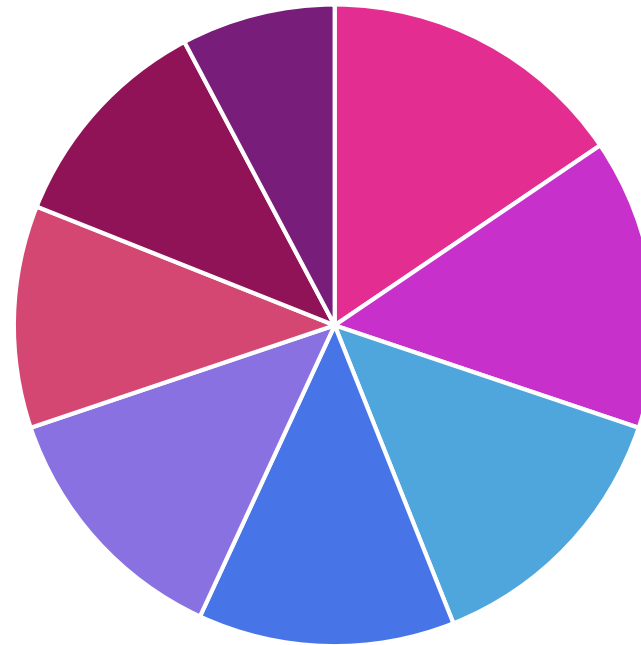# QARC Research Forum

QARC Research Forum - Objectives

- Enable a platform for increased collaborations between researchers and clinicians

- To provide a forum to discuss the latest research evidence with regards to aphasia management

- To obtain input from clinicians regarding QARC research projects

- To provide training and support on how to implement research findings into clinical practice

- To share and collaborate clinical skills and resources

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Clinician Survey – How can QARC support you?

What areas of aphasia management would you like to receive the most recent evidence about?

- Impairment Therapy 82%

- Acitivity / Participation Therapy 77%

- Computer Therapy 73%

- Clinical Resources 68%

- Service Delivery Models 68%

- Group Therapy 59%
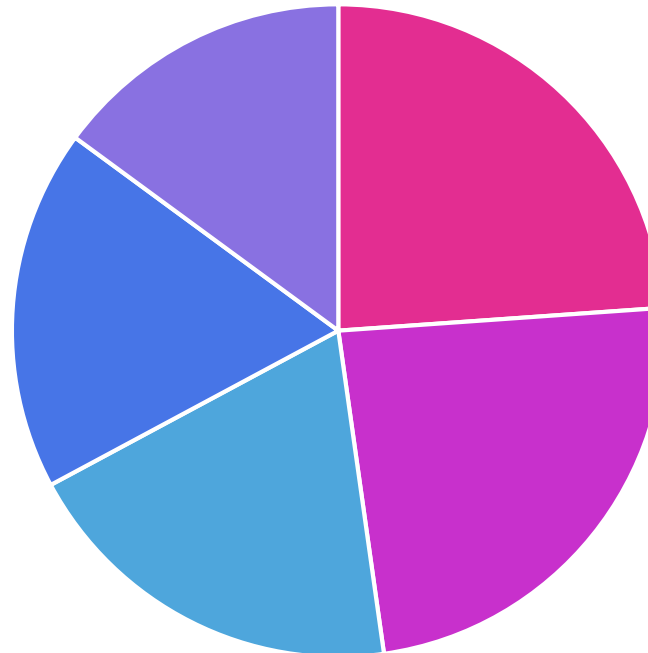
- Goal Setting 59%

- Assessment 41%

Other: advocacy / community support, Virtual reality

Clinician Survey

What forum would be most beneficial to receive information about current evidence?

