

Dimitra C. Chaldi

Curriculum Vitae

DIMITRA C. CHALDI

PhD. Student, M.ADS, BSc. S-LP

Lecturer at University of Peloponnese, Department of Speech and Language Pathology

LSVT LOUD Certified Clinician

A Hanen® Certified “It Takes Two to Talk” S-LP

HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATION

- 7+ years working with children/ teens/ adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), special needs, syndromes, behavioral needs, developmental disabilities, intellectual disabilities, communication disorders, articulation disorders, learning disabilities, stroke, traumatic brain injuries, hearing difficulties, multiple sclerosis.
- Certified to provide: LSVT-LOUD program for individuals with Parkinson Disease
- Certified to provide: “It Takes Two to Talk – The Hanen® Program for Parents of Children with Language Delays”.
- Developed multiple behavior reduction/ skill acquisition programs.
- Employment Interviewer.
- Hard working, reliable, and highly observant.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills.
- Knowledge of behavioral assessments.
- Knowledge of clinical hearing assessments ASSR (Auditory Steady – State Response) and ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response).
- Knowledge of Picture Exchange Communication (PECS).
- Certified to provide PROMPT Technique.
- Proficient in speech kinematic tracking system <<Electromagnetic Articulograph>> (EMA), in MatLab (Matrix Laboratory).
- Certified in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint) Internet applications.

EDUCATION

- April 2019- Current **PhD. Student**
Faculty of Medicine (Otorhinolaryngology). (Supervisor: Dr. Naxakis)
University of Patras, Greece
- Sept. 2015 – Jun. 2017 **Master of Applied Disability Studies/ Applied Behavior Analysis (M.ADS) (GPA A)**
Specialized in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
Faculty of Social Sciences
Brock University, St' Catharines, ON, Canada
- Thesis-project** Using Functional Communication Training to Reduce Screaming Behavior in a Young Girl with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Sept. 2013 **Registered Speech-Language Pathologist**
Technological Educational Institute of Kalamatas, Kalamata, Greece
- Sept. 2009 – Sept. 2013 **Bachelor (BSc.) in Speech – Language Pathology (Graduate with distinction, GPA A+)**
Technological Educational Institute of Kalamatas, Kalamata, Greece
- Thesis-project** Speech Audiometry – Comparison between monosyllabic pseudowords and disyllabic pseudowords

EXPERIENCE

May 2019 – current

Speech-Language Pathologist & Senior Behavior Therapist, Behavior Consultant

Speech Rehabilitation Institute, Dimitra Chaldi, Patra, Greece

- Provided speech therapy assessment and intervention to children and adults
- Provided assessment and one to one (1:1) structured IBI (Intensive Behavior Intervention) therapy to children on the Autism Spectrum Disorder, Dual Diagnosis, and adults with behavioral deficits (i.e., Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder).
- Provided PROMPT Techniques
- Provided strategies and parent consultation, in order to help parents manage their kids' challenging behaviors at home.
- Developed communication and language activities to meet client's individual needs.
- Provided Phonotherapy to adults with stroke, Parkinson disease, and after laryngectomy.
- Effectively implemented 1:1 speech interventions/ (articulation) programs
- Provided parent education and training to support the development of speech, language, social, and play skills

July 2017 – Sep. 2019

IBI (Intensive Behavioral Intervention) Therapist, Behavior Consultant, Senior Behavior Therapist

NEXUS Therapy, Toronto, ON, Canada

- Assisted in assessment procedure under supervision of BCBA
- Assisted in behavior therapy program writing under supervision of BCBA

- Provided one to one (1:1) structured IBI Therapy to children within the home setting using ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) principles
- Followed structured behavior therapy programs
- Tracked and observed changes in behavior and completed data collection, and graphing according to Ministry Standards
- Provided strategies, and parent consultation to help parent manage challenging behaviors at home
- Employment Interviewer: responsible for interviewing potential candidates for behavior therapist position within a company.
- Provide supervision to Instructor Behavior Therapists

Jul. 2017 – Jul. 2018

Speech – Language Pathology Assistant, Language Consultant

Speech Associates/ Your Therapy Partners, Toronto, ON, Canada

- Provided speech therapy intervention to children on the Autism Spectrum under the supervision of a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist
- Developed communication and language activities to meet children's individual needs
- Provided parent education to facilitate development of speech, language, and social skills within the home environment
- Completed clinical documentation for each therapy session for review by supervising Speech-Language Pathologist
- Implemented Discrete Trial Training, Errorless Teaching, PECS, Task Analysis programs to increase language and communication, appropriate social skills, and daily living skills

