

APHASIA HOME SUPPORT GUIDE

Home Practice Guides: Oral Reading for Language in Aphasia

Principles

- Uses structured oral reading practice to improve the patient's **verbal expression, reading comprehension, auditory comprehension**, and **writing** ability (Cherney et al., 1986).
- Repeated multi-sensory stimulation—including **visual (text, carer's mouth movements)**, **auditory (modelled reading)**, and **action (pointing to words)**—reinforces the patient to read aloud.
- Improves **word decoding** speed through repetition, allowing the patient to shift focus from 'word recognition' to 'understanding meaning' (LaBerge & Samuels, 1974).

1 Target Audience

- Patients with **mild to severe** aphasia (Purdy et al., 2019)
- Patients with **fluent and non-fluent** aphasia (Cherney et al., 1986)

2 Materials

- Practice sentences/texts (see table below to select difficulty based on the patient's reading level; content can be tailored to patient interest), pictures of key words (if applicable).

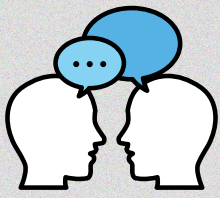
Level	Length	Example	Difficulty
1	3-5 word simple phrases	"I want water."	Primary 1 Level
2	8-12 word longer or complex sentences	"What time does visiting hours start?"	Primary 3 Level
3	15-30 words, 2-3 sentences	Short passages describing daily life	Primary 6 Level
4	50-100 words, simple paragraphs	Excerpts from news articles	Primary 6 Level

3 Steps

1



- The carer **sits opposite** the patient, ensuring the patient can see their mouth movements.
- The carer **says the target text** aloud while simultaneously pointing to the corresponding **words**.



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2

- 照顧者與患者一起朗讀目標句子／文章，同時繼續指著對應的文字

3

- The carer **selects key words** from the sentence (e.g., nouns/verbs).
 - E.g., In the sentence "I want to see the doctor," the key word is "doctor".
- The carer **points** to the word for the patient to **identify and repeat**.

4

- The carer and patient read the target sentence/text aloud together once more.

***Tips

- >> Reading speed can be adjusted according to the patient's ability.
- >> Pictures of key words can be provided as needed to support understanding and practice.
- >> If the patient's reading accuracy falls below 50%, the difficulty of the target material should be reduced.

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)

- CHERNEY, L. R., MERBITZ, C. T., & GRIP, J. C. (1986). EFFICACY OF ORAL READING IN APHASIA TREATMENT OUTCOME. REHABILITATION LITERATURE, 47(5-6), 112-118.
- CHERNEY, L. R. (2004). APHASIA, ALEXIA, AND ORAL READING. TOPICS IN STROKE REHABILITATION, 11(1), 22-36. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1310/VUPX-WDX7-JEU-00TB](https://doi.org/10.1310/VUPX-WDX7-JEU-00TB)
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