

# CLINIC CONVERSATIONS



YOUR FAMILY'S HOME  
FOR HEALTHCARE

MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY CLINICS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020



## NEW Midwestern University Therapy Institute Now Open

The Midwestern University Therapy Institute is now open and houses integrated therapy services under one brand-new roof, located at 5815 West Utopia Road, Glendale, Arizona 85308. The Therapy Institute is pleased to also offer a CAREN (Computer Assisted Rehabilitation Environment) virtual reality system described in the following article.

### Services now offered at the Therapy Institute include:

- Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Treatment
- Clinical Psychology
- Pediatric Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Speech-Language Pathology
- New:** Bilingual Speech Therapy
- Low Vision Rehabilitation
- Sports Vision Performance Training
- Vision Therapy

For more information, visit the Therapy Institute webpage at: [www.mwuclinics.com/arizona/services/therapy](http://www.mwuclinics.com/arizona/services/therapy) or call 623-537-6000 to schedule an appointment.

## Midwestern University CAREN System is First in Arizona

The new Therapy Institute offers the first and only virtual Computer Assisted Rehabilitation Environment (CAREN) system in Arizona, and one of fewer than 20 in the United States and 50 worldwide. CAREN is an innovative, immersive system for advanced clinical evaluation, analysis, and rehabilitation for a variety of neuro-physical conditions that can affect patients' speech, vision, balance, and physical abilities, including Parkinson's, stroke, and other brain injuries.

Midwestern University healthcare providers can utilize this exciting, state-of-the-art technology to assist patients in many areas, including physical therapy, podiatry, vision therapy, low vision rehabilitation, sports vision performance training, speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, and others. In addition to serving patients of the Midwestern University Clinics, this specialty technology is also available to the local community through provider referrals.



## We Look Forward to Seeing You

The Midwestern University Clinics are pleased to welcome back patients for in-person clinic appointments. Our healthcare providers, staff, and students are all taking extra precautions to ensure the health and safety of our Midwestern family and community.

### Learn about our safety process for clinics at:

[www.facebook.com/MWUclinics/videos/724728391626167/](https://www.facebook.com/MWUclinics/videos/724728391626167/)

### Or visit our website for more information:

[www.mwuclinics.com/arizona/news/clinics/what-to-expect-for-in-person-care](http://www.mwuclinics.com/arizona/news/clinics/what-to-expect-for-in-person-care)



MIDWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY  
CLINICS

5865 West Utopia Road  
Glendale, Arizona 85308  
623-537-6000

623-806-7387 (PETS)  
<http://www.mwuclinics.com>  
<http://www.mwuanimalhealth.com>

# Now Offering: Virtual Sessions for Speech-Language Therapy

Jennifer Buckler M.S., CCC-SLP and George Wolford, Ph.D., M.S., CCC-SLP, College of Health Sciences Speech-Language Pathology Program

Clients who have speech and language deficits may be able to improve their communication skills with speech-language therapy services through an electronic medium known as “teletherapy,” “telehealth,” or “telepractice.” This option can assist clients for whom travel is difficult or who may be concerned about attending speech-language sessions in the clinic setting.

Licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) can provide therapy services in real time in an interactive, virtual environment. During or before an initial telehealth evaluation session, the SLP will assess the adequacy of the equipment available to the client to help determine that it will ensure a successful online session.

Each client is assessed to determine both their needs and suitability for services via the teletherapy platform. Individuals who need speech therapy to improve their production of speech sounds, understanding and expression of language, and fluency issues are often good candidates for teletherapy because they can interact with the SLP in the virtual environment.

Even clients who may have difficulty concentrating or interacting in real time via a computer screen may be able to participate with the help of a



parent or caregiver “e-helper” during the online sessions. The SLP can also provide quality consultation and training with parents or caregivers, teaching them to embed communication opportunities into their typical daily routines to enhance speech and language skills and to help reduce communication barriers.

While an online environment is not ideal for all clients, telepractice services can be an effective way to meet speech and language goals.



## Learning Difficulty or Visual Function Issue?

**Many Children with Learning Disabilities Have Misdiagnosed Vision Problems**

*Alicia Feis, O.D., FAAO, Dean, Arizona College of Optometry*

Because vision and learning are so intimately connected, vision problems can easily be mistaken for learning problems. Correctable vision issues are often misdiagnosed as learning disabilities, ADHD, or dyslexia. As many as 40% of all children with learning disabilities have vision problems that are misdiagnosed. Only a complete eye exam done by an optometrist can truly diagnose a vision-related learning issue.

Glasses are helpful for some vision problems, but vision is more than seeing 20/20. Learning to read involves accurate eye movements, focusing, and binocularity. As a result, learning is difficult if any of these systems are not functioning at an optimum level. But the good news is that vision therapy can help correct vision systems to improve visual function.

Vision-related learning problems are often not identified right away, and the person who is suffering from them might not even know. Signs and symptoms can include skipping or re-reading of lines, using a finger while reading, closing or covering an eye, double vision, and avoiding close-up work. This list is not comprehensive, and children will have the best chance of learning success when their families schedule regular eye exams with an optometrist to diagnose and treat any vision or other ocular health concerns.



MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
COMMUNITY HEALTH LECTURE SERIES 2020  
**COPING WITH COVID-19**  
HELP FROM THE MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE TEAM

Tuesday, August 18, 2020 | 3:30 – 4:30 PM

**Resilience and COVID-19:**

**Protecting Your Mental and Emotional Health**

Presented by Penny Stuart Zaddack, Psy.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor

Midwestern University Clinical Psychology Program

To register, visit: [www.midwestern.edu/CHLS-COVID19-mentalhealth](http://www.midwestern.edu/CHLS-COVID19-mentalhealth)

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 | 3:30 – 4:30 PM

**Eye Strain-19**

Presented by Elizabeth Escobedo, O.D., FAAO, FSLs

Assistant Professor, Arizona College of Optometry

To register, visit: [www.midwestern.edu/CHLS-COVID19-eyestrain](http://www.midwestern.edu/CHLS-COVID19-eyestrain)

**These lectures will be presented virtually.**

**Did you know the MWU Clinics sponsor and participate in many clinical research trials related to conditions such as dry eye disease, diabetes, headaches, and others? For more information on how to become a participant, go to: <https://www.mwuihi.com/clinical-studies-2>**

The information contained in these articles is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider for questions regarding any health or medical condition.