Jun. 2016 – Oct. 2017

IBI (Intensive Behavioral Intervention) Therapist

Morneau Shepell – Children Support Solutions, Toronto, ON, Canada

- Effectively implemented 1:1 and group setting ABA/IBI interventions/programs
- Implemented Discrete Trial Training, Errorless Teaching, PECS, Task Analysis programs to increase language and communication, appropriate social skills, and daily living skills
- Completing data collection and graphs efficiently during programs

- Assisted in developing individualized programs corresponding to clients needs
- Assessed and implemented behavioral assessments
- Managing inappropriate behaviors according to behavior protocol and intervention

May 2016 – Jun. 2016 **Volunteer Behavior Therapist**

Toronto IBI, Toronto, ON, Canada

- Effectively implemented 1:1 and group setting ABA/IBI interventions/programs
- Creating and implementing recreational activities
- Providing support to participants ensuring that programs are modified to promote an inclusive environment
- Consistent and following behavior management techniques
- Performs administrative tasks necessary to support the program

Sept. 2013 – Aug. 2015 **Speech – Language Pathologist, Private Practice**

Patras, Greece

- Conducted speech-language assessments for children with speech and language delays
- Developed individually speech and language therapy treatment plans
- Effectively implemented 1:1 speech interventions / (articulation) programs
- Provided parent education and training to support the development of speech, language, social, and play skills

Apr. 2015 – Sept. 2015 **Speech – Language Pathologist**

Patras, Greece

- Provided private Speech-Language Pathology services for child with ASD
- Focused on language development, communication, and sensory stimulation

Apr. 2015 – Aug. 2015 **Child Care Education Assistant**

Patras, Greece

- Provided early child care education to child with Down Syndrome

Jun. 2013 – Dec. 2013

Audiology Assistant

Karamandanio Hospital – Children’s Hospital, Patras, Greece

- Clinical assessment of hearing ASSR (Auditory Steady State Response)
- Clinical assessment of hearing ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response)

Jun. 2013 – Dec. 2013

Speech – Language Pathologist (S-LP)

Psychiatric Clinic for kids at the “Karamandanio Hospital”, Patras, Greece

- Conducted speech-language assessments for children with communication disorders

Apr. 2013 – Sept. 2013

Placement S-LP Student

Private Speech and Audiology Centre, N. Trimmis, Patras, Greece

- Provided assessment and intervention to children with learning disabilities, speech disorders, articulation disorders, Syndromes
- Focused on the improvement of language, communication, and social skills

Jan. 2013 – Apr. 2013

Placement S-LP Student

Medical Rehabilitation Hospital – DIAPLASIS, Kalamata, Greece

- Working with patients with Stroke, Traumatic Brain Injury, Multiple Sclerosis

Jul. 2012

Clinical Manager of Special Education Program with the title “Eurogames”

Primary School in Cannock (Birmingham), UK

Jul. 2012

Placement S-LP Student

St. Gregory’s Catholic Primary School, Northampton, UK

- Working with children with Asperger Syndrome and Autism
- Focus on language skills, PECS

Jun. 2011

Teaching Assistant

St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Northampton, UK

- Working with children with Asperger Syndrome and Autism
- Observation of IBI Therapy
- Collaboration with speech pathologists, psychologists, and behavior analysts

Oct. 2010 – Jan. 2012

Placement S-LP Student

9th & 10th Primary School of Kalamatas, Kalamata, Greece

- Working with children with learning disabilities and articulation disorders

LITERATURE WORKS

Chaldi, D., Tsampasian, N., Namasivayam, A. K., & Van Lieshout, P.H.H.M. (2015). English to Greek translation of *Focus on the Outcomes of Children Under Six* (FOCUS©). A clinical tool to evaluate change in communicative-participation in preschool children. Thomas-Stonell, N., Oddson, B., Walker, J. & Rosenbaum, P. (2012). The Focus©.

