

BECAUSE YOU NEED TO...

# TALK MUIR

Passy-Muir® News, Events and Education

Passy-Muir, Inc. | Spring 2012

Millions of Voices...  
**ONE VALVE**



## International Issue

A Visit to Europe

Passy-Muir® Valve Use in  
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Brazil

2011 Year In Review

Announcements

David Muir,  
Inventor

*Passy-Muir Inc.*

The Passy-Muir® Valve... *the standard of care.*





## International Issue

Patients all over the world use the Passy-Muir® Tracheostomy and Ventilator Swallowing and Speaking Valves and experience the multitude of clinical benefits. The joy of communication and improved quality of life is easily recognized in every culture and language. Wherever Passy-Muir Valves are used, it is important that education and support are provided. Passy-Muir, Inc. has relationships with many international companies and medical professionals for the distribution and clinical education of the Passy-Muir Valves. This newsletter highlights some of the clinicians, hospitals and distributors who are involved in the continued efforts to make the Passy-Muir Valve **the standard of care** throughout the world.

## Did you KNOW?

Many of the ventilators in Europe have volume and flow alarms instead of volume and pressure alarms. Flow alarms are very effective and important to adjust appropriately in lieu of pressure alarms when utilizing the Passy-Muir Valve.

## A Visit to Europe

By Julie Kobak, MA, CCC-SLP, Passy-Muir, Inc.  
Gail Sudderth, RRT, Clinical Specialist, Passy-Muir, Inc.



**This past December** we visited several countries in Europe so that we could meet with some of the distributors providing sales and education of the Passy-Muir® Valve, as well as the physicians, nurses, and therapists in various clinical settings who work with tracheostomized and ventilator patients. We traveled with **VITO**, our Ventilator Instructional Teaching Observation manikin. VITO enjoyed the trip and was an excellent teaching assistant!

Our first stop was the United Kingdom (UK) where we met with the clinical sales teams of **Kapitex Healthcare, Ltd.** and **O'Neill Healthcare, Ltd.**, distributors of laryngectomy, tracheostomy, airway management, dysphagia and oral motor rehabilitation products. We spent a very productive day with the product specialists who have experience as physiotherapists, speech language pathologists, and nurses, and provide the clinical education of the Passy-Muir Valve to customers throughout the UK.



Kapitex and Passy-Muir in Wetherby, England: (L to R) Keith Cordice, Kapitex UK National Sales Manager; Angela Lamberton, Kapitex Product Specialist; Julie Kobak, Passy-Muir Vice President of Clinical Education.; Michaela Fraser, Kapitex UK Sales Director; Kruti Batavia and Robyn Greig, Kapitex Product Specialists; and Gail Sudderth, Passy-Muir Clinical Specialist.



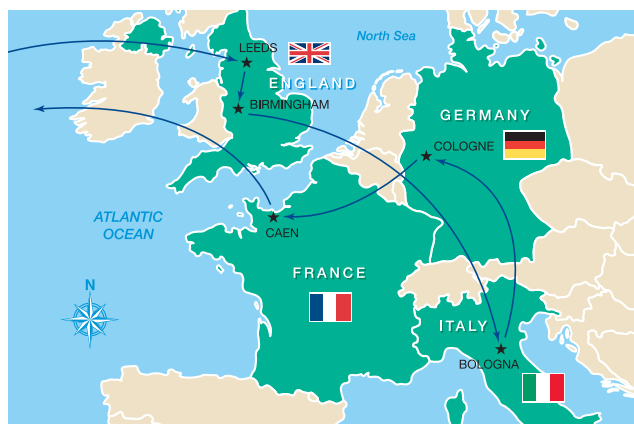
Julie Kobak and Gail Sudderth from Passy-Muir, Inc. (back row) join clinicians at Birmingham Children's Hospital (seated L to R) Rebecca O'Sullivan, Alison Warren, Sarah Mason, Keith Cordice (from Kapitex Healthcare Ltd.), Jo Matthews, Annika Shepherd, Chris Sherlock, Dr. Desai, Ruth Wall, Jo Claymore, and Jo Watson.

