

# Communication Difficulties in Neurological Injury or Condition



Greater Manchester  
Neurorehabilitation & Integrated  
Stroke Delivery Network



## Cognitive Communication Disorder:

When a person has trouble with thinking skills that impact upon language and conversation

## Aphasia (Dysphasia):

When a person has difficulty understanding or expressing language using speech or writing

## Verbal Dyspraxia:

Is the lack of ability to sequence and co-ordinate the muscle movements involved in speech

## Dysarthria:

Is caused by the muscles involved in speech production no longer being able to work as strongly, quickly and accurately as before

## Dysfluency:

When a person has difficulty in producing smooth, fluent speech (may sound like a stammer)

## Dysphonia:

When a person has changes to the sound of the voice

## Changes to social communication skills:

when a person has trouble following the rules of conversation e.g. turn-taking

## Stages of Communication:

- 1 Focussed attention
- 2 Hear it
- 3 Remember it
- 4 Understand it
- 5 Think of an answer (formulate an idea)
- 6 Find the words
- 7 String them together correctly (in your mind)
- 8 Coordinate the muscle movements (in your mouth & lips)
- 9 Articulate (say) the words (response)

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**For further information contact a Speech & Language Therapist**