

- Thank you so much Larry,
and welcome everyone to Part 2
of the Diagnosis and Treatment
in Speech-Language Pathology
Using Artificial Intelligence tools.

I know we got a chance to get
a very, very general overview
of some of the information
that we're gonna cover today.

We're gonna get a chance to
dive in a little bit deeper
today and you'll also get a
chance to practice on your own.

So I'm very excited about
the opportunity to jump in

and then review any questions
that you might have.

So, quick background

and introduction for those
of you who are joining

for the first time today, I'm
a speech language pathologist.

I have over 18 years combined
experience in a variety

of settings, and I also received

an AI Fundamentals credential
from IBM this year.

As well as working toward additional,

just learning in terms of
better understanding how best

to integrate AI into clinical practice.

Financial disclosures are

that I am currently the executive director

at an organization called Women in Voice,

as well as the founder and CEO at Balance.

And again, this will be
an overview of the ways

that you can use AI tools
in your clinical practice,

but not any promotion
of a specific technology

or program, product or service.

And so it's gonna be really
an opportunity for you

to make your own decision
about which tools best

serve your purposes.

So I wanna do a quick recap of part one

just to refresh our memories.

We went over definitions

and so we talked about how data science,

artificial intelligence, AI tools

and the clinical process
are really united by the use

of data to be able to find out
information, gain insights,

to be able to make decisions,

and to be able to make
projections into the future.

I wanna make sort of an extra distinction

about the difference
between the concept of AI

or artificial intelligence and AI tools.

And so AI is a field of study
that really looks at ways

to make machines do what humans can do

or simulate human intelligence.

And the tools that are
developed out of that industry

or out of that technology is
what we can use for a variety

of purposes, including
improving our clinical practice.

And so what that means is

that you've got the overarching field

of artificial intelligence

and you've got lots of different tools

that are out there in the
market that can be used for lots

of different things
depending on what it is

that you would like to accomplish.

And so AI is nothing new.

It got really popular because
of one AI tool, ChatGPT,

but really there are so
many tools out there.

And as clinicians, we really have

the opportunity to
explore how all the tools

that are available can be used

to make us better clinicians,

to help us learn more about
the conditions that we support

and also help us better serve our clients.

So again, that recap,
the components of AI,

are neural networks, computer vision,

natural language processing,

machine learning, and deep learning.

And all these different
components have to do with the way

that the AI tools receive data
and the way that they process data
and what the eventual output is.

And so those functions of
AI are perception, learning,
pattern recognition, predictions,
problem solving and decision making.

And all of these things are
things that we do as clinicians
during the clinical process.

Also talked about the
ethical considerations
and the use of AI tools,
and again, transparency,
making sure that we understand
how each tool that we are
exploring for use was developed.

The sources of data that
the models were trained on

and how easy it is for us
as lay people to understand

how the input that we're
putting into the tool

resulted in a certain output

so that we can better
understand how appropriate

that tool might be for
our use as clinicians.

Again, we wanna think about fairness,

we wanna think about privacy,

and certainly we wanna
think about accountability

and sustainability in
terms of the organizations

that are creating these tools, in terms of

how we're using these tools

and in terms of how we are
providing the information

that we have to the
clients that we work with

so that they understand how these tools
are being used in their care.

So we also talked about the
clinical process, which again,

regardless of which setting you're in,
there's a process of taking in information
to better understand what the concerns

and priorities of the client
or a client's caregiver is

or conducting an evaluation
to better understand

what the need is, if there is a need.

And then formulating a treatment
plan to be able to identify

how to address the need,
address the deficits,

and then monitoring as
we're delivering care,

how the client is progressing

and responding to the intervention.

And then ultimately leading to a point

where we can make
recommendations for discharge

because they no longer need intervention

or they've gotten to a point
where we cannot expect results

or we cannot expect a
sort of positive response

to the intervention.

So what we're gonna do today in terms

of diving a little deeper is
we're gonna review a couple

of case studies.

And the purpose for doing this is

so that we can identify the types of tools

that would be appropriate
that could be used to

complete the clinical
process for these clients.

And again, because there are so many tools

and it's really very dependent on

what you wanna use those tools
for, we're not going to be

identifying or working
with a specific tool

because you as the clinician,

you really have the opportunity
to think about what it is

that you want to
accomplish with your client

and then what the steps are
to be able to collect the data

that you wanna collect
to be able to essentially

use the data for your purposes

and then being able to
identify of all the tools

that are available, which tool
would be the most appropriate

for you to do so.

And so with this case study,

this is a pediatric case.

