

# Collaboration Fact Sheet

## For Music Therapists (MTs) and Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

MTs and SLPs can benefit from shared knowledge, shared responsibilities, and team support (Abramson & Rosenthal, 1995, Andrews, 1990, Register, 2002, Vachon, 1987)

Definition of collaboration: “The process of working jointly with others in an intellectual endeavor to bring about change, and it implies shared responsibility” (Hobson, 2006)

**From a 2002 survey of 695 music therapists, 44.6% collaborate with SLPs (Register, 2002).**

Interdisciplinary model of collaboration: The treatment team works together on the same goals, with each discipline providing individual assessment and treatment, and information is shared among all members of the team (Hobson, 2006)

Transdisciplinary model of collaboration: Various professions work together on the same goals and objectives at the same time (Hobson, 2006)

E.g. Encourage therapists from other fields to utilize music therapy techniques with or without an MT present if they are comfortable doing so, and additionally encourage MTs to incorporate speech goals into their practice as appropriate (Claeys et al., 1989).

Multidisciplinary model of collaboration: The MT and SLP both treat the patient, but do so separately according to goals developed through assessment by each individual profession (Hobson, 2006).

**Successful collaboration is most effective when those involved share a belief system about the overall care and treatment of the patient (Hobson, 2006)**