Passy-Muir Valves are used extensively throughout the UK, with increased application and early use in the intensive care units. Therefore, our product education focused on in-line ventilator application. Despite the fact that some of the brands and models of ventilators used in the UK are different than those in the United States, all of the ventilator application guidelines remain constant. The product specialists appreciated the review regarding various ventilator adjustments that assure patient comfort and safety during in-line valve use. We know that this astute team of specialists will continue to provide superior clinical education throughout the UK.

We also traveled to Birmingham where we provided in-services to the multi-disciplinary team of **Birmingham Children's Hospital**. Coordinated by speech-language pathologist, Joanna Matthews, the in-services were attended by otolaryngologists, neonatologists, pulmonologists, physiotherapists, nurses, and speech-language pathologists. This clinical team wanted advanced education on pediatric ventilator application in order to increase their multidisciplinary teamwork and develop written policies and procedures for Passy-Muir Valve use.

We were excited to share with them the protocols, videos and case studies from Nationwide Children's Hospital, a hospital in Ohio that recently developed a multidisciplinary team for ventilator application of the Passy-Muir Valve within the NICU (see *Talk Muir, Fall 2011*). The team at Birmingham Children's Hospital was excited about using this published protocol as a clinical model. We look forward to following the progress at Birmingham Children's Hospital as they continue to build their Passy-Muir program.

#### Our Travels with VITO







## A Visit to Europe *continued*



### Italy

Our second stop was Italy for the 2011 UIP/AIPO National Congress (Italian Union for Pneumology/Italian Association of Hospital Pulmonologists). We were hosted at this conference by the product specialists of **VitalAire, Italia**. During one of the mornings of the conference we provided a workshop for the product specialists on ventilator application of the Passy-Muir Valve® with the Monnal T50, a ventilator which they sell and use frequently with home care patients.

In order to enhance international education, Passy-Muir, Inc. has translated and added subtitles to the animation videos depicting the function and benefits of the Passy-Muir Valve ([www.passy-muir.com/international](http://www.passy-muir.com/international)). These videos along with a hands-on VITO demonstration were very effective for teaching the various ventilator adjustments for in-line application. Following the workshop, we returned to the exhibit booth, where it was exciting to see the VitalAire Product Specialists apply what they learned and provide explanations about the Passy-Muir Valve to pulmonologists visiting the booth. We are confident that the VitalAire team will continue to advance the clinical education and use of the Passy-Muir Valve with ventilator patients throughout Italy.



Julie Kobak and Gail Sudderth demonstrating application of the PMV®007 with the Monnal T50 ventilator and VITO manikin.



Gail Sudderth (*far right*) explaining ventilator application of the Passy-Muir® Valve to VitalAire Product Specialists, (*L to R*) Roberta Bovara, Federico D'Urzo, Rosari Melia, Raffaele Allinoro, Mauro Porcelli.



*Pictured L to R:* VitalAire Product Specialists Raffaele Allinoro, Massimo Gaiani, Antonella Fiorentino, Daniela Riva, Mauro Porcelli with Gail Sudderth and Julie Kobak from Passy-Muir, Inc. at the 2011 UIP/AIPO National Congress in Bologna, Italy.

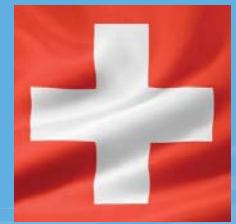


[www.airliquidesanita.it](http://www.airliquidesanita.it)

PMV® 007 (Aqua Color™)



# SPRING 2012



[www.servona.de/sprechventile](http://www.servona.de/sprechventile)



## Germany

A visit to **Servona GmbH** in Cologne Germany was our third stop in Europe. Servona is a distributor of tracheostomy and laryngectomy products and supports the sales and distribution of the Passy-Muir® Valves in Germany with a team of 52 nurses. We met with Mr. Norbert Wiengand, who has been the Product Manager for the Passy-Muir Valve for the last seven years. Mr. Wiengand reported to us that he has seen an increased use of Passy-Muir Valves for ventilator application since his team has been providing education regarding the clinical benefits of the Passy-Muir Valve for weaning and dysphagia. He shared a clinical abstract from Klinikum Ludwigshafen, Clinic for Anesthesiology and Operative Intensive Care Medicine which reported that 85% of the ICU patients in the study tolerated the Passy-Muir Valve, of which 38% used it until they were weaned from the ventilator. Additionally, research by Ulrike Frank et al, from the University of Potsdam, has shown that a multidisciplinary approach to treatment of tracheostomized patients, including a protocol of cuff deflation, use of the speaking valve, and swallowing intervention, resulted in faster decannulation and greater functional improvements once decannulation is achieved.



(L to R) Jörg Sichelschmidt of Servona with Prof. Dr. med. Thomas Höhn, Pediatric Intensive Care and Dr. med. Christian Plettenberg, ENT, and Stephan Nietfeld of Servona at the Children's Hospital Heinrich-Heine University in Duesseldorf, Germany.



Julie Kobak and Gail Sudderth from Passy-Muir with Norbert Wiengand, Product Management, Servona GmbH in Cologne, Germany.

While in Germany, we visited several facilities, both adult and pediatric to provide clinical education. Although the experience level with the Passy-Muir Valves varied across facilities, all of the doctors, nurses, and therapists who received the education appreciated the many clinical benefits and were excited about increasing their use of the valve with tracheostomized and ventilator patients in their practice.



## Did you KNOW?

In Europe the Passy-Muir® Valve is commonly placed in the ventilator circuit as pictured.





# TALK



Passy-Muir, Inc. | Spring 2012

## A Visit to Europe *continued*



### France

The final stop on our European trip was in Caen, France to meet with researcher, Dr. Nicolas Terzi from the University Hospital of Caen and the clinical team of **I.S.T. Medical**, distributor of laryngectomy and tracheostomy products and the Passy-Muir® Valve. Mrs. Inge Thuaudet, manager of IST Medical, helped to arrange the meeting with Dr. Terzi so that we could discuss his recent research regarding the Passy-Muir Valve and the breathing and swallowing interaction of tracheostomized patients.

In a study published in Intensive Care Medicine in November 2011, Dr. Terzi, et al., examined the swallowing of eight neuromuscular patients while they swallowed water boluses with and without the Passy-Muir Valve. He and his colleagues wanted to investigate upper airway and tracheostomy tube air flow during swallowing, and assess breathing-swallowing interactions with and without a Passy-Muir Valve. Research on normal swallowing has established that exhalation surrounding swallowing helps to prevent the passage of noxious chemicals and microbes from the mouth to the lungs. However, tracheostomized patients with open tubes exhale most or all of the air through the tube, which may eliminate the protection afforded by exhalation to the upper airways. The results of this study showed the percentage of swallows followed by expiration was not significantly different between conditions of valve off and valve on in this group of patients. However, the Passy-Muir Valve restored the protective expiratory flow towards the upper airway after the swallow. This study corroborates the growing body of evidence that the Passy-Muir Valve improves swallowing in tracheostomized patients.



PMV® 2001 (Purple Color™)

[www.ist-medical.fr](http://www.ist-medical.fr)



Marie-Laure Le Bon and Inge Thuaudet from IST Medical (*far right*) with Dr. Terzi and clinicians from Air de Caen Association during a Passy-Muir in-service.



Dr. Nicolas Terzi teaches the clinicians from Air de Caen homecare association how to use the PMV® 007 with the ventilator.

Dr. Terzi and some of his colleagues are currently using the Passy-Muir Valve routinely with spontaneously breathing tracheostomized patients. We discussed the benefits of application of the valve with ventilator patients in the ICU in regards to functional outcomes of swallowing and weaning. He expressed great interest in using the Passy-Muir Valve with his ventilator patients in the ICU as well as in the home. He was also interested in conducting additional research on use of the valve for ventilator weaning.