Toronto-Ontario. Canada: Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

PUBLICATIONS

2020 *Increasing Vocal Repertoire in order to Reduce Screaming Behavior in Toddler with Autism.* **Dimitra Chaldi.** **International Journal of Educational Innovation.** Vol. 2, Issue 1, pp. 100-106. ISSN:2654-0002

Nov. 2019 *Developing Antecedent and Consequent-Based Intervention Strategies to Prevent the Occurrence of Challenging Behaviors in a Child with Autism.* **Dimitra Chaldi.** **European Journal of Special Education Research.** Vol. 5, Issue 2, pp. 18-28. Doi: 10.5281/zenodo.3544507

Mar. 2019 *Selection of material for speech audiometry testing in young Greek – speaking children* (Abstract). Nikolaos Trimmis & **Dimitra Chaldi.** **Journal of Hearing Science** ® .Vol. 9, Number 1, p.48. ISSN: 2083 – 389X. Proceedings of the 14th Congress of the European Federation of Audiology Societies, at Lisbon Portugal

Mar. 2019 *Test- retest reliability of a modern Greek speech audiometry test for adults* (Abstract). Nikolaos Trimmis, **Dimitra Chaldi**, & Stefanos Naxakis. **Journal of Hearing Science** ® .Vol. 9, Number 1, p.43. ISSN: 2083 – 389X. Proceedings of the 14th Congress of the European Federation of Audiology Societies, at Lisbon Portugal

Aug. 2015 *Articulatory Speech Errors and Word Structure*. Anneke Slis, Aravind Namasivayam, Rohan Bali, **Chaldi Dimitra**, Pascal van Lieshout. Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Conference: ICPHS 2015, *Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Glasgow, UK: the University of Glasgow. ISBN 978-0-85261-941-4. At Glasgow. Retrieved from: <https://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/icphs-proceedings/ICPHS2015/Papers/ICPHS0733.pdf>

May 2015 *Comparison of suprathreshold intelligibility scores between two different speech audiometry tests using nonsense stimuli*. **Chaldi Dimitra** & Nikolaos Trimmis (Abstract). *The Journal of International Advanced Otology*. Vol. 11, Supplemented 1, p56-56. 1/3p. ISSN: 1308-7649. EISSN: 2148-3817. Retrieved from: <https://web.b.ebscohost.com/abstract?direct=true&profile=ehost&scope=site&authtype=crawler&jrnl=13087649&AN=103260643&h=2tztOhkPz3n5wBrIaZOWYgjEAIM3%2b50o5%2fmbHFArmmVXnZMclA%2bnZWuLy6klNP1hA9GqCRDEBquUIZEFbEFirg%3d%3d&crl=c&resultNs=AdminWebAuth&resultLocal=ErrCrlNotAuth&crlhashurl=login.aspx%3fdirect%3dtrue%26profile%3dehost%26scope%3dsite%26authtype%3dcrawler%26jrnl%3d13087649%26AN%3d103260643>

CONFERENCES & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

22- 25 May 2019 **Chaldi D.**, & Trimmis N. ‘*Selection of material for speech audiometry testing in young Greek – speaking children*’. Presented in 14th Congress of the European Federation of Audiology Society (EFAS), in Lisbon, Portugal.

22 – 25 May 2019 Trimmis N., **Chaldi D.**, & Naxakis S. ‘*Test-Retest reliability of a modern Greek speech audiometry test for adults*’. Presented in 14th Congress of the European Federation of Audiology Society (EFAS), in Lisbon, Portugal.

10 – 14 Aug. 2015 Slis A., Bali R., Namasivayam A.K., **Chaldi Dimitra.**, & Van Lieshout, P.H.H.M. ‘*Articulatory Speech Errors and Word Structure*’. Presented in 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, in Glasgow, Scotland UK

27 – 30 May 2015 **Chaldi D.**, Trimmis N. ‘*Comparison of suprathreshold intelligibility scores between two different speech audiometry tests using nonsense stimuli*’. Presented in 12th Congress of the European Federation of Audiology Societies (EFAS), in Istanbul, Turkey

8 – 12 Apr. 2014 Namasivayam A., Sharma D., Wong S., **Chaldi D.**, Lieshout P. ‘*Visual Speech Gestures modulate efferent Auditory System*’. 16th International Neuroscience Winter Conference in Sölden, Austria.

21 Nov. 2014 Pearsell S., **Chadi D.**, Bali R., Namasivayam A.K., Helms-Park R., & Van Lieshout P.H.H.M. – ‘*Dual task influence on speech motor stability*’. Presented in 2nd Undergraduate Linguistic Conference: University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

Nov. 2014 **Chaldi D.**, Trimmis N. ‘*Speech Audiometry – Comparison between Monosyllabic and Disyllabic nonsense words*’. Presented in 2nd Undergraduate Linguistic Conference in UTSC, Toronto, Canada

1 – 5 June 2014 **Chaldi D.**, Trimmis N. ‘*Nonsense Speech Audiometry Material – Monosyllabic versus Disyllabic Recognition Scores*’. Presented in 9th Balkan Congress of Otorhinolaryngology, in Montenegro, Budva

RESEARCH COLLABORATION

May 2019 – current **Speech Research Centre**

Research Director: Dr. Aravind Namasivayam

Research consulting service to Speech Rehabilitation Institute, Dimitra Chaldi, Patra, Greece

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Jan.2020 – current **Lecturer**

Rehabilitation Audiology (Theory & Lab) (4th semester)

Science of Speech and Hearing (Theory) (2nd semester)

Department of Speech-Language Pathology

University of Peloponnese, Kalamata, Greece

Oct. 2019 – Jan.202 **Lecturer**
Audiology (Theory & Lab) (3rd Semester)
Department of Speech – Language Pathology
University of Peloponnese, Kalamata, Greece

Sept.2014 – Dec. 2014 **Teaching Assistant**
Speech Physiology (PLIC54H – Speech Physiology & Disorders)
Scarborough Campus, University of Toronto, ON, Canada
Supervised under Dr. Aravind Namasivayam (PhD. S-LP (C))

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Oct. 2015 – current **Research Assistant**
Supervised by Dr. Pascal Van Lieshout & Dr. Aravind Namasivayam
Oral Dynamics Lab, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

Feb. 2015 – Apr. 2015 **Research Assistant**
Supervised by Dr. Maria Grigos
Motor Speech Laboratory, New York University, NUC, USA

Aug. 2014 – Sept. 2015 **Co-investigator**
“Articulatory Speech Errors and Word Structure”
University of Toronto, Department of Speech- Language Pathology, Toronto, ON,
Canada

Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2014 **Research Assistant**
Supervised by Dr. Pascal Van Lieshout & Dr. Aravind Namasivayam
Oral Dynamics Lab, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

Feb. 2012 – Oct. 2013 **Co-investigator**
“Nonsense Speech Audiometry Material – Monosyllabic versus Disyllabic
Recognition Scores”.
Technological Educational Institute of Kalamatas, Greece in collaboration with
Technological Educational Institute of Western Greece, Patras, Greece

CERTIFICATION

- Nov. 2019 **LSVT – LOUD**
- Fresco Parkinson Institute, Florence, Italy
- April. 2019 **KeyCERT IT BASIC**
- Jan. 2019 **It Takes Two to Talk – The Hanen® Program for Parents of Children with Language Delays**
- 22 Professional Development Hours
 - The Hanen Centre, Toronto, ON, Canada
- Jul. 2018 **Introduction to Prompt: Technique Workshop**
- The PROMPT Institute, Staten Island, NY, USA
- Jun. 2018 **Healthy Minds for Healthy Children**
- High Five, Toronto, ON, Canada
- Mar. 2018 **Principles of Healthy Child Development**
- High Five, Toronto, ON, Canada
- Jan. 2018 **CPI Blue Card**
- Certified Nonviolent Crisis Prevention Intervention
- Jan. 2018 **Certification “ Coping with Anxiety & Autism Spectrum Disorder: Techniques that Help”**
- Geneva Centre for Autism, Toronto, ON, Canada
- Nov. 2017 **Certified Emergency First Aid & CPR/AED Level C**
- Canadian Red Cross
- June 2016 **International Certification Program in Dual Diagnosis**
- Brock University, St’Catharines, ON, Canada
- Nov. 2015 **IRB/ UCAIHS**
- Research with Human Subjects, New York University, USA
- May 2014 **The TCPS 2 Tutorial Course on Research Ethics (CORE)**
- Panel on Research Ethics, Government of Canada

VOLUNTEER

June 2017

Walk now for Autism

LANGUAGES

- English
 - a. TOEFL: Test of English as a Foreign Language
 - b. CELPIP: Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program
- Greek