We have Anna, who's a two-year-old

girl that lives at home
with her mother and father,
and both parents work
outside the home full-time
and Anna goes to daycare
and she does not use words
or sounds independently to communicate
and is not yet imitating words or actions.

Her parents are concerned
that she's showing signs
of autistic disorder,
particularly those related
to repetitive behaviors such
as spinning, a lack of response
to her name and a hyper-focused
interest in interacting
with objects rather than her peers.

So that's a very basic profile
and what we're gonna do
with this profile is we're gonna walk
through the clinical
process with the intent
of identifying what
the steps are to ensure
that we are serving this client
and serving the caregivers,
and then identifying
which tools would help
to make the process more streamlined
and ensure the accuracy of the results
and the process that we go through.

So I'm gonna give a couple
of minutes if anyone wants
to take notes from this,
this should also be part

of your handout, but just in case you need

that extra time, I'll
give you a couple minutes

and then we'll move on to the next slide.

All right, so we're gonna
move on to the next slide.

And this is an adult case study.

And so if this is, if you
have not worked with adults,

that is totally fine.

These are not real clients.

And so this is really just an opportunity

to think about some of the ways

that we could use these tools
regardless of what population,

regardless of what setting
we're talking about.

So we have James, who's a
60-year-old man, lives at home

with his wife and primary caregiver.

He's recovering from a stroke

that resulted in short-term memory loss

and word retrieval difficulties.

He's often frustrated
because he can remember facts

and details from before his stroke,

but has a hard time remembering
more short-term things like

his medication schedule,
things that happened, you know,

once he got discharged from the hospital

and he appreciates everything his wife

and nurse do to help him

with day-to-day activities,
but would like to regain his independence
as soon as possible.

And so one of the reasons why
we have those two case studies

kinda back to back is because
it's really important for us

to think about our patient or client first

and what their needs are

and allow that to really be able

to inform our next steps in identifying

what tools we're gonna use,
the process that we're gonna

take on, and then how we are going

to ultimately approach their ongoing care.

And so in both of these
case studies, you've got

needs and you've got a
desire for independence,

and those are really
things that again, they are

applicable across the board
for all of our clients,

regardless of where they are

or what population they're
a part of, there are things

that they have a hard time doing,

they think they have difficulty doing,

and that is impacting
their ability to function,

that's impacting their
ability to be as independent

as they would like to.

And so what we really

get to do as clinicians

is to go through the
finer details of each case

to be able to identify
how we wanna customize

the overall clinical process
to better support them.

So as a reminder, what we're doing

during the clinical process is we're going

through a process first
of identifying the context

for the reason behind the referral.

And there are a variety of
different tools that we can use.

There are a variety of different methods

that we can go through to get that,

but that is the purpose
of the intake process.

Similarly, the purpose of
the evaluation process is

to then be able to collect data on

how the client is functioning
within their day-to-day,

their day-today activities,

how the client is
functioning in terms of what

we would expect.

So we're thinking about pediatrics,

that means we're looking
at developmental norms

or we're looking at
standardized tools to be able

to better understand what we would expect

from a child that age.

And certainly as clinicians,
we always wanna be thinking
about the variations
that exist from each person to the next
and factoring that into our process.

In terms of treatment
planning, the goal is for us
to be able to take that data
from the intake process,
from the evaluation process to be able
to establish the goals that we wanna set.

So the things that the
client is not yet doing
or the skills that they've
lost that we wanna help them
to regain or that we want
to help them acquire.

And then we're delivering
the treatment based
on the strategies that are evidence-based,
based on really changes
to the environment that
the client is a part of.

And then we are educating caregivers
because we wanna ensure
that they have the tools
and they are equipped to be able
to support the ongoing
process of treatment,
and that we're able to
ensure better outcomes
and outcomes that last
much longer than you know,
what we're doing solely
in the treatment sessions.

And then we wanna be able
to document all of this

so that not only are we
providing a justification

for the intervention that we're providing,

we're also making sure that
we're able to educate people

who are not in our field
to understand this process

and to understand the ways

that they can support the
clinical outcomes that we want.

So when we're thinking about the AI tools

for the clinical process,
that means we can use tools

that are developed for the
purposes of data collection.

And so that could be
anything from putting,

asking ChatGPT or Gemini,

which is the Google version of ChatGPT,

a question about a particular population,

a question about a particular diagnosis,

a question about research, a
question about really anything

that pertains to data
that will either help you

to better understand a
particular client's need

or better understand, you know, the areas

where you maybe want to learn

a little bit more as a clinician,

you can also use tools
for data extraction.

