COMMUNICATING THROUGH THE BARRIERS.

What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is a language disorder that affects the ability to communicate. It's most often caused by injury to parts of the brain that control speech and language resulting from a stroke.

I need to communicate with someone who has aphasia.



Keep It Simple Speak in short, simple sentences.



Be Patient Allow plenty of time for a response. Talk *with* him/her not *for* him/her.

Remove Distractions Turn off radios and TVs.



Be Creative Try writing, gesturing, pictures and communication tools like an iPad.



People With Aphasia

- 1. Communicate differently, but they are as smart as they were before.
- **2.** Their hearing is fine; speaking loudly does not help.
- **3.** Aphasia is not contagious! To talk to people with aphasia, you'll just have to communicate differently.



I have aphasia.



Take Your Time Remember it may take a while to get the words out.



Let People Know What Works Best For You

Do you want a question asked in multiple ways? Let them know.

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Bring photos, diagrams, pen and paper, etc.

Use Assistive

Devices



Getting Frustrated Is Okay

Don't blame yourself if you get stuck or stumble on your words. Be patient with yourself as you find what works.

If You Get Stuck, You Can

- 1. Admit you're struggling.
- 2. Recap what you have discussed so far.
- **3.** Decide whether to carry on or come back to it later.





 Aphasia
 Learn more at

 Association
 StrokeAssociation.org/aphasia and Aphasia.org

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