

## **Mechanical Ventilation**

May 27, 2025

In-person, Stockton Campus

**Professions involved:** Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology

**Number of students:** 73

## **Objectives**

By the end of this event, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate how to perform a basic swallow screen.
- Demonstrate bed mobility techniques and a modified breathing pattern and lung auscultation assessment.
- Explain the foundational principles of tracheostomy and ventilator management, including ventilator settings and lung fields.
- Describe the unique and overlapping roles of SLPs and PTs in caring for mechanically ventilated patients.
- Engage in collaborative clinical problem-solving and communication across disciplines.

## **Event Description**

In complex medical environments like the intensive care unit, coordinated efforts between Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) and Physical Therapists (PTs) are essential to optimize patient outcomes. SLPs and PTs bring distinct yet complementary expertise to the care of ventilated patients—ranging from respiratory function and safe swallowing to mobility and pulmonary health. This event fostered cross-disciplinary learning to strengthen communication, mutual respect, and clinical integration between future healthcare professionals. All students learned with and from each other, with DPT students training SLP students on lung auscultations and bed mobility while SLP students trained DPT students on the procedures for conducting swallow screenings in a medical setting. Students also worked collaboratively together through a case study in which they all had to think within their own professional scope of practice of how to best support the mock patient while working together as a team to create a cohesive, comprehensive plan of care.