And the way that those tools work is

that you would just
upload a file, put copy

and paste text into this tool,

and it will summarize
the information in that

and there for you, or it will
give you, you know, some type

of a sort of bulleted summary
of pertinent information.

So if you put keywords for instance,

and you're looking for
something that's related to

as an example, post-stroke
recovery, you know,

that tool can search for that keyword

or that key phrase in as many
documents as you upload to it

and then provide you with a list of sort

of the relevant information.

So then that means that you're
spending time, you know,

reading through, you
know, tons of articles

or less time just reading
through, you know,

tons of documents because
you've identified the ones

that have the key pieces of
data that you're looking for.

So you also have tools for data analysis

and those are tools that
can be used to help you

just better understand the
data that you've collected,

organize it, and give
you just like much more

of sort of a big picture view

of what all the data
means as opposed to again,

having to do all of that manually.

And you can have tools

for supporting your
diagnostic impressions.

And that's just again,
anywhere from a tool

that can help you organize
research articles, a tool

that can give you recommendations
for treatment approaches

and so on.

And then you've got tools for client

or caregiver education, which again,

really it's about identifying

where the gaps are in your client

or the caregiver's
knowledge of the strategies

and their effectiveness, the
evidence based behind them.

And really being able to
either, you know, ask a ChatGPT

for the evidence that you're looking for,

that you're gonna share with the caregiver

or even creating a plan for
teaching the caregiver bits

and pieces of information that
you think would be beneficial

for them to know so that they
can better support the client.

And then of course you've
got tools for documentation,

which are really just medical scribes.

And again, there are quite
a few of those out there

that depending on who they're created by
and what they're used for, they have lots
of different features.

And one of the things
that you get to do is

to really think about the
functions of these different types

of tools and what again,
you would like to be able

to accomplish by using
them so that you are

in the best possible position

to identify the most appropriate
tool for your purposes.

So talking about AI

and the clinical process,
one of the things

to keep in mind is the steps that you want

to take always start with
establishing your goals.

So what you wanna think about is

what you want to accomplish.

So if I wanna use the example
of one of the case studies,

I can pick the pediatric case study Anna

and say, well, what I would like

to accomplish is I would like to identify

the knowledge of the caregiver
about the signs of autism.

I would like to identify
certainly her current levels.

I would like to identify any new research

that might be out there

that can provide any
additional information

about treatment approaches,
about how response

to intervention goes for children

who need specific interventions

because they have an underlying
developmental disorder.

So your goals are your goals,

you really wanna take
some time to sit down

and think about it and then
proceed to the next step

because in order to successfully
move to the next step,

you wanna have your goals in mind.

And one of the things

that I recommend is just
really writing them down

so that it's a lot easier for you

to then go to the next step

of identifying valid sources of data

so that you are not overwhelmed
by all the information

that's out there and all
the different rabbit holes

that you know might be
really easy to fall into.

And so once you've identified
what your sources of data are,

then you wanna identify your
data collection methods.

And essentially that's just saying like,

how will you collect the data in a way
that helps you meet the goals?

And then you actually
wanna collect your data

and you wanna ask how
will you take action?

So what are those specific actions
that you will take in order
to collect the data that you need?

And then ultimately
thinking about the goals

that you wanna accomplish,
you wanna ask yourself

how you will use your data to
be able to meet those goals.

So one of the things that I would like

to sort of recommend for
sort of this deep dive is

to think about those two
case studies, so Anna

and James and then think
about what particular one

or if you wanted to do
both, that's fine too.

And think about one specific case study

and really think about the information

that you have identified

and the goals that you have established
for that client.

And so ultimately, you wanna be able

to collect the data that you need

to better understand
the reason for referral.

You wanna review the case history

because you wanna be able
to identify the factors

that might contribute to the concerns

that have been expressed and
then identify areas to probe

during the evaluation process.

So that's ultimately the
goals that you want to be able

to meet during the intake
in a very general sense.

The specifics of it will
depend on your client.

And so your sources of
data will be some type

of form that allows you
to collect information.

So this is where you wanna
think about your AI tools

for data collection.

And again, there's so
many different things

that you can do in terms
of using questionnaires.

So for instance, you can ask ChatGPT

to create a questionnaire for you

that includes all the particular topics

or topic areas that you would
like to get information about.

And again, remembering
that because it's a tool,

the output is only gonna be
as effective as the input.

And so the more specific you
are able to write those prompts

to say, oh, I would like a questionnaire

that it's covering the, you
know, developmental milestones,
or I would like a questionnaire
that's covering daily routines
or, you know, all of the above,
whatever the case may be,
that is going to influence the response
that you get from the tool.

