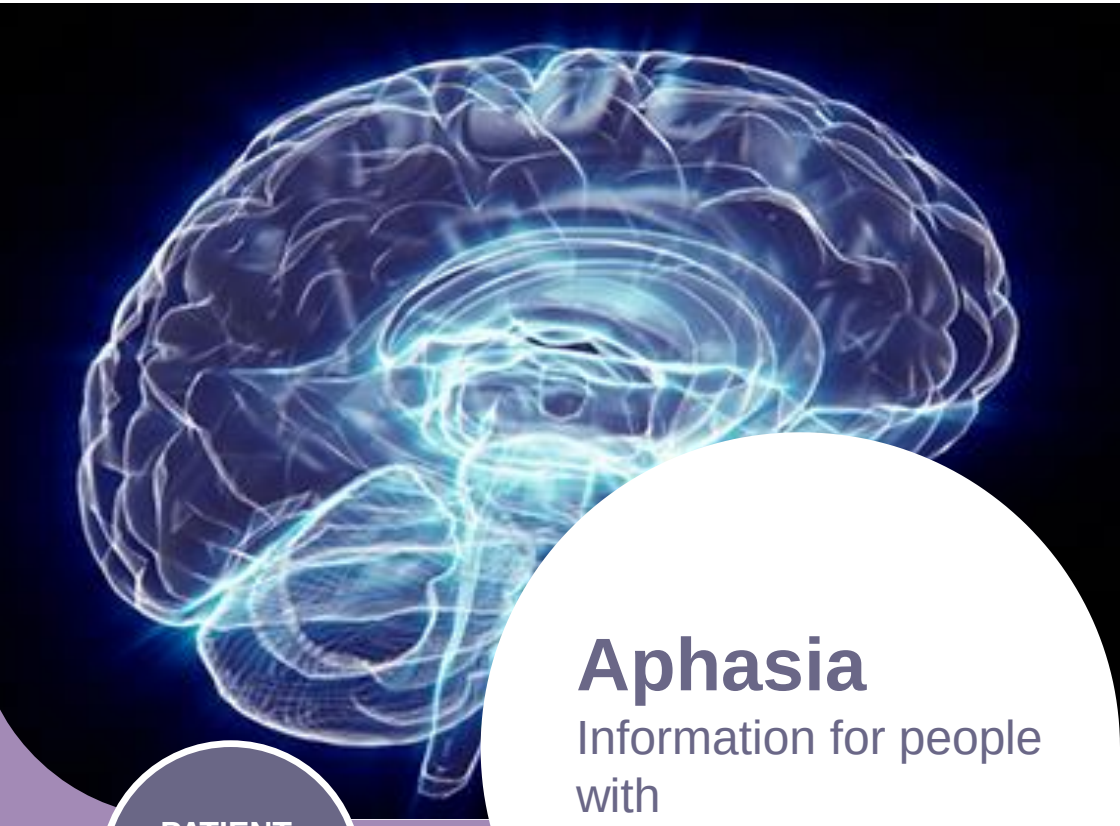
Tallaght University Hospital | Ospidéal Ollscoile Thamhlachta

An Academic Partner of Trinity College Dublin



Aphasia

Information for people with aphasia and their carers

PATIENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

What is Aphasia?

- Aphasia is a problem with communication
- Aphasia affects people's ability to communicate with others
  - This leads to difficulty getting a message in or out

What causes Aphasia?

1. A **stroke** 2. A **brain injury**

The brain has two sides.

- Each side controls different things
- The LEFT side of the brain usually controls language and speech



These things may be hard:

Understanding what people are saying 	**Reading** 
Talking 	**Writing** 
Finding the right word **➔You may mix up words without realising it**	

Does aphasia get better?

Recovery is different for each person so do not compare your progress to others.

It may be fast



For others, it can be slow



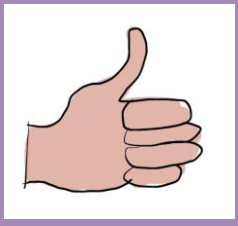
What helps?

Communicating your message is most important by any means e.g.

Talking



Gesture



Writing/ drawing



Using computers



Your journey in Tallaght University Hospital:

- You will be referred for Speech and Language Therapy
- Your speech and language therapist will assess your communication
- You may carry out communication exercises when you are in hospital
- You may need extra sessions of SLT on discharge from hospital

Communication tips:

Point to pictures or words



Write down words to help you e.g. family names, places



Take your time – don't rush when talking



Use facial expressions and gestures- if you are frustrated, show it!



Get rid of distractions when talking e.g. turn OFF TV



Try not to let others talk for you

Describe the word you are thinking of (its use, size, shape, colour, where it comes from)

Your strategies / Notes:

Your speech and language therapist is: _____

Contact details: _____