

BECAUSE YOU NEED TO...

# TALK MUIR

Passy-Muir® News, Events and Education

Passy-Muir, Inc. | Summer 2014



## The Passy-Muir® Valve: Changing the Road to Recovery

Arousing the Minimally Conscious Patient  
Turning Tragedy into Triumph  
Heather's Miracle Moment  
The RT's Answer to the Question  
New Centers of Excellence



PMV® 007  
(Aqua Color™)

*Passy-Muir Inc.*





## Meet our Newest Passy-Muir Centers of Excellence

By Julie Kobak, MA, CCC-SLP, Vice President of Clinical Education, Passy-Muir, Inc.

Based in Roseville, Minnesota, **Pediatric Home Service (PHS)** is an independent home health care company specializing in children. They are driven by the belief that even if a child's legs are wheels or her lungs are controlled by a machine, that child wants to be a "kid." That child wants to do all the typical kid things, whether it's going to school, playing with the dog, or talk, laugh and bicker with a sibling – and they want to do it at home. The special needs support, resources, and technology, provided by PHS, including complex respiratory and infusion therapies and use of the Passy-Muir® Valve, makes this possible.

PHS has approximately 250 patients with tracheostomy living at home and over 140 of these are on mechanical ventilation. The PHS team strives to have these children utilize the Passy-Muir Valve on a daily basis because they have witnessed the multiple benefits the valve provides. By using the Passy-Muir Valve, children learn to vocalize and develop speech and language at a more normal rate. They communicate more effectively with their families and loved ones which increases safety and reduces frustration. When children have better airway protection and improved swallowing with the valve, they have more success with overcoming oral aversion issues and initiate oral intake sooner. Parents are so happy when their child can participate in the family meal, one of the most treasured aspects of family life. Because the valve facilitates a stronger cough, these children at home manage secretions more effectively on their own, therefore relieving some of the burden of frequent suctioning by parents and caregivers. Additionally, the use of the valve helps the vast majority of their non-neurologic children successfully wean from their ventilators.



“Education, knowledge, and a constant strive for excellence is extremely important to everyone at PHS, because it means we can provide the very best for our medically-complex patients,” says Bruce Estrem, Manager of Clinical Education at PHS. “Being named a Center of Excellence demonstrates our commitment to providing that highest level of care and will potentially allow us to serve as a Passy-Muir Valve resource for others.”

Learn more about PHS at  
[www.passy-muir.com/phs](http://www.passy-muir.com/phs)



Pediatric Home Services patient Ireland with her grandmother at home.