And that's one of the reasons
why you really wanna start
with establishing your specific goals
and understanding what
it is that you would like
to obtain from using the tool.

And so that's data collection.

So in terms of case history
files, that is something that
there is going to be an extent
to which you can use AI tools for,
because that's something
that's coming from
external sources.

So that's coming from the
primary care provider,
that's coming from a school,
that's coming from any other
providers who are working
with the client, that's coming from
any other sort of records
that will give you a little bit more
of that context that you need
to better understand
the reason for referral.

What you can do is,
and this is something that
you definitely wanna do
with the utmost caution, you could use
a data extraction tool
or one that summarizes data
so that you are essentially
condensing the information,
and definitely again,
you wanna use it with caution
because it's never 100% accurate
and you wanna be able to
make sure that you're able
to validate that the output
that you've received from
that tool matches the source
of data that you are using
to train that tool
because then you're in less of a position
to misinformation that
could be really valuable
for your process.

And then another way
that you can use AI tools
during the intake process is
just to support your
own clinical knowledge.

And so, no one knows everything
and especially for those
clinicians who are newer
to the field, it can
feel very overwhelming
and feel like there's so many things
that you not only don't know,

but you don't know that you don't know.

And one of the benefits of having tools

that you can use for data collection is

that you can ask directly a question

to kind of get started
with an understanding of

what you may not know about
that particular topic area.

You can ask for resources

that can help you identify ways
to dive a little bit deeper

to better understand a
particular population,

a particular diagnosis, a
particular area, whatever it is

that you have identified
as being, you know,

possibly an area where
you don't feel confident

about your level of knowledge.

And you can really think
about that as something

that you're doing in conjunction

with consulting with supervisors

and certainly with other members

of the clinical team if
you work within a team

and other people who are
knowledgeable in that area,

so that this is not something

that you're just sort of focusing on

the use of an AI tool for,

but you're just adding it
to your repertoire of tools

that you can use to be able
to advance your clinical knowledge.

One of the things that
happens when you do this is

that you really get this robust view of

what the next step is,
which is to identify

how you're gonna collect
your data, collect your data,

and then be able to review

and analyze it to be able to
prepare for the evaluation.

And so I've got this
sort of overview of ways

that you can collect
case history information

and current levels through
the use of questionnaires.

Again, that's something
that you can use an AI tool

to create, and it saves you so much time

of having to, you know,
either get a template or copy

and paste or do all these types of things

that you know may not necessarily
suit your specific needs.

And you get the chance to
really customize the kinds

of questionnaires that you can
create by making your prompts

as specific as possible.

And then you can identify
the case history information

that is relevant to your
process of evaluation

and then identify information
that you might need

to obtain in order to just
better increase your knowledge of

that particular population

or topic area, whatever the case may be.

And so at that point, you are
in a great position to then

take the action of sending
questionnaires, sending forms,

whatever the case may be to caregivers

and to the client, if appropriate.

And being able to identify
which data is appropriate

for the next step, which is to be able

to then identify those
areas that you would probe

during the evaluation process.

And so again, as you collect the data,

there are tools for data
analysis that can help

to simplify this process

and cut down on the amount
of time that you would take

or that it would take you to be able to go

through this process and sort of end up

with a well-defined plan
for your evaluation process.

And so if you follow the same steps,

now you're thinking about
how you've collected

and condensed the data
from the intake process

and you are preparing for
the evaluation process,

which really the goal is
to be able to identify

what the needs are

and to be able to make
recommendations for treatment

that support the needs

and then to be able to
document your findings

and recommendations and
then share those findings

and recommendations with the client

or with their caregiver if
that's more appropriate.

And so the first step,
you establish your goals,

the second step is identify
your sources of data.

And so this is where you're
going to intake forms,

you're going to case
history files, you're going

to your clinical knowledge

and you're going to current
research, which again,

there's a whole process where you get

to identify which tools
you can use to be able to

extract the information that
you need from these sources

of data by supplying
the tool with the data

that you have collected,
that you've identified

and then collected.

And so ultimately when you
are conducting an evaluation,

there really isn't anything
that an AI tool could do
to make the diagnosis for you
or to determine treatment for you.

But certainly you can
use AI tools to record,
you can use AI tools to provide you
with any additional
information that will help you
to make those diagnoses
and make those
recommendations for treatment.

And this is one of the
ways that Gemini or ChatGPT
or some of the newer ones
that are coming out can
really be a resource
as well as some of the tools
that are used for
organizing research articles
because then if you are looking
to really better understand
a particular population
or topic area, you get a chance to do that
by diving into any current
research that's out there
to be able to better
understand how it applies
to your particular client.

