PLORAS Newsletter

Predicting **L**anguage **O**utcome and **R**ecovery **A**fter **S**troke
Issue 5 | December 2016

Hello!

The PLORAS study **continues to grow** and we have more **exciting results** to share with you. Thank you for supporting and showing interest in the study - we hope you enjoy the updates.

In this issue...

1000 participants!

We have reached a **big milestone** in the study - over **1000 participants** have now taken part!

That equals…

- Over **250 hours** of **MRI scanning**.
- Over **2000 hours** of **language assessments**.
- Support from over **60 NHS sites** and **50 stroke groups**.

A **very BIG thank you** to all our **stroke survivors**, **research teams** and **community groups**!

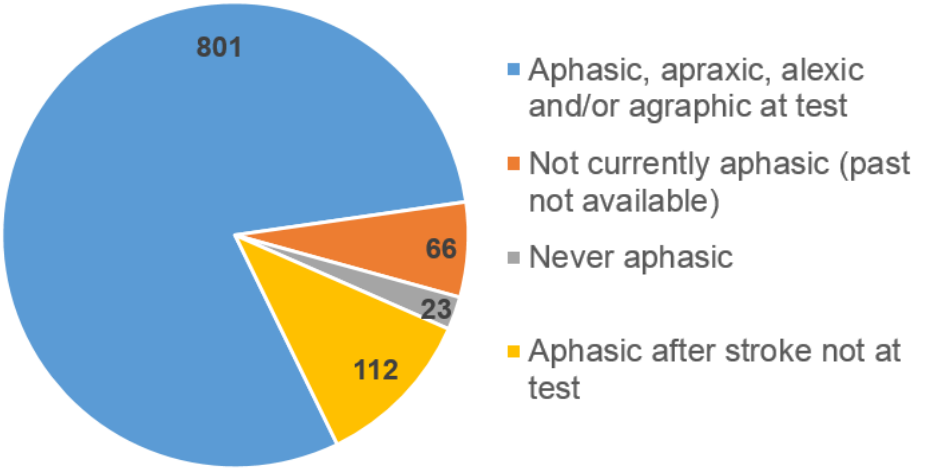
1000
participants!

Funding now extended to 2022!

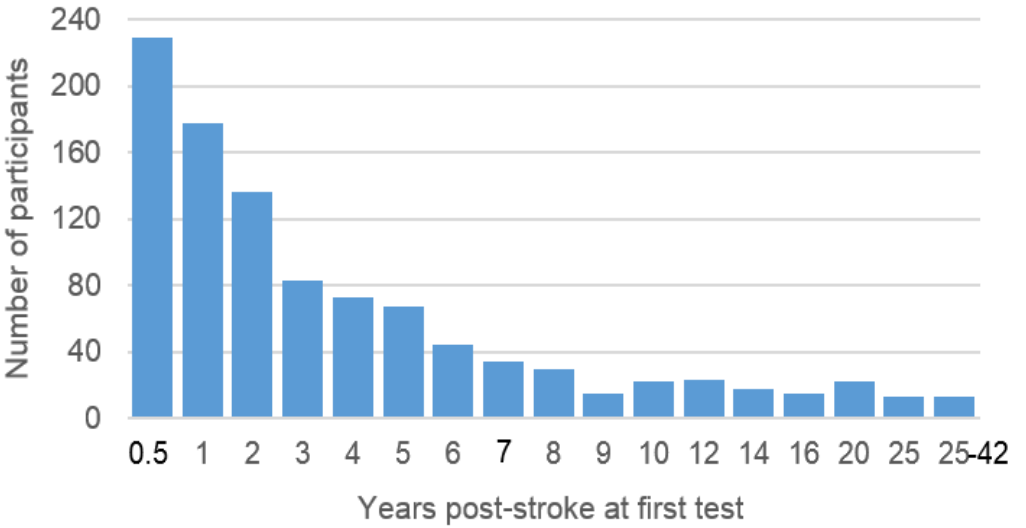
Research Update

Database snapshot

Speech and language skills at time of testing (1002 participants)

