



## Effective Health Care School-based versus Outpatient Speech Therapy for Children Nomination Summary Document

### Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- School-based versus outpatient speech therapy for children is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time. No further activity will be undertaken on this topic.

### Topic Description

**Nominator:** Individual

**Nomination Summary:** The nominator is interested in the comparative effectiveness of speech therapy delivered through a school-based speech pathologist versus outpatient speech therapy for children with speech disorders.

**Key Questions from Nominator:**

1. For children with speech disorder, what is the comparative effectiveness of speech therapy delivered through school-based speech pathologists versus speech therapy in an outpatient setting?

### Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)
- Interventions to address speech and language disorders are numerous and varied. Therapy can occur in many different environments, including the school, home, or clinic. The duration, intensity, and setting (group or individual) of these interventions depend on many factors including the availability of facilities and other resources, and the age and needs of the child.
- No trials were identified that address the comparative effectiveness of school versus outpatient speech therapy in school-aged children; therefore, this topic is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.