And then ultimately, through the process
of evaluating the client,
what you're doing is
you're collecting data

through your observations,
through your use

of standardized tools

and through your review of
some of the other information

that you collected during the intake.

And putting that information
together is really part of

what you get to do as a clinician

and a part of how you apply
your clinical knowledge

to recognize that there
is overwhelming evidence

to support a particular diagnosis.

And based on the nature of that
evidence, it is information

that helps you to then
develop a treatment plan

that's appropriate for
that specific client.

And so when you're at the point

where you have collected this data

and you have identified the
areas where you might want

to learn a little bit more about

your particular clinical knowledge,

then you have the opportunity

to really identify those
areas of intervention

to support the client's needs.

And so as you are reviewing some of that

based on the case
studies, one of the things

that I recommend is to,
again, as you've thought

through the steps for the intake process

and you've thought through the steps

for the evaluation process,
when you think about some

of the specific pieces of information

provided for those case studies

and how you would get
additional information

to be able to get to this
point where you are able

or in a better position
to identify the areas

for intervention to support
the needs that exist.

And so of course with the case studies,

I have not given you enough
information to be able

to really proceed beyond the evaluation

because you would need
to actually have data

that you've collected from the way

that the client responded, your
observations of the client,

the information that
the parent and caregiver

provided and so on.

But we're gonna go
through the next few parts

of the process just with the sense

that we're really thinking
about real clients

that you know, you might have encountered

or are working with currently.

So that as you're

thinking about the process

of providing treatment, as
you're thinking about the process

of delivering care and
educating caregivers

and documenting, you can
start thinking about the tools

that might be beneficial for you to use

sort of in real life.

So as always, you wanna
start with step one,

which is establishing your goals.

And so the goals for treatment are always

to be able to address deficits

that are within our scope of practice.

And so that's with
communication and swallowing

and certainly there are so many
different sub areas of that

that not everyone has sort of a confidence

or the training that would allow
them to work independently.

And so that's really one of
the things to think about

with this process is first
identifying the things

that are within your scope of practice

and then being able to
make recommendations for

where clients might benefit
from additional support.

And then thinking about
ways that as you continue

to increase your clinical knowledge

and your practice, that you're able

to then incorporate the process

of addressing those
deficits in the future.

And so once you've created the plan

and you've made recommendations
for addressing deficits

that are outside of your scope
of practice, the next step is

to document and share your
treatment plan with the client

or the caregiver, which means,
again, you're thinking about

what your sources of data are,
which are the client's needs

that you've identified and the client

or the caregiver's priorities
that you've identified,

your clinical knowledge, and
then evidence-based research.

And so we are going back to
the tools that we can use.

Certainly questionnaires

that you develop using an AI
tool could be a good source of

data for you in terms of
how you can send those over

to the client or to the
caregiver to get them completed.

So in many cases, you'll find

that you are in a better
position to understand the client

or the caregiver's priorities
just through an interview

where you wouldn't necessarily need

to use a tool other than possibly one

that just maybe records the conversation
and transcribes it so that you can refer
to it in the future.

And certainly as I mentioned before,

when you're thinking about
your clinical knowledge,

at any time that you
have a question, any time

that you're not sure about something,

you have the opportunity
to utilize one of the tools

for research or data collection to be able

to define the parameters of your question

and then at least get some information

that gives you a starting point to be able

to do further research

and certainly to be
able to get to the point

where you feel more most comfortable

with proceeding with the intervention.

And so the goal is to
ultimately decide how

to support the deficits
that have been identified,

to be able to use the client
or the caregiver's priorities

as well as any relevant norms or standards

to be able to create a treatment plan.

And then based on the goals,
the treatment plan, being able

to ensure that your
recommendations are in line

with evidence-based research.

And one of the ways to
do that is by being able

to use a tool to gather that
evidence-based research.

And certainly you can use tools

to gather information about the client

or caregiver's priorities

and you can also use just your interaction

and interviewing to be able
to get that information

and reconfirm it because it
may change from time to time.

And then once you get to
the point where you have

that completed treatment
plan, being able to document

and share it with the client

or caregiver means that you
could be using an AI scribe

or another tool that is

for recording, summarizing
and sort of sharing

or disseminating information
with other people.

And we talked about this

during the last presentation
about really making sure

that the tools that you are
evaluating are HIPAA compliant

and that you have
patient or client consent

to use those tools in the way

that you would best see fit.

And so when it comes to
the treatment delivery,

then your goals are to collect

and analyze data on the client's
response to intervention,

to be able to document the
client's response to intervention

and to be able to provide ongoing guidance

and progress updates to
the client or caregiver.

