

**Name:** Ms. Mithila Poonacha

**Email Address:** mithila.poonacha0@gmail.com

**Contact Number:** 90086-55255, 94835-69392

**Professional Title /Occupation:**

Speech-Language Pathologist & Audiologist, Title at Work: Manager - Habilitation & BEA

**Organization:** Advanced Bionics India Pvt Ltd

**Address of Organization/Practice:**

#9/36, Vaishnavi Sapphire Centre, 3rd Floor, Bangalore - Tumkur Road, Yeshwanthpur - 560022

**Professional Qualifications:**

Masters in Audiology & Speech - Language Pathology (MASLP), it's a dual degree.

**Courses undertaken in Play Therapy:**

PLAY THERAPY LEVEL 1

**Details of any other relevant qualifications/courses taken in the field:**

**Currently undergoing supervision in current practice:** No

**Ages catered for:** Hearing impaired population (the complete age range)

**Services offered:**

Currently my work revolves mostly with the hearing challenged population who may/ may not have associated needs such as Autism, motor issues, sensory needs, intellectual needs, behavioural issues, Auditory Processing Disorders and so on. My practice involves conducting training and educational workshops for SLPs, special educators, parents and other professionals from different centres/ set-ups across the country. When working with clients & parents, the sessions may be either group or on an individual basis

**Personal Profile:**

I am a Speech - Language Pathologist, currently working as Manager - Habilitation & BEA (India) for Advanced Bionics. In my current practice, I have the opportunity to work with the hearing challenged population of different age groups. My work involves training & educating SLPs,

special educators, parents and other professionals from different centres/ set-ups across the country on how to (re)habilitate through a natural developmental approach to achieve maximal communication skills. Thus, ensuring that everyone is integrated into the world of sound.

I design resource materials that maybe used with the mentioned population by both professionals & parents at either the clinical set-up or at home. Thus, establishing that effective teaching strategies and techniques can be applied while utilizing technology.

I have also been doing a lot of work with integrating music into therapy and the results of it has been astounding. Music conveys meaning and impacts our understanding of language in many ways. We listen to the many layers of music and gain from its rich perceptual qualities even before we are born!!

And therefore, I view integration of play therapy in my field of practice as a necessity, in fact I see it as the way any child would naturally acquire communication skills. 90% of language is acquired incidentally and when there is a barrier to communication, finding ways that are interesting, innovative and most importantly fun to teach should be the method to achieve skills that maybe otherwise difficult with a very structured program.