

# Professional Development

RRR READING, REFLECTION, AND APPLICATION IN REALITY

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Reading this article and undertaking this *Nursing individuals with aphasia* learning activity is equivalent to 60 minutes of professional development.

This learning activity is relevant to the Nursing Council competencies 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.8, 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3. Discuss all your answers with a peer/s.

## Learning outcomes

Reading and reflecting on this article will enable you to:

- » increase your understanding of the experiences of individuals with aphasia
- » reflect on factors within the health care environment that may negatively impact on communication with those individuals
- » describe a range of nursing strategies to enhance communication with individuals experiencing aphasia.

### A Reading

- 1 Watch the short video (2 ½ minutes) on aphasia etiquette produced by the Stroke Foundation. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTh86NoQh7Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTh86NoQh7Q)
- 2 Review the Aphasia Alliance's top tips for 'Aphasia Friendlier' Communication. [www.aphasianow.org/store/files/AphasiaAlliance.CommunicStrategies.pdf](http://www.aphasianow.org/store/files/AphasiaAlliance.CommunicStrategies.pdf)

### B Reflection

- 1 Reflect on factors within your workplace that would enhance and/or negate these strategies being used in your workplace, not only for people with aphasia but also with other communication difficulties.
- 2 Reflect on how to increase awareness of these strategies within your workplace.

### C Reality

- 1 Identify a resident/client/patient in your service with aphasia, or any other major barrier to effective communication, such as a significant hearing loss.
- 2 Obtain the required permissions to review the individual's care plan. What strategies are documented to maximise communication for that person, and what evaluations have been made of the effectiveness of those interventions?
- 3 Discuss with staff who regularly work with the individual how they know what the person wants, and the strategies they use to enhance communication. Ensure the care plan is updated to reflect these if necessary.

### Verification by a colleague of your completion of this activity

Colleague name

Designation

Date

Nursing council ID

Work address

Contact #