

Using the People Describer Chart

The People Describer Chart is used for people with communication difficulties to try and describe who they are talking about. The chart can also be used by those working with people with communication difficulties.

The chart is divided into several sections. The green shaded areas are the main questions that can be used to try and get information. The person with communicative difficulties may be able to point to the relevant icons to make themselves understood. Otherwise someone can go through the various options with them to try and find the person they want to talk about.

who?



This option gives you the option to talk about family, friends or helpers. It can help put the listener in the right context when the person with communication difficulties is trying to describe someone.

What is their name?



Some people with speech difficulties may be able to spell. Using the alphabet on the chart they can spell out the name of the person they want to talk about. Alternatively they could just point to the first letter of the person's name as they attempt to pronounce it. This gives the listener an extra cue, and research shows that knowing the first sound of a word, helps the listener cue into the word.

What do they look like?



This section can be used to describe people - age, hair colour, sex, height, weight and if they wear glasses.

What do they do?



If the subject does not fall under the category of friends, family or helper, then the communicator can try and describe what they do. If speech is an issue, try some sign or gesture.

People describer

Who?



friends



family




helper



other?



What is their name?



a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z

What do they do?




What do they look like?



man or woman




hair colour




old or young



tall or short



big or thin



glasses





To learn more about Stroke/CVA, aids and strategies to enhance communication, speech and cognition, you can read about and purchase books on our website www.icommunicatetherapy.com. Click this link to see our online Resource Centre

Book Shop

Suggested reading:

Living With Stroke: A Guide for Families by Richard C Senelick and Karla Dougherty

Brain, Heal Thyself: A Caregiver's New Approach to Recovery from Stroke, Aneurysm, And Traumatic Brain Injuries by Madonna Siles and Lawrence J. Beuret

Peeling the Onion: Reversing the Ravages of Stroke by Robin Robinson

The Stroke Recovery Book: A Guide for Patients and Families by Kip Burkman, Bob Hoganmiller, and David Jenkins

Life After Stroke: The Guide to Recovering Your Health and Preventing Another Stroke by Joel Stein, Julie K. Silver, and Elizabeth Pegg Frates

After Stroke by David M. Hinds

Family Guide to Surviving Stroke & Communications Disorders by Dennis C. Tanner

Stronger After Stroke: Your Roadmap to Recovery by Peter G. Levine

Rewire Your Brain, Rewire Your Life: A Handbook for Stroke Survivors & Their Caregivers by Bob Guns

Stroke Recovery and Rehabilitation by Joel Stein

My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey by Jill Bolte Taylor

Talking About Aphasia: Living With Loss of Language After Stroke by Susie Parr, Sally Byng, Sue Gilpin, and Chris Ireland

Aphasia Inside Out by Susie Parr, Judith Duchan, and Carole Pound

Aphasiology: Disorders and Clinical Practice (2nd Edition) by G. Albyn Davis

Aphasia Therapy Workshop: Current Approaches to Aphasia Therapy-- Principles and Applications by Jacqueline Stark, Nadine Martin, and Ruth Fink

Beyond Aphasia: Therapies For Living With Communication Disability by Carole Pound, Susie Parr, Jayne Lindsay, and Celia Woolf

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