Dr. Terzi actively assisted us with an inservice for a group of nurses and doctors from Air de Caen, the homecare association which cares for many of his patients. We look forward to continued collaboration with Dr. Terzi and IST Medical to advance the research and education of the Passy-Muir Valve in France.



## New Zealand – Passy-Muir® Valve Use in the ICU



By Dominica Horton, Senior Respiratory Physiotherapist, Auckland City Hospital

**As a physiotherapist** in the ICU, my core role is based on the early rehabilitation of critically ill patients. This includes getting patients more physically active, which as a result, assists weaning from mechanical ventilation. I had previous experience with Passy-Muir® Valves with ventilator dependant patients during my training in the United Kingdom, and found this to be a positive aspect of the rehabilitation process, allowing patients to interact more with therapists, staff and family members. In my current setting, we occasionally have slow-weaning patients, for example, patients with neuromuscular conditions. It was the admission of two Guillain-Barré patients that sparked my interest into looking into the use of speaking valves for weaning these patients on our unit.

The first step for me was to review the physiology and application of Passy-Muir Valves, and for this, the information and webinars provided by the Passy-Muir website were invaluable, particularly those on ventilator application. A Passy-Muir Clinical Specialist also provided a live webinar suited to the needs of our team on the use of the valve in critical care rehabilitation. We then presented the information we learned to the intensivists and senior nursing staff on our unit in order to review the evidence and get a consensus on the possibility of using Passy-Muir Valves with our ventilator patients.

*“the information and webinars provided by the Passy-Muir website were invaluable”*

Soon after presenting this topic to the team, a patient was admitted to our unit following Myasthenia Gravis crisis. Using a multidisciplinary approach and a protocol provided from the Passy-Muir website to guide the process, we trialled the valve with this patient. During the initial trials, the patient was able to vocalize to ask questions and take part in discussions with family and the clinical team regarding his care, which we found to be essential in his care and recovery.

The next step for our hospital is to develop a protocol for Passy-Muir Valve use with ventilator-dependant patients that suits the needs of our unit and our patients. Liaising with colleagues in other intensive care units, such as those in Australia, has provided us with invaluable resources and support. Despite being on the other side of the world, I have received strong support from the Passy-Muir team throughout this process, especially from clinical specialists, Mike Harrell, RRT and Linda Dean, RRT.

The Passy-Muir team thanks Ms. Horton and her colleagues for their interest in advancing the care of their patients, and we look forward to further updates on their progress. Clinicians working in Australia and New Zealand can contact the Product Specialists from LMA PacMed Pty Ltd. [www.lmapacmed.com](http://www.lmapacmed.com). John Reidy, National Sales Manager in New Zealand and Jodie Oakley, National Product Specialist ENT/ICU in Australia are available for sales and clinical education of the Passy-Muir Valve.

Additional information about the care of tracheostomy patients can be found through Tracheostomy Review and Management Service (TRAMS), [www.tracheostomyteam.org](http://www.tracheostomyteam.org). TRAMS is a specialist service at Austin Health in Victoria, Australia consisting of a team of doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and speech pathologists that coordinate and direct the care of patients with a tracheostomy tube. Recognized as a national and international leader in the area of tracheostomy care, TRAMS has developed an extensive teaching and training program, and a model which other centers have instituted.



Physiotherapist Dominica Horton (R) discusses the application of the PMV® 007 with clinician Louisa Brown.





## Featured Clinical Expert – South America

An Interview with Gustavo Ghion, Respiratory Physical Therapist, São Paulo, Brazil

Please describe your current job and the types of patients you serve.

I am the founder and director president of Cooperativa de Trabalho de Fisioterapeutas – Cooperfit, which is a cooperative for respiratory physical therapists. Since 2001, when I started Cooperfit, we have grown to now have 94 associated physical therapists with specialization in respiratory care. We treat patients in the São Paulo metropolitan area with a variety of diagnoses, including neurological, respiratory and orthopedic diseases. Many of our patients have a tracheostomy and require mechanical ventilation. Additionally, I am co-owner of [OxiAir](#), a home medical equipment company for respiratory products such as ventilators, concentrators, and suction devices.

