

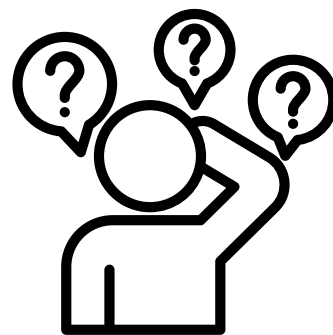
Aphasia

Aphasia affects language and communication.

- Speaking



- Understanding words



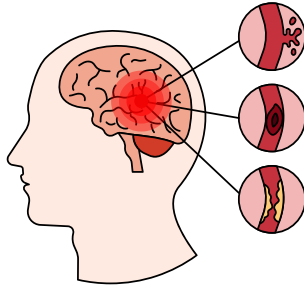
- Reading



- Writing/Typing

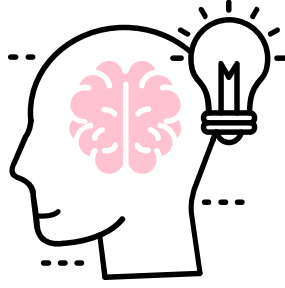


Causes of Aphasia



- Stroke
 - Head Injury
 - Brain Tumor
 - Brain Infection
-
- Dementia
(Primary Progressive Aphasia)

Aphasia = Communication Difficulty.



People with Aphasia:

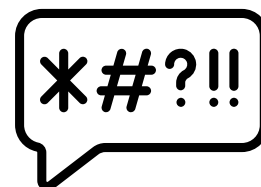
- Are still intelligent
- Are competent adults
- Can make their own decisions
- Are the ‘same’ person

THEY SHOULD BE TREATED THAT WAY!

Aphasia = Word Retrieval Problem

People with Aphasia:

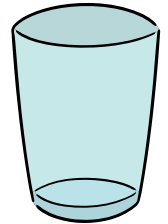
- Know what they want to say
- Have a “tip of the tongue” feeling
- May say the *wrong* words
 - “cat” instead of “dog”
 - “bog” instead of “dog”
- May say non-sense words
 - “fortle” instead of “dog”
- Find some words/phrases easier
 - Hi
 - I don’t know
 - How are you?
 - *Curse words*



Aphasia = Difficulty Understanding Words

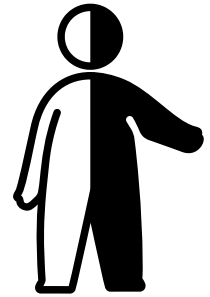
People with Aphasia:

- Can hear you speak
- Words may feel *unclear*
 - Someone says “cup”
 - It’s hard to think of the object
- Long sentences are harder
 - “Please see down” = easier
 - “Before you sit down, can you grab the paper on the counter?” = harder
- You may miss parts and guess the rest
 - You hear: “doctor...next week...test”
 - Your brain tries to fill in the blanks



Possible Other Stroke Effects

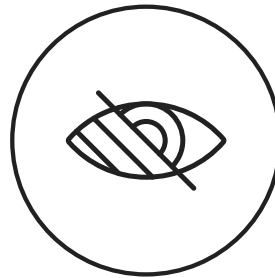
- Hemiparesis
(One sided-weakness)



- Dysphagia
(Difficulty swallowing)



- Visual Problems

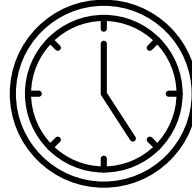


- Cognitive Fatigue



Speaking Tips

1. Take your time



2. Write it



3. Draw a picture

4. Use gestures



5. Use tablet or smartphone



6. Answer Yes/No questions

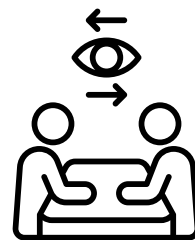


7. If frustrated, come back

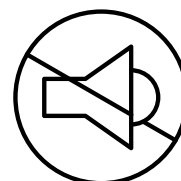


Understanding Tips

1. Look at the person



2. No background noise



3. Ask the person to:

- Slow down



- Repeat

- Write words

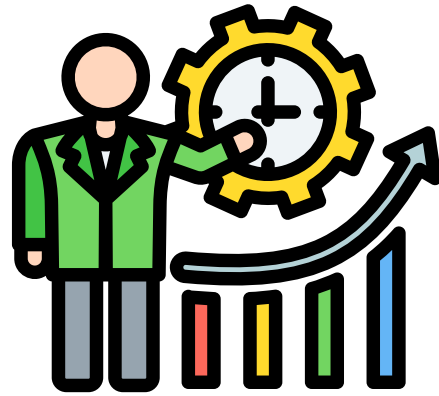


- Use pictures/phone



Recovery

No 'cure' but.....



- You WILL improve
- Recovery takes time
- It's different for everyone
- Help is available

