



DANIELLE OKAFOR

M.S., CCC-SLP

ABOUT ME

Swallowing-focused SLP with 14 years across acute care, inpatient rehab, and outpatient dysphagia clinics. Currently leads a team of 11 SLPs across two hospital campuses, oversees new-clinician mentorship, and runs the endoscopic swallow evaluation program.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lead Speech-Language Pathologist, Dysphagia Services | North Star Health System, Minneapolis, MN
2020 – Present

- Supervise 11 SLPs across two acute-care campuses; own scheduling, competency check-offs, and annual performance reviews.
- Built the system's endoscopic swallow evaluation program from the ground up; completed 214 exams in 2024 with a 96 percent physician-agreement rate on recommendations.
- Chair the interdisciplinary dysphagia committee alongside gastroenterology, otolaryngology, and nutrition; standardized texture-modified diet rollout across 3 units in 2023.
- Mentor 2-3 new-graduate clinicians per year, signing off on fellowship completion forms and running biweekly case-review meetings.
- Cut inpatient instrumental swallow study wait time from 4.2 days to 1.6 days by redesigning the referral workflow with radiology.

Senior SLP, Inpatient Rehabilitation | Lakeside Rehabilitation Institute, St. Paul, MN
2016 – 2020

- Carried a full inpatient rehab caseload of 12-14 patients daily focused on brain injury, stroke, and post-surgical dysphagia populations.
- Ran the community aphasia group program, growing weekly attendance from 5 to 18 participants over three years.
- Trained nursing across 3 units on the Yale Swallow Protocol as part of a facility-wide aspiration reduction initiative.
- Precepted graduate externs from the University of Minnesota, hosting 6 students during the tenure.
- Represented rehab on the hospital re-accreditation survey team in 2019.

Speech-Language Pathologist, Acute Care | Riverbend Medical Center, Rochester, MN
2013 – 2016

- Covered critical care, stroke unit, and med-surg floors with an average of 9 evaluations per shift.
- Performed instrumental swallow studies in the fluoroscopy suite and interpreted results collaboratively with radiology.
- Provided cognitive-communication treatment for brain injury and stroke patients under Medicare Part A minutes.
- Served on the stroke certification committee for the 2015 Joint Commission survey.

CONTACT INFORMATION

 (612) 555-0119

 danielle.okafor@example.com

 Minneapolis, MN 12345

EDUCATION

- M.S., Speech-Language Pathology, University of Iowa, 2011
- B.A., Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of North Dakota, 2009
- Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology, current
- State Speech-Language Pathology License, active

KEY SKILLS

- Endoscopic and fluoroscopic instrumental swallow study interpretation
- Texture-modified diet implementation and staff training
- Team leadership and clinical supervision
- New-clinician fellowship mentorship and completion sign-off
- Community aphasia group programming
- Yale Swallow Protocol training
- Rehab accreditation and Joint Commission survey preparation
- EMR: Epic, Cerner, Meditech
- Productivity and staffing analytics

Clinical Fellow, then Staff SLP | Prairie Winds Care Center, Fargo, ND
2011 – 2013

- Completed ASHA supervised fellowship under a mentor in skilled nursing, transitioning to staff SLP after sign-off.
- Managed a caseload of roughly 20 residents across dysphagia, cognitive-linguistic, and voice cases.
- Introduced spaced retrieval training as a unit standard for early-dementia residents.
- Co-taught in-services with occupational and physical therapy on dementia-friendly communication.