

# APHASIA HOME SUPPORT GUIDE

## About Aphasia: What is Aphasia?



### 1 Introduction

- » Aphasia is a **language disorder** caused by brain damage (commonly in the **left** hemisphere) or neurodegenerative disease
- » This condition can lead to difficulties with **verbal** expression, **written** expression, **listening** and **reading**
- » The severity **varies** from person to person, but it significantly impacts the individual's ability to communicate



### 2 Types of Aphasia

#### Non-fluent / Expressive Aphasia

- Caused by damage to **Broca's area** in the left hemisphere of the brain
- Primarily affects **expressive** skills, including **speaking** and **writing**
- Inability to produce **fluent, complete sentences**; speech may be **telegraphic** (using short, fragmented phrases)
- The person may be aware of their non-fluent speech, and their **comprehension may be relatively intact**

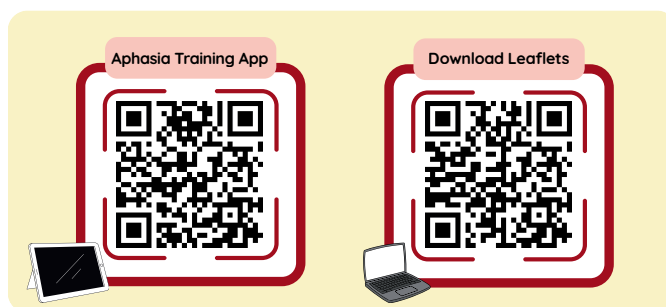


#### Fluent / Receptive Aphasia

- Caused by damage to **Wernicke's area** in the left hemisphere of the brain.
- Primarily affects **comprehension** skills, including listening and reading.
- Speech is generally **fluent** but may be **nonsensical** or irrelevant to the question asked.
- The person may talk **excessively** and find it difficult to pause for others to speak

### 3 Management of Aphasia

- » Seek professional help from a **speech therapist** to improve the communication abilities of a person with aphasia
- » The therapist will conduct an **assessment** and help set goals. Through therapy, they will work to strengthen language skills, compensate for impaired functions, and help the person re-engage with daily life



① The information provided is for reference purposes only. For professional management or to learn more, please contact a speech and language therapist.

#### Reference(s)

- AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION. (N.D.). APHASIA. PRACTICE PORTAL. RETRIEVED SEPTEMBER 22, 2024, FROM [HTTPS://WWW.ASHA.ORG/PRACTICE-PORTAL/CLINICAL-TOPICS/APHASIA/](https://www.asha.org/practice-portal/clinical-topics/aphasia/)

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