

# REHABILITATION SERVICES

## Videostroboscopy

### SPEECH PATHOLOGY OFFERING IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF VOCAL CORD STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

The Speech Therapy Department at Franciscan St. Francis Health – Indianapolis utilizes state-of-the-art technology called videostroboscopy to view the structure and function of patients' vocal cords. It allows for viewing and recording of the motion of the vocal cords during speaking and singing. A strobe light is used to make the vocal cords appear to vibrate in slow motion, so that abnormal patterns of vibration can be detected. This information is invaluable for diagnosis and treatment of voice disorders, which often negatively impacts their the patient's vocation and personal life. Symptoms patients may notice include hoarseness, difficulty projecting their voice, or routine loss of voice with normal use.

Examples of abnormalities that may be detected include vocal cord lesions (nodules, polyps, cysts, granulomas, malignant growths), paralysis/paresis of the vocal cords, paradoxical vocal fold movement, bowing of the vocal cords, muscle tension dysphonia, and spasmodic dysphonia. With a physician's order the exam is completed in the outpatient center by a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist. A rigid scope can be placed in the back of the oral cavity or a flexible scope can be passed transnasally (through the nose). The procedure only takes minutes, and the therapist discusses the findings with the patient.

With the information obtained via videostroboscopy and reviewed by a physician, the Speech-Language Pathologist can then implement a detailed plan of care to best address the patient's voice disorder. Early referral to Speech-Language Pathology can significantly improve the outcomes for these patients.

To learn more about this specialized service, contact Sharon Annee at (317) 528-8524.

To make a referral, call (317) 528-8111 or refer through Epic to Indianapolis Speech Therapy. Orders can also be faxed to (317) 528-8065.

