

Target Area: Communication, Language, Speech Disorders

<p>Kagan, Black, Duchan, Simmons-Mackie and Square (2001). <i>Training Volunteers as Conversation Partners using "Supported Conversation for Adults with Aphasia" (SCA): A Controlled Trial</i>. <i>Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research</i> 44(3): 624-638</p>	<p>PEDro score - 6/10</p>
<p>Method/Results</p> <p>Design</p> <p>Y Studytype: RCT.</p> <p>Y Population: n=40 volunteers (87% female, 75% less than age 30 years). They interacted with 40 participants with aphasia who were predominantly male (63%) with a mean age of 70 years (SD=11).</p> <p>Y Groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trained volunteers. 2. Untrained volunteers. <p>Y Setting: Community-based aphasia centre.</p> <p>Primary outcome measure/s:</p> <p>Y Measure of Skill in Providing Supported Conversation for Adults with Aphasia [(M)SCA].</p> <p>Secondary outcome measure/s:</p> <p>Y Measure of Participation in Conversation for Adults with Aphasia [(M)PCA].</p> <p>Result: Trained volunteers scored significantly higher than untrained volunteers on ratings of acknowledging competence and revealing competence of their partners with aphasia. There was also a positive change in ratings of social and message exchange skills of people with aphasia, even though the individuals did not participate in the training.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation Program</p> <p>Aim: To evaluate a training program entitled "Supported Conversation for Adults with Aphasia (SCA)" which involves volunteers interacting with individuals with chronic aphasia. The study tested whether training improves the conversational skills of volunteer, and if so, whether the improvements affect the communication of their conversation partners with aphasia.</p> <p>Materials: Measurement of communication was completed using the (M)SCA and the (M)PCA. Treatment materials included the SCA treatment protocol, which includes pictographic resources.</p> <p>Treatment plan/procedure</p> <p>Y Duration: The workshop was one day in length for the volunteers, and followed by a 1.5 hour hands-on session within a 2 week period.</p> <p>Y Procedure: The workshop included a conceptual/motivational module (1.25 hours), a technical module (2 hours), an integrative role play (1.5 hours) and an evaluation exercise (0.5 hour).</p> <p>Y Content: In the training, the technical section focused on acknowledging competence of the person with aphasia (e.g., keeping the talk as natural as possible). The section on revealing competence included 3 areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring the person with aphasia understands what is being communicated. 2. Ensuring the person with aphasia is given the opportunity to express what he or she knows, thinks or feels. 3. Verifying to ensure that the conversation is on-track from the perspective of the person with

