Organic Disorders and Communication

- relates to
  - physical structures and speech and language
  - respiration, phonation, articulation, resonance
  - hearing
  - language processing
- organic and neurologic distinction is gray

Prevalence

- frequency of a disorder among a specific portion of the population
  - the prevalence of trisomy 18 in adults is zero; incidence is 1/7000
- in 1992, 42 million persons with communication disorders
  - 28 million - hearing
  - 24 million - speech and language

Incidence

- total frequency of a particular disorder
- reported often as specific disorder present at birth
- reported as ratio: i.e., 1:2000 births
- general figure: 3 of 100 newborns suffer birth defects (3%)
- no change in number in 25 years as group

Birth Defects

- some well understood, most a mystery
- not always noted at birth
- FAS - 1/1000 - alcohol
- Spina Bifida - folic acid
- CP - increased incidence

Relevance of study

- scope of practice
- schools largest work setting
- federal mandates
- mainstreamed kids

Birth Defects

- present at birth
- embryologic error
- congenital vs. hereditary

Teratology
terato -a wonder: monster
branch of biology and medicine concerning abnormal growths or monstrosities
prototypical example: craniofacial anomaly - clefting
  – lack of union or embryonic oral facial development

9 Rationale For Selection
- clefting includes complexities of all b.d.’s
- opportunity to integrate speech and language knowledge
- broad implications to interdisciplinary study
- 1/600-750 kids born with facial or palatal clefts

10 Terminology
- malformation - arrest in normal embryogenesis
- deformation - alteration in shape of part that developed normally
- disruption - destruction of anatomic part that developed normally