

Target Area: Communication, Language, Speech Disorders

<p>Pulvermuller, Neininger, Elbert, Mohr, Rockstroh, Koeb (2001). <i>Constraint-Induced Therapy for Chronic Aphasia After Stroke</i>. <i>Stroke</i> 32(7): 1621-1626</p>	<p>PEDro score - 5/10</p>
<p>Method/Results</p> <p>Design: Y Studytype: RCT. Y Population: n=17 adult, 71 % male, M=39-72 years, severity-mild to severe aphasia, aetiology - CVA. Y Groups: 1. Conventional language therapy (CL). 2. Constrain induced (CI) therapy. Y Settings: Not stated.</p> <p>Primary outcome measure/s: Y Aachen Aphasia Battery (AAB). Y Communicative Activity Log (CAL).</p> <p>Secondary outcome measure/s: Y None.</p> <p>Result: CI group showed significant improvement over time on the CAL and on 3 out of 4 subtests of the AAB, but the CL group only showed improvement on 1 subtest of the AAB.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation Program</p> <p>Aim: To improve communication skills of aphasic patients.</p> <p>Materials: 32 picture cards (2 identical sets of 16 pictures).</p> <p>Treatment plan: Y Duration: CL-3-5 weeks (20-54 hours); CI-10 days (23-33 hours) Y Procedure: CL-session details not described; CI - 1 session/day for 3-4 hours. Y Content - CL: standard approach using exercises for naming, repetition, sentence completion etc. - CI: picture card game - played in small groups (2-3). Players given a set of picture cards, each player has to pick a card and then ask another player if they have the card with the same picture on it. Constraints were used to push participants to use verbal language. Constraints were along three dimensions: 1. Difficulty of the material. 2. Shaping and rules of the game. 3. Reinforcement contingencies imposed.</p>