## Participant Information Sheet

### Project title:

### Project title: Management of psychosocial needs in people with mild aphasia: Perspectives and practices of speech pathologists in Australia

### Ethics Approval Number: 2022/HE001893

**Who is conducting this project?**

Patricia Govender1,2,4, Speech Pathologist and M.Phil. student, is conducting this study at the University of Queensland. This project is being supervised by Dr Emma Finch1,3,4 and Dr Brooke Ryan1,5,6,7

### Investigator Affiliations:

1School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, The University of Queensland; 2Speech-Language Therapy Program, Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand; 3Speech Pathology Department, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Metro South Health; 4Centre of Functioning and Health Research, Metro South Health; 5University of Technology Sydney, Graduate School of Health, Clinical Psychology, Ultimo, Australia; 6Centre of Research Excellence in Aphasia Recovery and Rehabilitation, Australia; 7Speech Pathology, Curtin School of Allied Health, Curtin University, Perth, Australia

**Introduction to this project:**

This project aims to gather information about psychosocial interventions and practices of Speech Pathologists who have experience working with people with mild post-stroke aphasia.

This survey is open to Speech Pathologists who are eligible for Speech Pathology Australia (SPA) registration and have experience working with people with mild post-stroke aphasia, in Australia. We would like to invite you to participate in this survey if you meet these criteria.

Before you decide whether you would like to take part, it is important for you to consider why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read this information sheet

carefully. If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be required to consent via an online check box.

### The background and aim of this project:

Currently little is known about the practices of Speech Pathologists in the assessment and management of people with mild post-stroke aphasia, particularly around psychosocial well-being. This project has the following aims:

1. To explore the perspectives and experiences of Speech Pathologists and their reported practices of psychosocial interventions in mild post-stroke aphasia rehabilitation.
2. To explore the nature and extent to which psychosocial interventions are utilized.

**Why is this research important?**

It is expected that this information will provide an early understanding of Speech Pathologists’ perspectives, experiences, and reported practices in the assessment and management of psychosocial wellbeing in people with mild post-stroke aphasia. The information gathered from this study may contribute to the sparse body of knowledge currently available in an emerging and important area of clinical practice, namely mild post-stroke aphasia. These results may support Speech Pathologists in their clinical practice and improve outcomes for this population.

### What does participation in this research involve?

You will be required to complete an online survey questionnaire. The questionnaire will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You will be asked questions about your perspectives, experiences, and confidence in assessing and managing the psychosocial wellbeing of people with mild post-stroke aphasia. As all responses remain confidential and anonymous you will not be able to edit your responses after submission. Once you complete the survey you will not be required to do anything further.

**Your participation is voluntary.**

Your participation in this project is completely voluntary. You have the right to withdraw from the survey, at any point, prior to submitting the survey. There will be no impact on your relationship with The University of Queensland or any member of the research team should you choose to do so.

You do not need to answer every question in this project unless you wish to do so.

Please note that your responses on the survey will be anonymous and you will not be able to withdraw from the study once you have submitted your survey.

### Risks to you

This research project will involve completing an online survey. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. All questions will relate directly to your usual clinical practice. As a result, it is not anticipated that participation will cause distress. If you do become fatigued or distressed because of your participation in the research project, please let us know and the research team will be able to arrange appropriate support.

### What are the potential benefits of this research project to you?

While there are no anticipated benefits to you personally in participating in this research, it is anticipated that the findings from this study may contribute to the sparse body of knowledge currently available in an emerging and important area of clinical practice: mild post-stroke aphasia. This study has the potential to address the unmet needs of people with mild post-stroke aphasia, and support Speech Pathologists with information to guide their clinical practice.

### Your confidentiality

Your responses to the survey are anonymous. All data will be stored on a password-protected, UQ Research Data Manager (UQRDM) system which will be accessible only to the research team. Any information about this study presented or published will remain anonymous. All data will be stored for seven (7) years.

**Survey Closing Date**: **2nd December 2022**

**Feedback of results:**

* The results of the research will be published in an international peer-reviewed journal and may be presented at a health conference.
* Upon completion of the survey, you will be asked if you desire a summary of the research findings. If you do, you will be asked to provide your email address to which the research summary will be sent. Your personal contact information will not be linked to your survey responses and will be stored separately in a password-protected file. You will not be sent individual information as the data will be anonymous.

### Questions/Further Information:

* If you would like further information, or would like to clarify issues relating to any part of your participation, please feel free to contact:
* Ms. Patty Govender, Ph: +64 274843317, Email: [p.govender@us.edu.au](mailto:p.govender@us.edu.au)
* Dr. Emma Finch, Ph: 07 3176 9591 Email: [e.finch@uq.edu.au](mailto:e.finch@uq.edu.au)
* Dr. Brooke Ryan, Email: [brooke.ryan@uq.edu.au](mailto:brooke.ryan@uq.edu.au)
* This study adheres to the Guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. If you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Officer on 3365 3924.

**Definitions**

The focus of this research will be on mild post-stroke aphasia. Aphasia can be identified as mild based on a score on a traditional aphasia test, that falls in the mild range eg baseline WAB-R AQ > 76 on the Western Aphasia Battery – Revised; clinical judgment of a qualified Speech pathologist; or patient report of language difficulties after a stroke that may or may not be evident on a formal assessment.

For the purposes of this study, psychosocial interventions are defined as any intervention that emphasizes psychological or social components rather than biological or pharmacological components of intervention. This definition allows for the inclusion of psychological interventions and health education, as well as interventions with a focus on social aspects, such as social support. Formats of intervention can be individual, group, or web-based formats, in any setting, and with one or more health providers.

To participate in this study, please click the link **below** which will take you the welcome and consent pages.

<https://uniofqueensland.syd1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4PFVS92BF41SfhY>

### Please consider forwarding this survey link to colleagues whom you think might be interested in contributing to this study.