



Dyspraxia – What you can do!

Dyspraxia after a stroke or brain injury can be very frustrating. Speech production that used to be easy is now difficult and filled with errors.

Support from friends and family is important.

A person with dyspraxia needs encouragement, understanding and patience with their communication.

Family and support workers can assist by:

- Allowing time for the person to say what they want
- Encouraging the person to gesture or write things down
- Being patient when the person is frustrated
- Encouraging the person to use their alternative communication system (if they have one)
- Reducing distractions
- Helping the person practice their speech pathology exercises regularly

(Adapted from PRINCESS Alexandra Hospital Speech Pathology Department brochure)

If a person's communication continues to prevent them from being able to express themselves, particularly after therapy is completed and / or behavioural issues start to emerge, consider a referral to a Speech Pathologist.

There are Speech Pathologists who specialise in Alternative and Augmentative Communication (see *Alternative and Augmentative Communication Factsheet*).