

PANAYIOTA SENEKKIS-FLORENT, PH.D., CCC-SLP, BCS-S, CNT

Duquesne University

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Trinity College Dublin, University of Dublin, Ireland Department of Clinical Speech and Language Studies	11/2016
M.Ed.	Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Master of Education in Speech and Language Pathology	12/1997
B.A.	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Bachelor of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders	6/1994

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor	Duquesne University , Pittsburgh, PA Program Director, DU-PHAGIA Pediatric Specialty Clinic Department of Speech-Language Pathology	7/2022 - present
Assistant Professor/ Lead SLP/Director of Pediatric Clinical Fellowship Program	Johns Hopkins School of Medicine , Baltimore, MD Department of Respiratory Sciences Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	8/2017 – 6/2022
Speech-Language Pathologist	Archbishop Makarios III Children's Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) – Level III and Pediatric ICU (PICU), VFSS and FEES Nicosia, Cyprus	9/2010 – 6/2017
Speech-Language Pathologist	Aretaeio Private Hospital Founder of Voice and Swallowing Clinic Nicosia, Cyprus	9/2006 – 2/2017
Adjunct Professor	Trinity College, University of Dublin , Dublin, Ireland Department of Clinical Speech and Language Studies School of Linguistic, Speech, and Communication Sciences	9/2020 -present

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA), Certified Member
Pennsylvania Speech-Language and Hearing Association (PSHA), Member
ASHA Special Interest Group 13: Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (Dysphagia)
ASHA Special Interest Group 17: Global Issues in Communication and Related Issues
Dysphagia Research Society (DRS), Member

European Society for Swallowing Disorders (ESSD), Member
 American Board of Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (AB-SSD), Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (BCS-S) – Pediatric
 Science of Clinical Investigation Award, School of Public Health and Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, Johns Hopkins University
 Board Certified Neonatal Therapist

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT

Duquesne University

Summer	Medical Speech-Language Pathology Seminar (Undergraduate) Intercultural and Global Issues in Speech-Language Pathology (Graduate)
Spring	Disabilities Across the World (Undergraduate) Neurocognitive Communication Disorders (Graduate) Craniofacial Anomalies and Pediatric Feeding Disorders (Graduate) Introduction to Global Health (Undergraduate – one module)

Guest Lectures

Summer	Invited Speaker: Special Topics in Rehabilitation (Undergraduate) 2-part lecture series: Medical Speech-Language Pathology Duquesne China Health Institute, Duquesne University
Spring/Summer	Paediatric Dysphagia Post-Graduate Certificate Course Trinity College, University of Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

Student Mentorship

2024-2025	Conmey, J. Graduate Thesis. Title: Exploring the Self-Efficacy and Experiences of Caregivers Using Thickened Liquids to Manage Pediatric Dysphagia
2024-2025	Gierczynski, E. Undergraduate Independent Study Title: Scoping Review of Immigrant Family Experiences in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU): Parent/Caregiver Perspectives
2022-2023	Whiteford, C. Undergraduate Independent Study Title: Investigating Self-Efficacy and Reported Experiences of Simulations as a Mode of Clinical Education in a Graduate Speech-Language Pathology Program

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Hoekstra, N. E., Schuh, N., Chagomerana, M., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, Pederson, P., Mvalo, T., Lefton-Greif, M.A., & McCollum, E. (2025). Establishing normative physiological values among breastfeeding infants in Malawi for the development of a pneumonia dysphagia risk score. *BMJ Open Respiratory Research*, 12:e002612. doi:10.1136/bmjresp-2024-002612

Alsunaydi, S., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, Greene, Z., & Walshe, M. (2025). “When I Had a Premie, I Didn’t Realize Feedings Would be so Impersonal”: Parents’ Autobiographical Accounts of Feeding Premature Infants. *Dysphagia*, 40 (2). doi.org/10.1007/s00455-025-10828-0

Rajappa, A, **Senekkis-Florent, P.** & Venkatesh, M. (2024). Contemporary approaches to neurogenic dysphagia rehabilitation. In N. Surya, N (Eds). *IFNR Textbook of Neurorehabilitation* (pp. 75-93). Evangel Publishing.