How did you learn about and become involved in the Passy-Muir® Valve?

My first experience with the Passy Muir® Valve was in 1991, when a Brazilian patient had returned from the United States using it. The patient had a long hospitalization for severe COPD and needed a tracheostomy tube for continuous ventilator dependency. The patient returned to São Paulo, bringing with her all the technological supplies from the United States, such as a portable ventilator and a Passy-Muir speaking valve. It was my first experience taking care of a private patient using a mechanical ventilator in the home. At first I didn't understand how a tracheostomy patient using continuous mechanical ventilation could talk and eat with a deflated cuff and speaking valve device, without showing signs of aspiration. The patient has lived well for years in that condition. I will be always thankful to that private patient who brought that technology to me, leading me to learn more about it, and helping me to provide better care to many other patients.

Since that time, I have learned much about the Passy-Muir Valve and the care of these patients. I have been using the valve with so many patients in Brazil over the past 11 years, that I can't remember the exact number. What I do remember are the many faces, voices, smiles, and improvements that were gained by using the Passy Muir Valve.

How is the Passy-Muir® Valve currently used in Brazil?

Nowadays the Passy-Muir® Valve is a reality in Brazil. I have seen the valve being placed in both hospital and home care settings, on patients on and off the ventilator. In my experience, it is a wonderful device to help patients communicate, but most of all to help them to swallow properly. I do believe that there is still a lot to be done in my country, especially in terms of education and research.

Do you have the opportunity to work with other clinicians such as speech-language pathologists?

The physical therapists at Cooperfit have the opportunity to work as an interdisciplinary team, close to nurses, speech pathologists, dieticians and physicians in the home care environment. So, as soon as there is a potential patient that fits the indication criteria for Passy-Muir® Valve placement, everyone gets involved. As a result more patients have been assessed for the valve and have derived its benefits. I encourage the physical therapists to work with the other team members in order to exchange knowledge, and most of all, help the patient to receive the best care possible.



Mr. Divaldo Queiroz Cestari (left) and Gustavo Ghion. Mr. Cestari has been using the PMV® 007 for years since becoming ventilator dependent secondary to ALS.





Gustavo Ghion working with Bruno Roza de Barros, a 2 year old, who was born with a rare syndrome and ventilator dependent from birth. The Passy-Muir® Valve played a critical role in enabling Bruno to recently wean from the ventilator.

## Describe your efforts to expand education about the Passy-Muir® Valve.

Since I have been working as a therapist along with other medical professionals, I have experienced the need to exchange knowledge and understand other professional perspectives. Therefore, I have become very involved in education. I am an International Fellow of the American Association of Respiratory Care which has helped me to improve my knowledge about Passy-Muir and other respiratory care concepts. Since 1995, I have presented for many schools and scientific meetings throughout Brazil and abroad. I have been teaching respiratory care, including application of the valve, to speech pathologists at a post graduate school in São Paulo since 1998. I have written six book chapters on home mechanical ventilation, tracheostomy care and the Passy-Muir Valve.

## Describe your future goals as a therapist and educator in Brazil.

I would like to see home care assistance and use of the Passy-Muir® Valve grow and become accessible to every patient in Brazil, regardless of the type of insurance coverage the patient has or doesn't have. I would also like to see more clinical research being done which will result in healthcare improvements.

**You can contact Gustavo Ghion at:**  
[cgghion@uol.com.br](mailto:cgghion@uol.com.br)

For sales and additional support of the Passy-Muir Valve in Brazil, you can contact RHS - Reab Health Supply Importadora e Distribuidora de Produtos Medicos Ltda at [reabsupply@gmail.com](mailto:reabsupply@gmail.com).



Gustavo Ghion (left) with Pedro Ducati Lima and his mother, Graziela Ducati. Pedro, a 1 year old with amyotrophy (muscular atrophy), is using the PMV® 007 in-line with his ventilator.



## Columbia



By Gail Sudderth, RRT, Clinical Specialist, Passy-Muir, Inc.

