



“Developing and coordinating collaborative aphasia research”

# Collaboration of Aphasia Trialists International Survey of SLT Services for Aphasia following Stroke



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## **CATs\* International Survey of SLT Services for Aphasia following stroke**

We would like to ask you to fill in this form providing information about aphasia treatment where you work. This is to give us an idea of what services are currently available for people with **aphasia following stroke** in all our member and other countries. Your participation will result in a report about differences and similarities in daily practice concerning the treatment settings for aphasic patients. We will collate this information. The final result may contribute to an international standard of minimal requirements of an adequate rehabilitation of aphasic patients, achievable in the different countries. Also we will contrast the data with evidence based treatment recommendations.

You have been sent this information by a member of the Association which is connected with the services of Speech-Language therapy in your country. You can send the survey directly to me: Mathilde Tucker, a master's student of Speech and Language Pathology at Nijmegen University, guided by Dr. Evy Visch-Brink, Erasmus University Medical Center Rotterdam and Dr. Femke Nouwens, Rijndam Rehabilitation Center Rotterdam.

I will not know the identity of the people filling in the survey. No analysis of the information will be reported by country.

Completion of the survey will be taken as consent to take part in the research. Results of the survey will be fed back to you.

**To complete the survey, click on the box next to an item you wish to select. To un-select the item, click on it again.**

**Please be sure to fill in all pages and re-save as a word document and email to your country CATs member below.**

**Contact email: [mathilde.tucker@ru.nl](mailto:mathilde.tucker@ru.nl).**

Thank you for your help! If you are missing information or you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Dutch CATs Management Committee Members, Working Group 4 *Intervention* [FNouwens@rijndam.nl](mailto:FNouwens@rijndam.nl) or [e.visch-brink@erasmusmc.nl](mailto:e.visch-brink@erasmusmc.nl)

\*The Collaboration of Aphasia Trialists is a European Cost Action which is a network of people carrying out research in aphasia. Visit their website on <http://www.aphasiatrials.org/>

**1. Country****2. What is your profession (click on all that apply)?**

Speech and language therapist/speech pathologist/logopedist

Clinical linguist

Psychologist

Neurolinguist

Other (Please specify)

**3. What proportion of your working time do you spend working with people with aphasia (choose one)?**

Less than 25%

25% - 50%

50% - 75%

Above 75%

**4. In which treatment settings do you see people with aphasia (click on all that apply)?**

- Hospital: Inpatients
- Hospital: Outpatients
- Rehabilitation clinic/hospital: Inpatients
- Rehabilitation clinic/hospital: Outpatients
- Specialist multidisciplinary stroke unit
- University clinic
- Municipality centres
- Nursing homes
- Private practice
- Patient's own home
- Other (please specify)

**5. In your country what is the minimum qualification required to work independently as an aphasia therapist? (choose one)**

- SLT professional with a bachelor's degree
- Bachelor degree followed by a master's degree specialising in SLT
- Clinical linguist: professional with a master's degree
- Allied health assistant: professional with a technical training in health sciences, in work under direction of the speech pathologist in some Settings to carry out directed programs of intervention
- Volunteer: assistants who did not follow an academic degree, and work under direction of the SLT/CL in some settings to carry out directed programs of intervention
- Other (Please specify)

**6. Is SLT treatment available for all people with aphasia?**

- Yes  No

**If no what are the common barriers to accessing SLT treatment (click on all that apply)?**

- Financial
- Practical (eg getting to clinic)
- Lack of available services
- Services only available to people of specific ages
- Other (please specify)

**7. When do the majority of patients begin SLT treatment (choose one)?**

- Aphasia treatment initiated within 4 weeks after stroke
- Aphasia treatment initiated between 1-3 months
- Aphasia treatment initiated after 3 months

**8. How often does a patient usually receive SLT treatment - session duration of approx. 30min-1hr (choose one)?**

- 5 or more sessions per week
- 3-4 sessions per week
- 2 sessions per week
- Less than 2 sessions per week

**9. What is the usual duration of SLT treatment (choose one)?**

- 1 month
- 3 months
- 6 months
- More than 6 months

**10. What are the main reasons for ending SLT treatment (click on all that apply)?**

- Goals achieved
- Patient's choice
- Option of later review
- Lack of funding
- Plateau
- End of specified available time
- Referred elsewhere

**11. What long term services are available for people with aphasia (click on all that apply)?**

- Conversation groups
- Adult education classes
- Stroke support
- Group therapy
- Counselling group
- Communication group
- Other (please specify)

**12. SLT Treatment – what percentage of the time do you spend on each type of treatment (as a percentage of the total amount of aphasia treatment)?**

Cognitive neurolinguistic model based approaches:   
 eg., focusing on impaired linguistic levels semantics, phonology, syntax and/or in writing and reading.

Functional communication approaches:   
 eg., scripts, PACE, AAC, role-playing.

Social approaches:   
 eg., focus on life participation goals and social relationships, conversation partner training.

Other (please specify)

**13. What SLT treatment materials do you commonly use (click on all that apply)?**

- Communication support  
Eg Communication books
- Specific linguistic programmes
- Home-made materials
- Software packages
- Apps

**14. Which intervention/service delivery approach do you use (as a percentage of the total amount of aphasia treatment)?**

Individual

Group

Telerehabilitation/over internet (Group or individual)



**15. What are your reasons for choosing an aphasia treatment approach (click on all that apply)?**

- Based on my own experience
- Based on scientific research
- Based on guidelines
- Learned from colleagues/other clinicians
- Prescribed by someone else
- Availability of materials

**16. Do you systematically evaluate SLT treatment?**

- Yes                       No

**If yes, how (click on all that apply)?**

- Standardised assessment batteries
- Standardised screening tools
- Formal non-standard tests
- Informal tests
- Test - re-test of therapy items
- General outcome measure for all patients
- Patient report
- Proxy report (for example family member or friend)

**17. Is the patient required to pay for treatment (choose one)?**

- No – treatment is free
- Yes through unlimited coverage insurance
- Yes through limited coverage
- Patients have to pay for treatment
- Other (please specify)

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY**