

What is Aphasia?

'Aphasia' refers to a family of disorders that affect the ability to communicate by oral or written language, or both, following brain damage. ... It is an umbrella concept combining a multiplicity of deficits involving one or more aspects of language use.

(Goodglass, 1993, pp. 1-2)

Aphasia can result from a stroke, brain tumor, or injury to specific areas of the brain. The severity of the language disorders depends on numerous variables: the extent of the brain damage, the areas of the brain affected, age and

Depending on the areas of the brain affected the symptoms will vary. Typically multiple aspects of language use and processing are affected to the same or varying degree of impairment: Speaking, understanding, reading and writing.

Difficulties in word finding are the most prominent symptom for persons with various forms of aphasia. Provision of intensive and systematic language therapy is important for improving a person with aphasia's abilities to communicate in everyday life and to enable him/her to participate more fully in society.

Contact

Association Internationale Aphasie
AISBL

Avenue du Paepedelle 87
B-1160 Brüssels, Belgium

Web

www.aphasia-international.com

Phone

0043 1 51581 / 2682
0043 1 7130380

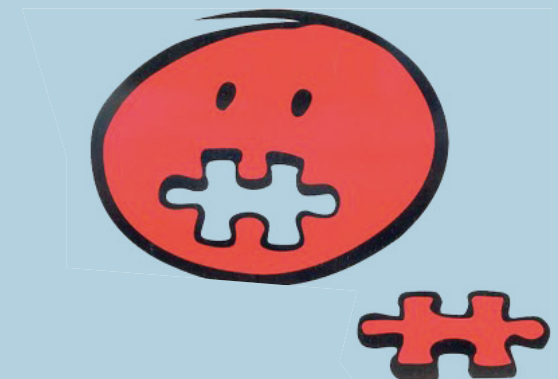
eMail

jacqueline.stark@oeaw.ac.at



Association
Internationale
Aphasie

AIA



A non profit international organization for persons with an acquired communication and language disorder caused by brain damage and their families and caregivers



About Association Internationale Aphasia, AIA

AIA is a non profit organization. It was founded in the late 1980s by Raymond Bassem - a person with aphasia.

It consists of representatives from national aphasia associations, particularly in Europe, but also in the U.S., Canada, Japan, Argentina and Australia.

AIA has its headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.



Board meeting in Brussels

Mission Statement

In accordance with the constitution of AIA, the objectives are to promote public awareness of aphasia, i.e. of the language difficulties and communication disorders resulting from brain damage and to represent clients with aphasia in matters of the dissemination of information about aphasia and aphasia rehabilitation.

A goal of AIA is to advance our knowledge of the diagnosis and rehabilitation of clients with aphasia and to improve their quality of life, and thus preserve their dignity and defend their interests in issues related to their aphasia and their reintegration into society.



General Assembly in Vienna

Give time

Suggestions for communicating with persons with aphasia:

- Give them time to formulate and say what they would like to communicate to you!
- Give them time to understand what you are telling or asking them!
- Speak clearly and not too quickly!
- Do not interrupt them while they are talking to you!
- Do not complete their utterances unless you are asked to do so!

