
 Galbraith	Radiology* ♦ Birthing ♦ Maternity ♦ GynaeCare ♦ Early Pregnancy ♦ Wound Care ♦ Manchester Suite Galbraith Infusion Centre
 Bray	Bereavement Care ♦ Middlemore Foundation
 Scott	Wards 1 - 11 ♦ Coronary Care ♦ Cardiac Catheter Laboratory ♦ Cardiac Step-down ♦ Oral Health
 McIndoe <i>via Scott</i>	National Burn Centre ♦ Middlemore Central ♦ Staff Centre
 Harley Gray	Critical Care ♦ Neonatal Care ♦ Operating Theatres ♦ Medical Assessment
 Edmund Hillary	Wards 31 - 35 ♦ Koropiko ♦ Haematology ♦ Gastroenterology ♦ Cardiac Investigation ♦ Discharge Lounge
 Poutasi Link	Eligibility ♦ Car parking
 Ko Awatea	Ko Awatea Centre
 Esmé Green	Middlemore Clinical Trials ♦ University of Auckland ♦ M.I.T. ♦ A.U.T.