This means that again, you're
using the treatment plan

that you created to be able to understand

how the client is progressing
in response to the treatment.

And so you are collecting

their responses in real time,

you're collecting data on
their responses outside

of treatment sessions,

and you're also collecting
data on the strategies

that they're responding best to

and that they're not responding best to.

So that as needed, you have
the opportunity to make updates

to your treatment plan.

And so this is a part
where you really want to

have access to ongoing
feedback from the client

or the caregiver and be
able to use that feedback

and sort of best understanding

how the client is
responding to intervention.

And so again, you wanna think about

your data collection methods

and so you have your observations

during the treatment
sessions, you have the client

or caregiver feedback outside
of the treatment sessions.

And one of the things that you
can do in terms of the tools

that you can use is you can
use both data collection

and data analysis tools to
be able to collect the data

within the session and
outside of the session.

And so an example of data
that you could collect outside

of the session could be
an app that allows clients

or caregivers to record when
they're using the strategies

and how the client is
responding to the strategies.

And that's something that provides data

that also lets you know how
often practice is occurring

and how consistently the
strategies are being used in a way

that you have taught or have modeled.

And that can be really
useful for being able

to really approach ongoing sessions

with caregiver education, empowerment

or whatever might be needed to
support effective carryover.

And so one of the things that
you can also do is to be able

to educate the caregiver

to understand which
strategies are most effective

based on their recollection,
based on their sort of feedback

that allows you to understand, you know,

if something maybe is,
they're having a hard time

implementing something, you
know, may be a great strategy,

but it's not the best strategy for them

because of their unique circumstances,

that gives you the opportunity
to really track all of that

and then be able to provide
feedback, provide education,

provide any support or any referrals

that might be necessary for that client.

And that's something
that, again, regardless

of the tool that's being used,
it's really data collection

and data analysis

and that really just gives
you additional insight into

what is happening with the client

and what you might need to do in response

to what's happening with the client.

And so identifying a
predetermined period of time,

so let's say, you know,
three months, four weeks,

eight weeks, whatever the
case may be, that's something

that you again get to do as a clinician

because ultimately you're
using these tools to be able

to measure how the client is progressing

and to be able to track the
trajectory of their progress

so that you can make
adjustments as needed,

and so that you can
provide ongoing support

and guidance to the caregiver as needed.

And so going back to
believe this idea of client

and caregiver education, we
wanna establish the goals

of increasing their
knowledge of the strategies

that are used in treatment sessions,

increasing their ability to participate

during treatment sessions

and increasing their ability
to use carryover strategies

outside of treatment sessions.

And we know that all of these
goals are evidence-based,

you know that the more involved
caregivers are in treatment,

the better outcomes we see

and the more we're really
able to see the progress

that we wanna see in the clients.

And so in identifying
what those goals are,

then you wanna think
about your sources of data

and so you've got your observations
and then you've got the feedback
from the client or the caregiver.

And so you are observing
them using a strategy

in a treatment session

or they're telling you that
they use the strategy outside

of the treatment session and
what happened as a result.

And this can be really, really useful

because you have the
opportunity then to put

that data into a tool that
helps you to visualize

their growth, the growth
of their knowledge,

and also helps you to
extract valuable information

that you can then use

to better inform your treatment approach,

better inform ongoing education,

and then just better track
your client's progress.

And so we're using
observations of the client

or the caregiver to determine
their level of knowledge

and how that knowledge is growing

over a determined period of time.

And then you're using
feedback from that client

or caregiver to determine
their level of confidence

with participating

and with using these strategies outside
of treatment sessions.

And so the methods of data collection
are observations and feedback.

And so that means the process

of collecting your data
is you're observing

how they're using those strategies

during the treatment sessions

and you are using tools
that help you to collect

and to use the feedback
from their understanding

of the strategies, from
their use of the strategies.

And again, that helps
better inform your practice

and puts you in a better
position to understand

how closely the
understanding of the client

or the caregiver relates to
the outcomes that you're seeing

with the client and how well
they're making progress.

And so once you have that data,

you're in the best possible
position to identify

what other ways you might
want to provide support

to be able to ensure that your clients

and the caregivers are learning
what they need to learn

to best support the client

and to ensure that you
have the opportunity

to make any adjustments as needed

to the treatment plan
based on the progress

that the client is making,
based on any changes

or any new needs that come up.

And also based on how you
would like to move forward with

that client in terms of additional avenues

for a client and caregiver education.

So when it comes to documentation,

establishing your goals means
that you want to be able

to describe what you're doing
in the treatment sessions

and how the client is responding.