■ QARC Research Presentation 73%

■ Podcast 73%

■ One page summary 59%

■ Online videos 55%

■ Problem Based Learning (PBL) 45%

Clinician Survey
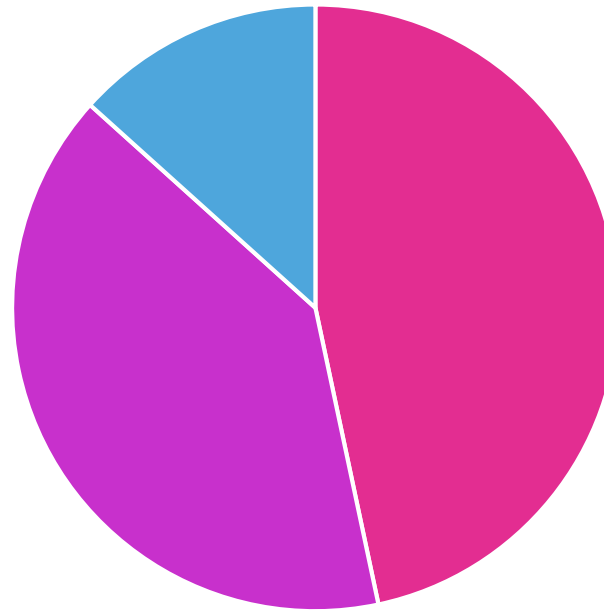
Which of the following is most important to you?

- Being able to access information at a time that suits my clinical caseload   68%
- Receiving advice from researchers on how to implement research findings   68%
- Receiving advice from other clinicians about the feasibility of implementing research findings   59%
- Being able to discuss research evidence in a group setting (e.g. QARC Research Forum)   55%
- Being able to report clinical service gaps that require research   41%
- Accessing assistance and advice to conduct research in your clinical setting   36%

Clinician Survey

What type of QARC social event would best suit you?

- Zoom catch up 64%

- Evening event that coincides with a PD event 55%
- At the time of the official QARC launch in Brisbane 18%

Summary of Findings

- Clinicians want the latest evidence for a range of topics, with a particular focus on treatment approaches

- Clinicians want to be able to access information through a variety of mediums at a time that suits them (e.g., face to face, zoom, podcast)

Outcomes

- Informing a QARC Community of Practice

  (e.g., Gauvreau, Le Dorze & Croteau, 2019)

RESEARCH ARTICLE   **Open Access**

Evaluation of a community of practice for speech-language pathologists in aphasia rehabilitation: a logic analysis

Christine Alary Gauvreau[1,3,4*] (iD), Guylaine Le Dorze[1,3], Dahlia Kairy[2,3] and Claire Croteau[1,3]

Abstract

Background: Aphasia is a communication disorder affecting participation. Although there are evidence-based practice recommendations about participation and aphasia rehabilitation, it may be challenging for speech-language pathologists to ensure that rehabilitation activities have an impact on the person's participation, in part due to time limitations. Participation remains limited after rehabilitation for persons who have aphasia. Communities of practice (CoPs) are a collaborative knowledge transfer strategy that can be used for evidence-based practice implementation. The aim of this study was to describe the components and evaluate a CoP for speech-language pathologists about participation and aphasia rehabilitation.

Methods: Logic analysis was used to determine the adequacy between resources, implemented activities, outputs and short-term outcomes of the CoP. Qualitative and quantitative descriptive data were collected through observation and participants' logbooks. Outputs and outcomes of the CoP were revealed through thematic analysis and interpretation of descriptive statistics.

Results: Resources including CoP design and educational aims, human and material resources were combined to create various web-based, online and offline activities. Participants invested more time per week than expected in the CoP, shared and created clinical tools and appreciated the array of suggested activities. Participant engagement allowed them to reflect, interact and collaborate with each other. All 13 participants reported they acquired knowledge about clinical tools and 12 mentioned they reflected on their practice. While the CoP was ongoing, six participants noticed evidence-practice gaps, seven prepared to change their practice, and three changed their practice towards including more participation-based considerations.

