

**APHASIA NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

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**COMMUNICATOR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **INFORMANT:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**INTERVIEWER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

	Poorly		So-So		Very Well
<b>HOW ARE THINGS GOING FOR YOU?</b>	1	2	3	4	5
<b>HOW WELL ARE YOU COMMUNICATING?</b>	1	2	3	4	5

**WHICH SITUATIONS GIVE YOU THE MOST DIFFICULTY WITH COMMUNICATION? (Mark all that apply)**

- Talking on the phone
- Conversations with family or friends
- Conversations with strangers
- Discussions about personal business
- Community Transactions (bank, pharmacy, travel agent, bus driver, etc.)
- Restaurants
- Doctor/Medical settings
- Work
- Giving directions
- Understanding others
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK ABOUT DURING CONVERSATIONS?**

- Funny stories about your children
  - Your adventures as a young child/growing up
  - Dating and getting married
  - Being in the military
  - Your worst jobs
  - Your most important job/career
  - Moving or traveling
  - Hobbies or unique interests
  - Family history/ancestry/genealogy
  - Local events
  - Current events
  - Sports
  - Politics/the economy/the government
  - Weather
  - Favorite meals/restaurants
  - My house/home town/things to fix
  - My stroke and/or other medical issues
- List: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHICH COMMUNICATION SKILLS ARE THE MOST DIFFICULT FOR YOU?**

- Getting someone's attention
- Introducing myself and others
- Explaining about aphasia and how I communicate
- Engaging in "small talk"
- Introducing new topics
- Interrupting
- Asking questions
- Talking about the present
- Talking about the past
- Answering familiar, predictable questions (e.g., "How was your weekend?")
- Answering questions that require a specifically-worded answer
  - (e.g., "I cooked red beet salad.")
- Explaining something using specific language and a sequence of steps
- Telling a story
- Telling a joke
- Holding my communication partner's attention
- Providing comfort
- Communicating how I feel
- Communicating specific physical needs quickly and accurately
- Expressing commands
- Following commands
- Resolving breakdowns
- Switching from expressing myself to listening
- Finding information I know that I have in my communication system
- Thinking to use another communication strategy
- Spelling
- Helping my communication partner with "clues"
- Staying on topic or on track in the conversation

**DO YOU DO MOST OF THE COMMUNICATING FOR YOURSELF?      YES    NO**

**IF YOU ANSWERED "NO", WHO DOES? \_\_\_\_\_**

**WHAT DO YOUR COMMUNICATION FACILITATORS NEED TO LEARN TO DO?**

- Not to interrupt
- Not to guess or fill in words unless I say it's OK
- To guess more efficiently by narrowing down the category of the target message
- Tell me what they do understand when I have difficulty communicating clearly
- Slow down when talking to me
- Give one item of info at a time when talking to me
- Write things down, draw, or gesture to help me understand better
- Help me answer yes/no questions by tagging them (yes....or no?)
- Ask me questions/give me opportunities to communicate
- Write down possible answers for me so I can point to them
- Help me find the correct pages/messages when I use my communication system

**WHAT COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES DO YOU or YOUR FACILITATORS CURRENTLY USE? DESCRIBE THEM, and TELL US WHEN YOU USE THEM:**

Strategy 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Strategy 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Strategy 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Strategy 4: \_\_\_\_\_

	Poorly		So-So		Very Well
HOW WELL DO YOU READ?	1	2	3	4	5

**WHAT KINDS OF MATERIALS WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ?**

- Popular Magazines      Titles: \_\_\_\_\_
- Daily Newspaper      Sections: \_\_\_\_\_
- Personal Letters
- Professional articles or journals
- Fiction – short books      Topics: \_\_\_\_\_
- Fiction – long books      Topics: \_\_\_\_\_
- Nonfiction      Topics: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

	Poorly		So-So		Very Well
HOW WELL DO YOU WRITE?	1	2	3	4	5

**WHAT KINDS OF THINGS WOULD YOU LIKE TO WRITE?**

- Lists of things to buy or appointments to remember
- Bills and forms
- Cards
- Short personal letters
- Long letters
- Stories
- Business documents (letters, requests, manuscripts)
- Journals or diary entries
- Email