

Facts About Stuttering

About 5% of children stutter; 1% of adults stutter.

Stuttering most often begins between the ages of 2 - 5 years.

The cause of stuttering is unknown, but several factors may contribute to its development including precocious language development, phonological delays, genetic factors and environmental factors.

Boys who stutter outnumber girls who stutter by 2 to 1 in preschool. In adults, the male to female ratio is 4 or 5 to 1.

Many children go through a period of normal disfluency as their speech and language skills develop.

Particularly in children, stuttering may come and go in the early stages, and the severity varies.

Persistence of stuttering is related to family history of chronic stuttering.

Early intervention for stuttering is important and can help reduce the negative feelings and attitudes about speaking that often develop.

As part of the therapy program, parents can learn to change how they talk with their child to help their child speak more fluently.

Adults who stutter can also benefit from being involved in a therapy program and/or support groups.

- * Call RHSC to speak with an experienced speech-language pathologist about your questions and concerns regarding someone who stutters or to find out more about the stuttering therapy services we provide.
- * Additional resources for information regarding stuttering can be obtained by contacting the Stuttering Foundation of America (1-800-992-9392) and the National Stuttering Association (1-800-364-1677).