National, State, and Local Information and Assistance Resources regarding Aphasia and Health and Safety

Merck Manual/Medical Resource

The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy defines Aphasia as “language dysfunction that may involve impaired comprehension or expression of words or nonverbal equivalents of words. It results from dysfunction of the language centers in the cerebral cortex and basal ganglia or of the white matter pathways that connect them. Diagnosis is clinical, often including neuropsychologic testing, with brain imaging (CT, MRI) to identify cause. Prognosis depends on the cause and extent of damage and on patient age…”

The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy provides a professional edition for professionals and consumers and is committed to bringing out the best in medicine. As part of that effort, Merck has created The Merck Manuals, a series of healthcare books for medical professionals and consumers. As a service to the community, the content of The Manuals is now available in enhanced online versions. The Merck Manual Online is updated periodically with new information, and contains photographs, and audio and video material not present in the print versions.

NATIONAL

National Aphasia Association

The Mission of the NAA is to promote public awareness and understanding of aphasia and provide support to all persons with aphasia and their caregivers.

Click Frequently Asked Questions about aphasia.

For information on Aphasia Programs and Centers in the United States and Florida, go to: http://www.aphasia.org/aphasia_community/programs_and_centers.html.

To find stroke and aphasia support groups listed by state, click Aphasia Community Groups.

To locate aphasia organizations, rehabilitation resources, federal government resources, etc. click Other Agencies & Organizations.
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is a national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for more than 166,000 members and affiliates. ASHA offers insight into cause/effect of aphasia, incidence and prevalence of aphasia, signs and symptoms, assessment, treatment, and aphasia resource information. For more information go to: www.asha.org.

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) offers:

- What is Aphasia?
- Is there any treatment?
- What is the prognosis?
- What research is being done?
- Clinical Trials
- Organizations
- Additional resources from MedlinePlus

For more information about NINDS, go to: http://www.ninds.nih.gov/.

Adler Aphasia Center

The Adler Aphasia Center is a vital resource for the entire community:

- People with Aphasia and their caregivers
- Healthcare professionals
- Researchers
- Community partners

The Adler Aphasia Center provides vital resources to anyone whose life or profession is touched by Aphasia. They are dedicated to creating opportunities for self-expression that lead to a meaningful life. As one of only a few Aphasia-friendly communities in the world, the Center is a worldwide model for:

- Pioneering programs
- Training and education
- Applied research
- Mutual support and encouragement
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago’s Intensive Aphasia Program

The Center for Aphasia Research and Treatment was created in 2001 at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) to respond to the challenge of “living with aphasia.” Its mission is to promote the development and implementation of rehabilitation practices that enhance the communication skills of individuals with aphasia and facilitate their engagement in life activities. For more information, go to: http://www.ric.org/research/centers/aphasia/.

New Horizons Un-Limited, Inc.

New Horizons Un-Limited Inc. offers aphasia resource information. For more information, go to: http://www.new-horizons.org/resaph.html.

American Heart Association

The American Heart Association also serves individuals with aphasia and their mission is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. For more information, go to: http://www.americanheart.org.

For more information or to contact a heart association in the United States or in Florida, go to: http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/localization/chooseState.jsp (select an individual state from the pull down menu).

Constantly Speaking

June is Aphasia Awareness Month and there are many resources available for people who have aphasia as well as those who work with them. Here are some websites where you can find more information and help raise awareness about aphasia.

Lingraphica

Lingraphica provides products, services, and resources that help people with aphasia and apraxia reconnect with their families and communities. Learn more today about our no-obligation, free device trial. For more detailed information, go to: www.aphasia.com
STATE

Aphasia House at the University of Central Florida in Orlando

The Aphasia House offers an intensive outpatient therapy program for individuals with aphasia, a disorder that results from damage to parts of the brain that control language and speech. Aphasia House clients receive therapy under the direction of distinguished clinical educators in aphasia. For more information, go to Aphasia House.

L.L. Schendel Speech & Hearing Clinic at FSU

The Florida State University offers the L.L. Schendel Speech and Hearing Clinic providing effective community services that improve the communication abilities of clients with aphasia and many other related disabilities. They provide a teaching and clinical research laboratory that seeks to develop exemplary assessment and treatment procedures for use by FSU students and professionals in speech-language pathology and audiology. For more information, go to: http://commdisorders.cci.fsu.edu/speech-hearing-clinic/.

University of South Florida Speech Language & Hearing Center

USF offers a Speech Language and Hearing Center located in the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders. The Center serves individuals with disabilities including aphasia and provides nearly 40,000 hours of speech and hearing services to the community annually. It is the primary teaching site for the clinical graduate education of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists. The Center offers a 47,800 square foot, state-of-the-art facility. For more information, go to: http://csd.cbs.usf.edu/clinic/.

The Aphasia Center

The Aphasia Center located in St. Petersburg, FL is one of two facilities in the United States to provide intensive aphasia therapy year-round, which is similar to a foreign language immersion program. Patients receive treatment for 5 hours per day for 2-8 weeks. For more information, go to: Aphasia Center.
Aphasia Articles, News, Events and Research

For news and research on Aphasia, go to:

- [http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html)
- [News on aphasia](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html)
- Article: [Dementia & Aphasia](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html)
- Article: [Aphasia patients can improve with therapy long after stroke](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html) ([Tampa Bay Times](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html))

Health and safety technologies may help save lives and keep vulnerable individuals with disabilities from irreparable harm

This year, the FAAST Public Policy and Advocacy Committee developed and approved an educational issue brief to address the need for [health and safety technologies for vulnerable populations](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html).

Project Lifesaver

[Project Lifesaver](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html) is an example of assistive technology that provides police, fire/rescue and other first responders with a proven and comprehensive program including equipment and training to quickly locate and rescue at risk individuals with cognitive disorders who are at constant risk to the life threatening behavior of wandering. Project Lifesaver works to bridge the technological gap for at risk populations and public safety agencies.

FAAST, Inc. Self-Help Resource Guides

FAAST, Inc. offers a [General Resource and Self-Help Information Guide for Older Individuals with Disabilities](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html). This comprehensive resource guide is hyperlinked providing national, state, and local resources for older individuals with disabilities, family members, caregivers, guardians, and advocates/representatives.

FAAST, Inc. also offers a [Resource Guide for Individuals with Disabilities in Nursing Homes and Other Health Care Facilities](http://www.aphasia.org/news_and_events/news_and_events.html).