The role of muscle fatigue in swallowing exercises

Research question:
Is muscle fatigue in muscles involved in swallowing measurable and what would be an optimal loading for training sub-mental muscles?

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Aims and background:
When doing the Shaker Exercise, patients are normally instructed to do a number of repetitions. So far, there seems no evidence for how many repetitions must be done to have optimise the outcomes of this exercise.

Type of study:
Quantitative

An investigation into late talkers’ talkativeness during a structured speech assessment vs. a spontaneous sample

Research question:
Are late talkers more talkative during a structured speech assessment compared to during a spontaneous sample collected via unstructured play activity?

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Aims and background:
The aim of this study is to determine whether late talkers are more talkative during a structured speech assessment compared to during a spontaneous sample collected via unstructured play activity.

Proposed method of data collection:
Examine data collected from a sample of toddlers, including a group of typically developing toddlers, and toddlers late to talk considering volubility, responsiveness, language, and speech production skills.

Type of study:
Quantitative
Variation of stuttering severity during a single day

Research question:
Does a ten minute speech sample reflect the stuttering of pre-school children during a single day?

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Aims and background:
Measurement is critical to treatment and research with stuttering pre-schoolers. This project determines how well a ten minute speech sample validly measures a child's stuttering severity during an entire day.

Proposed method of data collection:
Recordings of seven pre-school stuttering children are available at present, and a protocol for obtaining such recordings has been developed. The project collects three more recordings and analyses the entire data set of ten recordings.

Type of study:
Quantitative