



SOUTHWEST REHABILITATION

Upcoming Events:

Didgeridoo Club
June 9

Stroke Club
June 16

Auditory Integration Training

Sessions are running year-round on an individual basis! Contact our office for registration details!



June is National Aphasia Awareness Month!

What is aphasia?

Aphasia is an impairment of language affecting the ability to produce, understand, read and/or write. Aphasia is always caused by brain injury, and most often by stroke.

Why would a stroke affect your language?

Strokes (aka brain attacks) stop blood flow to the brain. When that occurs, access to that area of brain is damaged. In your left hemisphere of the brain, you have your language centers. A stroke stops the oxygen to those centers, resulting in aphasia.

Can a speech pathologist help someone with aphasia?

Yes! Whether the stroke was severe or mild, we have the tools to support you or your loved one. We diagnose the type of aphasia, work with your doctor, and come up with the best treatment plan to improve language skills.

Want to learn more?

Come join our stroke club! Or check out aphasia.org.

Signs and Symptoms of stroke, think F.A.S.T:

Facial drooping

Arm weakness

Speech difficulty

Time to call 911

If you notice any of these signs, call **911** immediately!



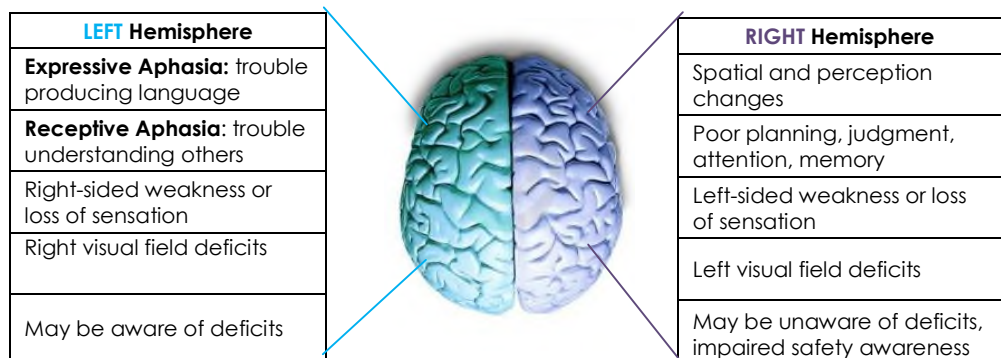
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Right Brain or Left Brain?

Individuals may experience different deficits based on the location of the stroke. **Not everyone who has a stroke has aphasia.** Here is an overview of areas that can be affected, based on where the stroke occurs in your brain.



Does my child have a tongue tie?



What is it? Tongue tie, also known as ankyloglossia, is when the frenulum below or behind the tongue is short. This limits range of motion of the tongue, and can have a number of consequences, including effects on speech, swallowing, and breathing.

Asides from an exam, how do I know if there is a tongue tie? There are many signs, and a full exam by a specialist is most beneficial. Signs of tongue tie may include:

- *picky eating*
- *refusing to sit at the table*
- *takes a long time to eat*
- *Gassy, GERD, fussy after eating*
- *Difficulty breast feeding*
- *Articulation/speech deficits*
- *Tongue thrust*
- *Breathing problems at night*

Most practitioners use a classification grading the tongue tie on a scale of 1, 2, 3, or 4, which describes where

the tie attaches to the tongue.

Class I: The tie inserts into the tip of the tongue.

Class II: The tie inserts just behind the tip of the tongue.

Class III: The tongue tie is posterior with a thin membrane present.

Class IV: The front and sides elevate, but the mid-tongue cannot and no thin membrane is present.

How can speech pathology help? Your speech pathologist can help evaluate the type of tongue-tie and need for a release. Post release, s/he can provide stretching exercises to prevent reoccurrence, offer feeding techniques to the parents of delayed or picky eaters, and provide orofacial myofunctional treatment to re-educate the oral and facial muscles

If you have concerns about your child, request a speech pathology referral.

Southwest Rehabilitation Therapy Team

JESSICA TAYLOR, MA, CCC-SLP

Jessica returned to the Pacific NW after graduating from the University of Iowa. Jessica has been with us since August 2014. After beginning her college career pursuing vocal performance, Jessica began working with children with autism, and fell in love with speech-language pathology. Since then, her primary interests in the field continue to include voice disorders and autism. Jessica enjoys working with children with early language delays, parents and parent education, autism, and adults with voice, neurogenic, and language needs.



ASHLEY DAVIS, MS, CF-SLP

Ashley is a Speech-Language Pathologist Clinical Fellow. She graduated with her Masters of Science from New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York. Ashley grew up in Kansas and received her Bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Kansas in May, 2012. In addition to speech sciences, Ashley enjoys photography, the outdoors, hiking, and cooking. She is particularly interested in working with adults with neurogenic etiologies, as well as head and neck cancers, specializing in cognitive-linguistic and dysphagia therapy.