

**SPEECH IMPEDIMENT**  
**STUTTERING OR MECHANICAL CONDITIONS (from surgery or trauma)**

All Classes  
(Updated 08/28/2024)

DISEASE/CONDITION	EVALUATION DATA	DISPOSITION
<b>A.</b> Resolved OR Does not impair voice communication.	If the AME can determine the condition has resolved without sequelae with no symptoms or current problems that would interfere with flight duties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication needed for flight (emergency procedures;</li> <li>• Effective communication with air traffic control; and</li> <li>• Crew-cockpit communication).</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: green; color: black; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><b>ISSUE</b></div> <b>Annotate</b> this information in Block 60.
<b>B.</b> Condition, including stuttering, that would impair voice communication	Submit the following for FAA review: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A current, detailed <b>Clinical Progress Note</b> generated from a clinic visit with a <b>speech-language pathologist</b> no more than 90 days before the AME exam. It must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed summary of the history of the condition;</li> <li>• Current medications, dosage, and side effects (if any);</li> <li>• Physical exam findings;</li> <li>• Results of any testing performed;</li> <li>• Diagnosis;</li> <li>• Assessment;</li> <li>• Plan (prognosis); and</li> <li>• Follow-up.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>It must specifically include</b> the cause for stuttering and the intelligible their speech is. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stuttering Severity Index for those who stutter;</b></li> <li>• <b>Speech Fluency/Intelligibility test for those with mechanical problems;</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Any testing deemed necessary or already performed by the treating provider.</li> </ol> The speech-language pathologist or AME should describe any functional limitations that could affect the pilot's ability to operate aircraft controls or communicate with other pilots or ATCS.	<div style="background-color: red; color: black; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><b>DEFER</b></div> <b>AME should comment on how well they can communicate.</b>  Submit the information to the FAA for a possible Special Issuance.