Santiago, R., Gorenberg, B. J., Hurtubise, C., **Senekki-Florent, P.**, & Kudchadkar, S. R. (2024). Speech-language pathologist involvement in the paediatric intensive care unit. *International journal of speech-language pathology*, 26(5), 674–681. doi.org/10.1080/17549507.2023.2244195

Senekki-Florent, P., & Walshe, M. (2021). Prevalence, Impact, and Extent of Feeding and Swallowing Difficulties in Preterm Infants admitted to a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit on Cyprus. *Advances in Communication and Swallowing*, 24:45-53. doi:10.3233/ACS-210025.

Ryan, M. A, Upchurch, P. A, **Senekki-Florent, P.** (2020) Neonatal Vocal Fold Paralysis. *Neoreviews*, 21(5):e308-e322. doi:10.1542/neo.21-5-e308

Senekki-Florent, P., Karaoli, C., & Walshe, M. (2015). Frequency, Nature, and Extent of Feeding and Swallowing Difficulties in Preterm Infants in Cyprus: A Large-Scale Epidemiological Study. *Dysphagia*, 30:223. doi:10.1007/s00455-015-9608-3

Senekkis-Florent, P., & Aliakparova, A. (2025). Language and decolonial praxis in healthcare. In G. Boodoo (Eds). *Decolonial Gestures in Global Health (in press)*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Overby, M., & **Senekkis-Florent, P.** (2025). Legacies of colonialism in Speech-Language Pathology. In G. Boodoo (Eds). *Decolonial Gestures in Global Health (in press)*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Rajappa, A., Sorrell, S. L., & **Senekkis-Florent, P.** (2025, March). *Dysphagia Care Case Studies Through the Lens of ICF Framework*. Seminar presented at the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

Gosa, M., Clinard, E., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, Walshe, M., & Marhsall, J. (2024, December). *Elevating Classroom & Clinical Approaches to Teaching PFD in Graduate Programs: Part 1*. Seminar presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Seattle, WA.

Clinard, E., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, & Bryan, M. (2024, December). *Elevating Classroom & Clinical Approaches to Teaching PFD in Graduate Programs: Part 2*. Seminar presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Seattle, WA.

Senekkis-Florent, P. & Ferrara-Gonzalez, L. (2024, November). Evidence Based & Culturally Responsive Practice in the NICU. Seminar presented at the Society for Ear Nose and Throat Advancement in Children (SENTAC) 52nd Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Rajappa, A.T., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, Soriano, K., Wolf, R, Malandraki, G. (2024, April). Interprofessional Practice/Education for Dysphagia Care Outcomes from Clinical Research Case Studies. Seminar presented at the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Pittsburgh, PA.

Rajappa, A.T., Soriano, K., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, Wolf, R, Malandraki, G. (2023, November). 2022: Ignite and Innovate Clinical Research, Practice and Education in Dysphagia through Interprofessional Education and Practice. Seminar presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Boston, MA.

Rusiewicz, H. L., Staltari, C., Baumann, B., **Senekkis-Florent, P.**, Shensa, A., & Conmey, J. (2023, November). 2078: Navigating Comprehensive-Contemporary-Clinical Education: Student’s Self-Efficacy and Experiences. Seminar presented at the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Boston, MA.

Senekkis-Florent, P., Kim, Y., & Lenker, H. (2022). Therapy Champions - The Key to Success in Rehabilitation for Critically Ill Children, The Collaborative Therapy Team: PT, OT, and SLP. Seminar presented at the 11th Annual Johns Hopkins Critical Care Rehabilitation Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Senekkis-Florent, P., & Kim, Y. (2021). The Critically Ill Infant and Toddler: Evidence-Based Approaches to Feeding and Swallowing. Seminar presented at the 10th Annual Johns Hopkins Critical Care Rehabilitation Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Senekkis-Florent, P. (2020). Special Considerations for PICU: Facilitating Communication and Cognition in the ICU. Seminar presented at the 9th Annual Johns Hopkins Critical Care Rehabilitation Conference, Baltimore, MD.

FUNDING

2024-25 Development of a Smart Nasogastric Tube with Integrated Sensors for GERD Monitoring in Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Charles Henry Leach II Fund for Duquesne University. **PI: Panayiota Senekkis-Florent**, Co-PI’s: Dr. Leda Kloudas, and Dr. Melikhan Tanyeri; \$23,380.

SERVICE	
2024 – present	2025 Dysphagia Research Society (DRS) Annual Meeting Conference Planning Committee.
2022 – present	2023 and 2024 Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing ASHA Annual Convention Planning Committee, Member
2022 – present	Abstract reviewer for the Cyprus Speech-Language-Hearing Association Symposium