You wanna describe how the client

or the caregiver is engaging

with those treatment activities.

And you wanna be able to
describe what you're observing,

what your ongoing impressions
are, any recommendations

that you might have that are new

and just really any changes

that might impact the
trajectory of progress.

And this is really where
you have the opportunity

to tie everything back

to the overall outcomes that
you want for the client,

the overall goals that
you have for the client,

which is you wanna be able to
identify what their needs are,

you wanna be able to identify
how to support those needs

and you wanna be able to sort of equip

and empower their caregivers
to support those needs outside

of the treatment session
so you're not the only one

who is sort of having
to provide that support.

And again, because there
is such a strong research

and evidence base for the outcomes

that clients have when it's
not just their clinician

who's working with them,

this is really one of the areas where

you have the opportunity to
really make a case for all

of these different things
through documentation.

And so in terms of identifying
your sources of data, again,

you're thinking about
your clinical knowledge,

so your knowledge of best
practices, your knowledge

of the strategies, your
knowledge of the client

and their needs, your
knowledge of the caregiver

and what their needs are.

And then really using the lens

of the specific documentation standards
and guidelines that you have to be able
to identify which tools you can use
and how you can move forward with ensuring
that you have this
process of documentation
to meet these goals that you've set.

And so in terms of identifying
your data collection methods

and you're really looking
at the use of client

or caregiver feedback to identify

how they're responding when
you use these strategies

in the treatment sessions.

And then we've talked about being able

to use a tool such as an
AI scribe, which you know,

if the client or the
caregiver gives consent,

there's an opportunity there

to be able to record treatment sessions

and then be able to use this AI scribe

to be able to transcribe

and also to be able to
summarize, to be able

to share information with
the client or the caregiver

after the session has ended.

And also to be able to
identify specific patterns.

So an example of that could be if you,

and this is assuming that
you have consent to do this,

if you have let's say 10 recordings of

sessions every other week
or every three or four weeks

where you are working
on a particular target

and using a particular strategy.

But you could use a tool
to record those sessions

and then to extract the
information that's specific

to the strategy that's being
used and the client's response

and then compare it with
the use of another strategy

and then be able to present that

or document that to demonstrate

how effective one
strategy is over another.

And so that's just an example

and it really again goes back
to thinking through what it is

that you as a clinician
would like to accomplish,

and then thinking about the functions

of these particular tools

and which tool would be
the most effective for

what you wanna accomplish.

And so the beauty of all of these tools is

that it really is, they are designed to

be your co-pilot essentially.

And so you have the
idea, you have the goal

and you use this tool for

whatever goal that you have

for whatever idea that you have.

And that's something that
helps you to continue

to identify other ways
that you can use it.

So in terms of data
collection methods, you know,

you really are using your
clinical knowledge to identify

how the client is progressing
on an ongoing basis

and you have an opportunity
there to use any of the tools

for research or data collection

to better increase your
knowledge of what to look out for

when it comes to looking at progress

and understanding what
that progress looks like

with a particular area
that you may not have

or may not feel as confident

with relying on your observation

and existing clinical knowledge for.

And then again, being able

to use existing documentation
standards to be able

to describe your clinical
observations and any changes

or additional recommendations.

So this is where it really is
gonna depend on which setting

that you're in, which tool you use

because the documentation

standards are different if you're
working in a hospital or a SNF
or in home health or a school
or in private practice.

And so you really wanna be able
to use your documentation
standards as a guide to be able
to understand how to identify
the most effective tools to use.

So for instance, you might
be in a better position
to use an AI scribe if you're
working in a private practice
or a hospital versus if
you're working in a school.

But one of the ways that
you could use a tool

for documentation, even
if you work with a school,

is you could for instance, use one
of the data analysis tools to evaluate,

let's say an IEP and
to be able to identify

sort of the standards or
the writing style of an IEP

and then to make recommendations for

how you might structure
your, you know, IEP summary

to be able to sort of
conform with that standard.

And again, one of the things
to keep in mind is that

because it's a tool that you are using,

you really wanna be able
to review it, you know,

whatever output you get
and make sure that it serves the purposes
that you established so that you are not
just sort of using
something that it put out
and have it not be relevant
to your client's needs
or relevant to the purposes of
documentation that you have.

And once you've done that, you know,
it's really an ongoing process
of identifying other ways
that you can use specific tools to be able
to meet these particular purposes
that you have for your client.

So when it comes to collecting your data,
what you're doing again is
as you're observing the way
that the client is responding
to intervention, you are
identifying what you would like to track,
you are gathering any
information that would be helpful
for you to better understand what to track
in order to measure progress.

