



NSW Speech Pathology
Evidence Based Practice Interest Group

Critically Appraised Paper (CAP)

CLINICAL BOTTOM LINE: Aphasia Group treatment can result in many positive psychosocial effects as reported by aphasics.

Clinical Question [patient/problem, intervention, (comparison), outcome]: Does supported conversation in groups maintain or improve communication skills following a CVA.

Search Terms:

Search Systems:

Citation: Elman, R.J and Bernstein-Ellis, M.A. (1999). Psychosocial aspects of group communication treatment – preliminary findings. *Seminars in Speech and Language. Vol 20(1), 65-72.*

Design: Qualitative – semi-structured interviews (Case series)

Participants: 24 Aphasics and their carers. Clients, relatives, caregivers. Preliminary findings reported on 12 participants.

Experimental Group: 24 aphasics received 5 hours of weekly group treatment.

Control Group: None.

Results: Individuals reported increased participation outside of group treatment. Many qualitative comments reported.

Comments on Design: No pre-measure – only 2mth, 4mth and post treatment reviews.

Level of Evidence (NH&MRC): Level 1V

Appraised By: Adult Speech and Language and Dysphagia Gp.

Date: 21/07/03