**Last summer**, Mr. Gilberto Posada, the general manager of Medinistros SAS in Bogota D.C., Columbia, contacted Passy-Muir, Inc. to express interest in becoming a distributor of the Passy-Muir® Valve. Medinistros specializes in both voice and hearing prosthesis products, and offers a wide range of products for laryngectomy patients. Speaking valves for tracheostomized patients are not currently available, nor routinely used in Columbia. The staff at Medinistros recognized that there was a significant need for products that would advance the care of this population. Upon researching available options, they determined that it would be most beneficial to include the Passy-Muir® Valve in their product line. Mr. Posada emphasized that they chose Passy-Muir Valves because of our company's commitment to the needs of tracheostomized patients, as well as the quality and benefits of our products.

Mr. Posada also recognized the importance of clinical education and was eager to obtain the necessary product training for his clinical staff. In the fall of 2011, we were introduced to Jeanelly Villalba Martinez, a physiotherapist with Medinistros, who would become the product specialist for the Passy-Muir Valve. We conducted the initial training with Ms. Villalba Martinez via the internet, using Skype and webinar meetings. She was an enthusiastic and quick learner.



Jeanelly Villalba Martinez, physiotherapist from Columbia, traveled to the United States for Passy-Muir® Valve training.

Medinistros then sponsored Ms. Villalba Martinez for travel to the United States for in-person training with two of the Passy-Muir Clinical Specialists. In January, she attended a Passy-Muir seminar and observed patients using the valve in a long-term acute care facility in Clinton, MD. She received advanced education on ventilator application of the valve through hands-on training with the ventilator and instructional manikin. Ms. Villalba Martinez returned to Columbia and will train the other clinical specialists at Medinistros. We look forward to an ongoing collaboration with Medinistros and to the growth of clinical education and use of the valve with tracheostomized and ventilator patients throughout Columbia.

### The Passy-Muir Family of Valves



[www.medinistros.com](http://www.medinistros.com)





## Canada



By Julie Kobak, MA, CCC-SLP, Passy-Muir, Inc.

**In 2005**, the McGill University Health Centre – Montreal General Hospital (MUHC-MGH), a regional level 1 tertiary care trauma center, established a multi-disciplinary tracheostomy team to offer consistent and standardized care for the tracheostomy population. The clinicians at MUHC-MGH conducted a study to evaluate the effect of the team on the outcomes of patients with severe traumatic brain injury. The results of their study were published in the *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation* in 2010.

For patients with traumatic brain injury, the tracheostomy is usually considered to be a temporary measure, and the safe and timely removal of the tracheostomy tube is the ultimate desired outcome for the majority of these patients. According to Joanne LeBlanc, speech-language pathologist, and her colleagues, a delay in achieving decannulation can affect the patient's participation in rehabilitation and a longer length of stay in the acute care hospital.

At MUHC-MGH, the tracheostomy team consists of trauma surgeons and residents, respiratory therapists, speech-language pathologists, and a clinical nurse specialist. The team holds rounds twice weekly for individualized planning and intervention. The team evaluation includes assessment of the patient's ability to tolerate cuff deflation, upper airway patency, ability to cough and clear secretions, oxygen requirements, ability to phonate and communicate as well as tube downsizing, speaking valve trials, and decannulation.



**Centre universitaire de santé McGill  
McGill University Health Centre**

The clinicians compared several outcomes for patients before and after implementation of their team. Results of this important study showed that length of stay in the hospital decreased and use of Passy-Muir® Valves increased significantly in the post-tracheostomy team group of patients. Additionally, earlier transfer to rehabilitation was facilitated by the use of Passy-Muir Valves. Once patients were able to talk, formal testing of perceptual, cognitive, and communication skills was easier to carry out. Additional benefits of the team approach included:

- Increased coordination and timeliness of downsizing of the tracheostomy tube to permit Passy-Muir speaking valve evaluations.
- More effective communication among the team about issues relevant to Passy-Muir Valve candidacy
- More consistent and coordinated medical, respiratory, and nursing input to support the use and monitoring of patients with Passy-Muir Valves.

