



**ASHA CE
APPROVED PROVIDER**

**University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center**

Intermediate Level

.15 ASHA CEUs

Stoma Structure to Function

Available until 12/31/2026

Level: Intermediate

Course Structure:

This course is an asynchronous course, available on-demand. Participants will have the opportunity to complete course requirements via recorded webinar.

Course Description:

In this course, participants are provided an overview of surgical techniques for tracheostomal creation. A novel STOMA grading system to classify the postsurgical anatomy will be introduced and applied to various cases. Clinical considerations for selecting the optimal stomal attachment and heat moisture exchange system will be presented along with recent work with new ProvoxLife systems.

Course Objectives:

1. Describe stoma configuration in relationship to surgical creation of the tracheostoma.
2. Describe considerations for selecting stomal attachment matched to stomal configuration and functional needs.
3. Discuss emerging evidence for integration of Provox Life into tracheostoma care.

Agenda:

- 0-5 Introduction (Hutcheson)
- 5-20 Creating and classifying the STOMA (Goepfert)
- 20-35 Matching STOMA structure to the right attachment (Richardson)
- 35-50 New generation devices to support optimal day and night HME use (Ward)
- 50-70 STOMA polling with panel discussion to select the best attachment
- 70-90 Q&A with panelists (Hutcheson, Goepfert, Ward, Richardson, Burns)

No partial credit will be given for this course.

Completion Requirements:

In order to receive ASHA CEUs, you must complete the following—

1. Watch the webinar in full, which will be monitored through the website.
2. Complete a post-course evaluation and survey within 48 hours of watching the webinar in full.
3. The post-course assessment will include a multiple-choice test, which must be completed with 100% accuracy. The learner will have unlimited attempts.

[Link to Post-Course Evaluation](#)

Policies: Please see home page

Bios/Disclosures:

Dr. Kate Hutcheson

Dr. Kate Hutcheson is a tenured Professor and Deputy Director of Clinical Research in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery with dual appointment in the Division of Radiation Oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She serves as Section Chief and Research Director for the Section of Speech Pathology and Audiology. Dr. Hutcheson is a certified speech-language pathologist practicing in oncology for 19 years, a Board-Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (BCS-S) and holds a Doctorate Degree in Epidemiology. She leads an internationally recognized, extramurally funded clinical research program. She has authored over 175 journal articles with funding support from the National Institutes of Health, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, the MD Anderson Institutional Research Grant Award program, and the CPRIT UT Health Innovation Training Program. She is an Associated Editor for the Head and Neck and Dysphagia journals. She is a passionate clinician and educator who lectures nationally and internationally on radiation associated dysphagia and head and neck cancer rehabilitation.

Disclosures: Dr. Hutcheson receives research funding from the National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute (R01CA271223, R01CA273984), Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI 1609-36195), the MD Anderson Institutional Research Grant Program, and Atos Medical. Unrestricted Educational Grant outside this Program from Atos Medical. Developer and PI of the DIGEST method. Dr. Hutcheson receives no royalties or personal fees related to this DIGEST content.

Dr. Ryan Goepfert

Dr. Goepfert is a Professor in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery, Division of Surgery at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX.

Disclosures: Dr. Goepfert is employed by MD Anderson Cancer Center and receives a salary. He has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

Dr. Elizabeth Ward

Dr. Ward is a speech pathologist and the Director of the Centre for Functioning and Health Research within Queensland Health, and a Conjoint Professor with the University of Queensland, Australia. Dr. Ward is an international leader in the field of speech pathology with over 450 refereed publications to date and has been a keynote/invited speaker in over 20 countries. Improving the management, care and supports for people with head and neck cancer (HNC) is a key area of Dr. Ward's research activity. Her work has contributed to enhanced understanding of treatment effects, enhanced awareness of survivorship impacts for patients and carers, and multiple new models of care, including telehealth, for supporting patients receiving HNC care. Dr. Ward is co-author of the leading textbook for speech pathologists supporting HNC care (3rd edition will be released in 2024). In 2014 Dr. Ward was awarded "Fellow" of Speech Pathology Australia for her outstanding contributions to the profession.

Casey Richardson, MS, CCC-SLP

Ms. Richardson began her career as a speech-language pathologist at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in 2016 where she completed her fellowship training and continued as a senior speech language pathologist and Education Coordinator for the Section of Speech Pathology and Audiology from 2019-2023. She has facilitated the audiology and speech-language pathology graduate student and fellowship programs in addition to collaboratively developing MD Anderson education offerings both internally and externally under Dr. Katherine Hutcheson. She specializes in the treatment of patients with head and neck cancer with expertise in dysphagia evaluation/intervention and alaryngeal voice and pulmonary rehabilitation following total laryngectomy. She has had the opportunity to participate in clinical research with a focus on dysphagia and post-laryngectomy rehabilitation. Additionally, she has presented at local and national conferences and is a strong advocate for the laryngectomy community. Casey joined ATOS in May 2023 as a Clinical Educator.

Disclosures: Ms. Richardson is employed by ATOS and receives a salary. She has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

Dr. Clare Burns

Dr. Burns is an advanced speech pathologist and clinician research fellow at Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Queensland, and an honorary senior lecturer at The University of Queensland, Australia (UQ). She has more than 20 years of clinical experience and, over the last 12 years, has conducted research in speech pathology and technology-enabled healthcare. She has developed, evaluated, and implemented a range of telehealth services, incorporating speech pathology (specifically swallowing and head and neck cancer services), multidisciplinary care, and broader allied health services. Dr. Burns coauthored Speech Pathology Australia's position statement on telepractice and the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia's clinical practice guidelines for teleoncology, and she has more than 50 publications. She is a guest lecturer for undergraduate and postgraduate students at UQ and an invited presenter at national and international conferences. She is an affiliate of both the Centre for Research in Telerehabilitation and the Centre of Research Excellence in Telehealth at UQ.

Disclosures: Dr. Burns is employed by Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital in Queensland and receives a salary. She has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.