And then you are making sure that you have
the appropriate frame of
reference for the standards
that you need for documentation.

And again, this is one of the ways
that you can use the tool
like ChatGPT or Gemini
because you can again,
ask these questions,

and get a general sense of
what you should be applying

to your process, but then also
getting a general sense of

how these documentation
standards that you need

for your particular location
should inform the way

that you are describing
the client's response

and being able to make
recommendations for ongoing support.

And so once you've gotten to that point,

then you're in a much
better position to be able

to describe the client's
response to intervention

and to describe your
clinical observations,

any changes, any feedback
that you're receiving,

and then be able to document
all of your recommendations

for ongoing intervention

and ultimately document
your recommendations

for clinical discharge,
which, you know, when we kind

of start the process, the goal
is always to be able to get

to the point where the client
no longer needs the support

and everything that we're
doing from one point

to the next is being able
to get closer to that point

so that we are in the

best possible position

to support the clients

and also in the best
possible position to continue

to expand our clinical knowledge
so that we are, you know,

using this knowledge to
best support our clients.

So I'm gonna pause there

because one of the things that I mentioned

before was that we were
gonna have a chance

to be a little bit more hands-on
than last time to be able

to really go through this process either

with the case studies or with the clients

or with your existing clients, excuse me.

And so in thinking about
all of these different

goals and all these different
processes that go down

to being able to identify which tools

for data collection are you
using to collect your data,

which tools for data analysis
are you using to be able

to get additional insights about your data

so that you are in the best
possible position to use it

for your specific purpose,
to meet your specific goals

and how are you organizing your data

so that you can share it with
the people who would need

that information to better understand

how you arrived at a particular conclusion,

to better understand what they can do to support the client

or if they're the client themselves, what they can do

to support themselves and ultimately

be able to ensure that as you go through this process

with any client, you have the opportunity

to apply the same framework

and the same process to providing services through intake,

evaluation, through treatment planning, treatment delivery,

and ultimately discharge, documenting all of the things

that you are doing to be able to justify the care

that you're providing and then ensuring

that you are best supporting the client

and the caregiver so that they have the opportunity

to be fully participant in the process

of receiving care.

And so here are my references,

and I know we only have a few minutes left,

but I do see some questions, so I will go ahead

and review those questions.

Okay, so I see that there's a question about a link

to free and low cost tools or specific tools to get started.

I'm happy to provide a list,
sort of a general list
that might be helpful,
but again, there are so many tools
and there are so many different purposes
that it really comes down
to what you wanna be able
to accomplish with the tools
and also in sort of in lieu
of recommending a specific
tool that may not work for you,
you really get the opportunity
to do the research.

I mean, you can ask
ChatGPT also, or Gemini,

but that really provides you
with not only a general list,

but a way for you to then
take those next steps

to identify how you wanna use these tools.

And so of course this
is in no way a sort of

an exhaustive or comprehensive overview

because there's so much to AI

and there's so many
specifics, so many details

and so many things that you know,

I could not possibly cover in an hour.

But if you have any questions

that you wanna send me an email about,

there's my email right there.

Again, I encourage you

to sort of dive deep into AI itself

and just learn a little bit
more about how it works,

the tools that are out
there and really start

to develop your own sort of repertoire
of tools that you would find helpful
and useful in your practice.

And keeping in mind these
guidelines are really

to help you sort of narrow that focus
so that you're not going, you know,

you're not chasing down
rabbit holes of tons of tools

because again, there
are so many out there,

and you wanna think about the things

that you wanna accomplish

and then identify the
specific types of tools

that can help you accomplish it.

And then, you know, kind of
go down that list to say,

well now that I've identified

that I need a data collection tool

or a research tool, here is
the list of research tools

that I can look through and
identify which would be the most

appropriate for me.

All right, so I see some people
are asking about suggestions

for AI tools in all the areas.

I'm more than happy to provide that.

Thank you all so much again for your time

and I hope you have a great rest of your day.

- [Blair] Thank you Deborah for everything.

We talked about, we will be conducting

that Q&A session on August 29th at 12:00 PM Central time.

So you'll be getting an email soon where you can register

for that Q&A session

and also submit questions that you would like

for Debra to discuss.

This Q&A session will not be offered for ASHA CEUs,

but if you'd like to earn ASHA CEUs

for today's session, remember to complete assessment

that was sent, you'll be redirected

to the post session page once this webinar ends.

And the link will be included in the follow-up email

that will go out tomorrow.

Here, you will be able to access the survey and assessment.

The assessment must be completed at 80% or better

and will remain open for one week.

Thank you all for attending

and we hope you have a great day.