For additional details of this study, please reference:

*LeBlanc, J., et al. 2010. Outcome in Tracheostomized Patients with Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Following Implementation of a Specialized Multidisciplinary Tracheostomy Team. Journal of Head Trauma and Rehabilitation. Vol 25, 5:362 - 365.*

Clinicians in Canada who are interested in the clinical education of the Passy-Muir Valve can contact the product specialists of McArthur Medical Sales Inc.

[www.mcarthurmedical.com](http://www.mcarthurmedical.com).



# TALKMUIR



Passy-Muir, Inc. | Spring 2012

## 2011 Year In Review

### Millions of Voices ...One Valve



At both the AARC and ASHA Convention, we had a great time interacting with the thousands of respiratory therapists, speech therapists, professors, and students who came to our booth to learn more about the Passy-Muir® Valve. We had a lot of new information to share with them this year!

### Passy-Muir's Online Store



### 2011 AARC and ASHA Conventions

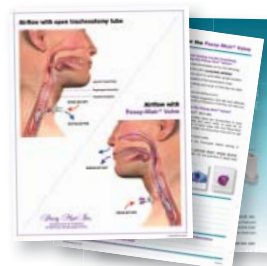
Passy-Muir, Inc. was proud to display a new exhibit booth design, featuring David Muir, inventor of the Passy-Muir® Valve. David's portrait was created out of thousands of pictures of Passy-Muir Valve users shared with us throughout the years. At AARC, this booth design won a special Exhibit Hall Award.



Clinical specialists, Linda Dean, RRT and Gail Sudderth, RRT accepting an award at the 2011 AARC Convention.

Our popular educational products including Tracheostomy T.O.M.® and Pocket T.O.M.™ are now available for convenient on-line orders. In the fall we added two new products:

- Patient Education Handouts
- Passy-Muir Cleaning Tablets



Visit our online store to see samples of the Patient Education Handout and watch a video demonstration on the use of Pocket T.O.M. for patient and family education:

[store.passy-muir.com](http://store.passy-muir.com)





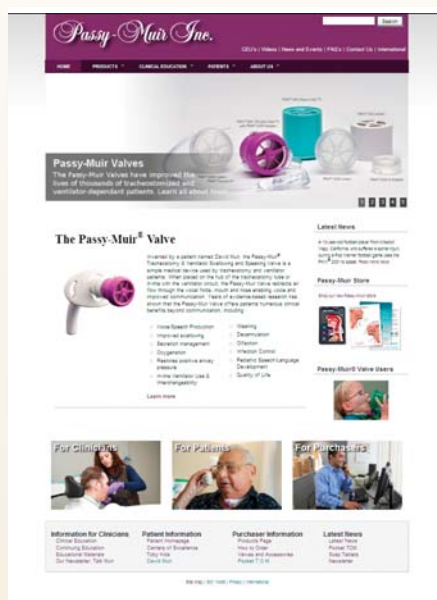
# MARKING 2012



## ASHA Partnership

In March, Passy-Muir, Inc. became an official Corporate Partner of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA). Through this relationship with ASHA, Passy-Muir, Inc. supported the activities of the association as well as provided members with unique opportunities for professional development throughout 2011.

Pictured above: Barbara Lecker, Director, Assets and Corporate Alliances, ASHA, and Julie Kobak, MA, CCC-SLP, Vice President Clinical Education, Passy-Muir, Inc.



## New Website

Passy-Muir, Inc. launched a new website in October. The new design makes it easier to find information and has many new features, including updated educational resources and courses; an enhanced patients section and Toby Tracheasaurus Program; and a Center of Excellence program which features expert clinicians. We hope you'll take a look and let us know what you think.

[www.passy-muir.com](http://www.passy-muir.com)



Passy-Muir, Inc. is an approved provider of continuing education by the Continuing Respiratory Care Education (CRCE) system of the American Association of Respiratory Care (AACRC), the Continuing Education Board of American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), and the California Board of Nursing.



