

# ACQUIRED APHASIA VS. PRIMARY PROGRESSIVE APHASIA

While we are excited to see Aphasia in the news, recently, news sources have been using “Aphasia” to describe both **Acquired Aphasia** and **Primary Progressive Aphasia**. Which unfortunately, can spread incorrect information. We want to provide information and resources on both Acquired Aphasia and Primary Progressive Aphasia.

**Acquired Aphasia (Aphasia):** Often just referred to as “Aphasia”, is usually the result of a stroke or traumatic brain injury in the left hemisphere. Aphasia is a LANGUAGE disorder. It results in difficulty accessing language, causing impairments in verbal expression, language processing, reading, and writing. Difficulties with word retrieval (including numbers) is a hallmark of Aphasia, and sentence formulation is often quite challenging.

## Key points to remember:

- There is no cure for acquired Aphasia, but research has shown that patients can always continue to improve with therapy.
- Acquired Aphasia does not impact your intelligence and patients DO NOT decline over time.

**Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA):** Primary Progressive Aphasia, also known as PPA, is a degenerative neurological condition in which language capabilities become impaired over time.

## Key points to remember:

- It is different from other forms of Aphasia, as there must be no focal lesion for a diagnosis of PPA to occur.
- PPA results in deterioration of brain tissue important for speech and language and patients CAN decline over time.
- PPA is NOT the same as Alzheimer’s Disease, it is a subtype of Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)



**Below are additional resources you can explore to learn more about Aphasia, Primary Progressive Aphasia and the differences between them.**

## **Aphasia Resources:**

### Written Resources:

[What is Aphasia and Apraxia?](#)

[What is Aphasia and what Aphasia is NOT?](#)

[Communication Strategies for a Person with Aphasia](#)

[Find Support for Aphasia](#)

### Video Resources:

[What is Aphasia?](#)

[Aphasia Advocacy Videos: Hear from people with Aphasia](#)

[Cognitive Challenges vs. Language in Aphasia](#)

[Communication Tips](#)

## **Primary Progressive Aphasia Resources:**

### Written Resources:

[What is Primary Progressive Aphasia?](#)

[What is PPA and what are the Symptoms?](#)

[PPA: A Caregiver's Perspective on a Different Kind of Aphasia](#)

[PPA: The Journey to Diagnosis and What We Know about Treatment for Communication Difficulties](#)

### Video Resources:

[Primary Progressive Aphasia: What is it and what are the variants?](#)

[Primary Progressive Aphasia: Maximizing Communication](#)

## **Comparing Aphasia and Primary Progressive Aphasia:**

[Understanding Bruce Willis' Aphasia Announcement](#)

[Bruce Willis' Aphasia battle: Living in a country where you don't speak the language](#)

## **General Websites for more information:**

[Integrative Reconnective Aphasia Therapy](#)

[National Aphasia Association](#)

[Tactus Therapy](#)

