Hello!

It’s been another busy year! We have some new and exciting results to share with you (see middle pages). Thank you to all our hospital sites and participants for making the research possible.

In this issue...

- Aphasia training
- Research update
- Meet the team!
- Volunteers and projects

Aphasia training

This year we have trained:

- Therapists and exercise instructors completing the ARNI Stroke Rehabilitation Qualification (www.arni.uk.com).
- Research practitioners who screen and consent patients to PLORAS.

Next year, we plan to make an aphasia training video for hospitals recruiting to PLORAS.

The aim is to increase confidence and skills in communicating with people with aphasia.
Research Update

RECRUITMENT

UK hospital sites  Stroke groups  Adverts

INFORMATION

Patient details  MRI scan  Language assessment

Age  Gender  Therapy

Name the picture

Over 800 patients
RESULTS

(In preparation for publication. We can give you a glimpse here!)

683 patients - all English 1st language

5 brain areas

Damage to any of these 5 areas…
aphasic speech

NO damage to any of these 5 areas…
normal speech

Partial damage…
inconsistent effects
(no predictions)

90% accuracy

Predictions
Meet the team!

Shumi Khan is our **Administrative Assistant & Patient Coordinator**.

Her role includes:
- Processing screening questionnaires.
- Communicating with patients and professionals.
- MRI safety screening.
- Booking appointments.

She has a BSc in Psychology and is training to be an **MRI Qualified User**.

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**UCL Speech and Language Sciences MSc students**

We set up a *volunteering programme* for student speech and language therapists. They supported the project, and learned about the working life of speech and language therapists in research.

We also have eight **MSc project students**. They are looking at topics such as: how do people with aphasia view recovery in everyday tasks (e.g. shopping) - and how does this compare to their recovery on language tests.

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**Finally…**

Look out for updates on our Facebook or Twitter pages.

Don’t want our newsletter in future? Please tell us.

We wish you all a very **happy Christmas** and **New Year**!

**From all the PLORAS Research Team**