## Continuing Education

Our continuing education course offerings continued to expand this year with the new additions to our live and self-study webinars. In 2011, clinicians logged in and completed 54,795 self-study webinars about the Passy-Muir Valve. Here are a few of the wonderful reviews from our participants:

*I sincerely appreciate the content available in the webinar and on this website. I didn't learn this information in school and it will be applied to help me become a more effective SLP for my patients and their families.*

*Thank you very much for providing these webinars at no cost. This presentation was extremely useful, and the visuals, handouts, and audio pieces helped me make sure I got all the information. Wonderful!*

*I really appreciate your company – your clinical specialists have helped me in the past; so good to know you're just a phone call away.*



# TALKM



Passy-Muir, Inc. | Spring 2012

## 2011 Year In Review *continued*

### New Consultants

*We are happy to have two new Passy-Muir Clinical Consultants to share their expertise and provide clinical education.*



**Kristin Dolan**, MS, CCC-SLP from Melbourne, Florida is a speech-language pathologist and has been employed with Kindred Hospital for seven years providing advanced intervention for adult long-term tracheostomized and ventilator dependent patients. Her specialties include dysphagia management and in-line speaking valve use for early assessment and intervention of communication. She presented at the 2011 ASHA Convention on the development and implementation of multidisciplinary protocols for ventilator application of the Passy-Muir® Valve.



**Katy Peck**, M.A., CCC-SLP is a pediatric speech-language pathologist with over 10 years of experience with infants and children with complex medical needs. She has worked full-time at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) for the past 5 years, specializing in feeding, swallowing, acquired brain injury, and meeting the needs of medically fragile children who require mechanical ventilation. She was chosen as the keynote speaker for the 2011 CHLA Department of Rehabilitation Research in Review Day and was recognized for her research, publications, and presentations on the Passy-Muir Valve.

### New Patient Education Handouts available in Spanish and Portuguese



If interested, please contact  
Julie Kobak at  
[jkobak@passy-muir.com](mailto:jkobak@passy-muir.com)

### New International Educational Materials

Educational animations are available on the Passy-Muir website with subtitles in English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

[www.passy-muir.com/international](http://www.passy-muir.com/international)





# SPRING 2012



## **\$500 Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Student Scholarship!**

**ATTENTION STUDENTS:**

Sponsored by Mary Spremulli, MA, CCC-SLP of

**VOICE AEROBICS™**

Ms. Spremulli has been a Passy-Muir Consultant since 1992 and is also the founder and owner of Voice Aerobics, LLC. Being a guest lecturer for graduate students is one of her favorite experiences. When she interacts with students, whether in a classroom, in a clinic, or across a Passy-Muir booth at ASHA, she can tell quickly who has the passion, and who believes, as she does, that there is nothing more important than helping another person retain or restore their ability to communicate. In 2008, when she formed her company, Voice Aerobics, LLC, she committed to give 10% of profits from product sales to Parkinson's research. Over the last three years, she has honored that commitment, and expanded it to include various other organizations and causes. Annually, beginning May 20th 2012, a check for \$500 will be awarded to a graduate student in speech-language pathology. This annual commitment represents the faith she has in her own business to continue to prosper, and in the students, who represent the future of a profession she loves so much.

### **Instructions for applying:**

Any student enrolled in an ASHA accredited speech-language program is eligible to apply. For more details and to complete an application form, visit <http://www.voiceaerobicsdvd.com/student-scholarship.html>.

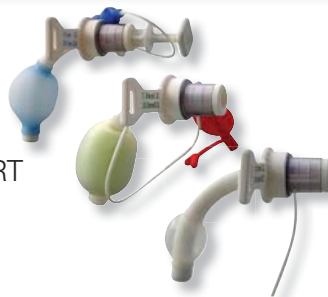
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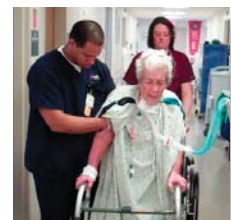
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