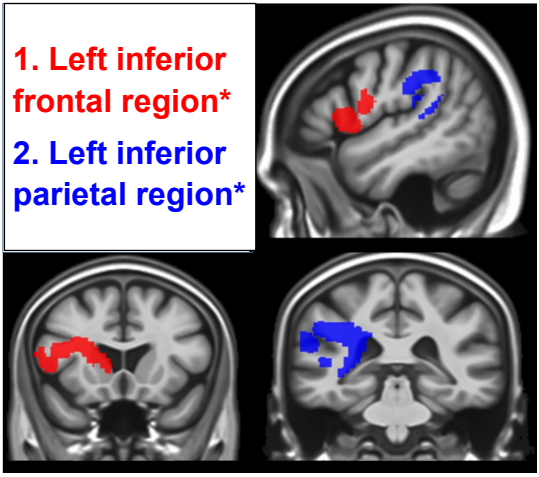


How long ago the participant had their stroke (1015 participants)



Identifying lesion sites

- We have identified **two new lesion sites** that predict speech ability after stroke.
- Damage to either of these regions typically impairs **inner speech** (the ability to hear the words in our heads).
- Inner speech is typically preserved when these regions are left intact.
- *Both regions extend deep into the under white matter.



Selected recent publications:

Hope TMH, Leff AP, Prejawa S, Bruce R, Haigh Z, Lim L, Ramsden S, Oberhuber M, Ludersdorfer P, Crinion J, Seghier ML, Price CJ. (2016). **Right hemisphere structural adaptation and changing language skills years after left hemisphere stroke.** *Brain* (in revision).

Lorca-Puls DL, Gajardo-Vidal A, Seghier ML, Leff AP, Sethi V, Prejawa S, Hope TMH, Devlin JT, Price CJ. (2016). **Using TMS to guide the identification of lesion sites that cause phonological impairments after stroke.** *Brain* (in revision).

Price CJ, Hope TM, Seghier ML. 2016. **Ten problems and solutions when predicting individual outcome from lesion site after stroke.** *Neuroimage.* (Available online 5 August 2016).

Seghier ML, Patel E, Prejawa S, Ramsden S, Selmer A, Lim L, Browne R, Rae J, Haigh Z, Ezekiel D, Hope TM, Leff AP, Price CJ. 2016. **The PLORAS Database: A data repository for Predicting Language Outcome and Recovery After Stroke.** *Neuroimage,* 124(B): 1208–1212.

Goodbye to: Zula Haigh

Zula is a **PLORAS researcher** and **speech and language therapist**.

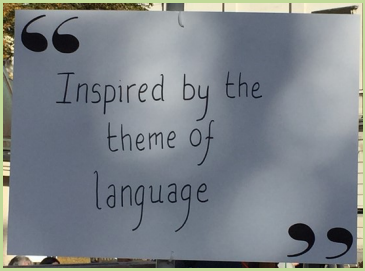
She has been in the team since **2012** but is leaving next year for a **family adventure** to **Australia.**

She has made an **incredible contribution** to the study.

A message from Zula:

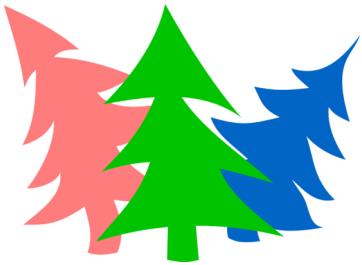
"It has been such a great **pleasure** and a **privilege** to work with so many **wonderful PLORAS participants** over the years. **Thank you!**"

Bloomsbury Festival



The festival brings together **arts, culture and science**. The theme this year was **language**. We were awarded a place to raise **awareness of aphasia**. Members of the public **played a game** which gave a glimpse of what it feels like to **lose your language**.

The public were also given information about PLORAS and introduced to one of our participants.



Finally…

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

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

From all the PLORAS Research Team

PLORAS Research Team

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@PLORASResearch

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