



VN medical staff attend speech therapy course

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HCM CITY — The Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Hospital and Trinh Foundation Australia recently concluded a speech therapy course for doctors, nurses and physiotherapists from HCM City, Ha Noi and Hue.

The course, the first to have been held in the country, assisted doctors in treating patients suffering from hearing impairments, cognitive or other developmental delays, weak oral muscles, and birth defects such as cleft lip or cleft palate.

Autism, motor planning problems, respiratory problems, swallowing disorders and traumatic brain injury were also discussed during the course, held in HCM City.

The five-week course, which was taught by Australian speech pathologists, began in February, followed by two weeks of clinical training and the final two weeks of lectures in October.

Dr Le Huynh Mai, head of the ENT Hospital's General Planning Department, said that it was important that doctors understood speech therapy techniques.

She said the hospital had offered speech therapy for several years, but only a few doctors had attended overseas courses on the subject.

Many hospitals in HCM City, Ha Noi and Hue are now offering speech therapy.

Dr Le Van Cuong of HCM City Oncology, a course attendee, said speech therapy would help him treat the communications problems faced by patients with cancer of the throat and other diseases. — VNS