Conclusions: This study showed that speech-language pathologists can include more participation-based approaches in aphasia rehabilitation as a result of participating in a time-bound, web-based CoP.

Models of other forums

SPECS	**Psycholinguistics in practice SIG**
Dysphagia Quality Assurance Project (Concord)	**NSW EBP Adult language group**

What could the QARC COP look like?

- Quarterly QARC research forums
  - Concise presentations of latest research evidence (recorded and uploaded to the QARC website for those unable to attend)
  - Information re: Topics / presenters to be given in advance to enable clinicians to plan accordingly
  - Clinicians elect to bring a question (clinical or research) to the group to answer? OR highlighting clinical questions from online forum for discussion…?
- QARC Website
  - Summaries of key projects and latest research findings
  - Online videos and training resources – *podcasts?*
  - Therapy resources
- *Online forum for clinical questions / discussion (Email vs Website vs Google groups vs Facebook etc.).*
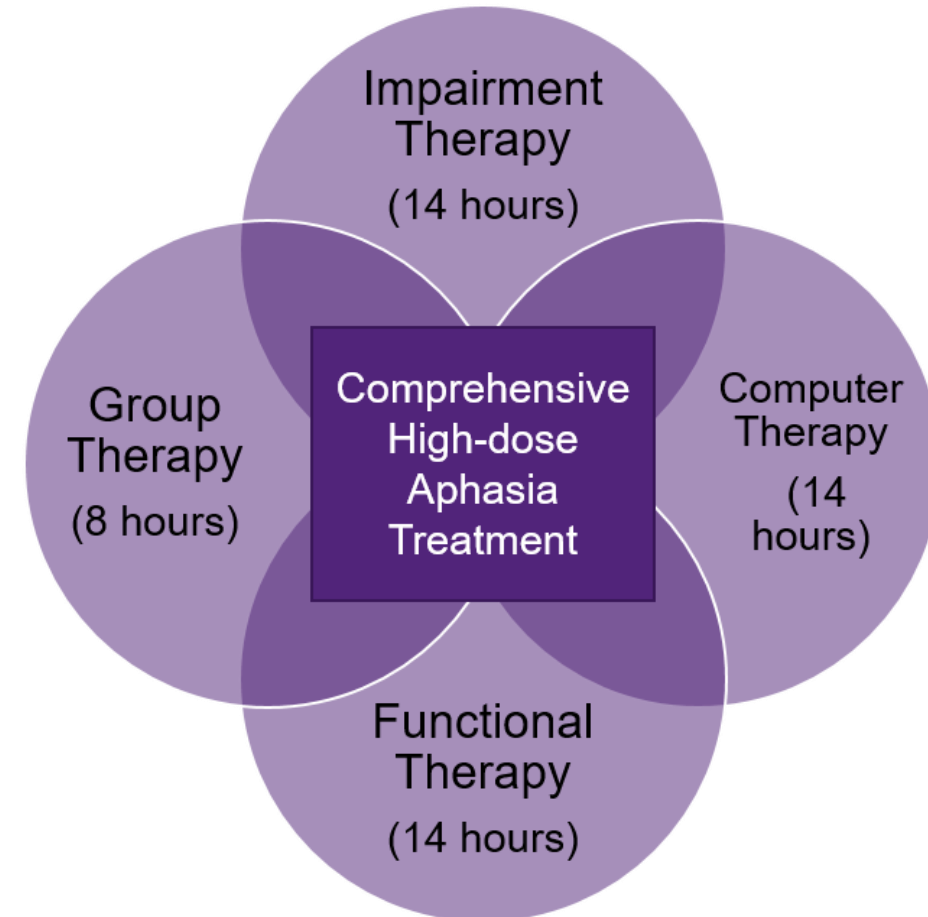- Social events and networking opportunities

Clinician input is welcome!

Comprehensive, High-dose Aphasia Treatment (CHAT)

Clinician & stakeholder feedback

Review of the evidence base for interventions

Review of current clinical practice

CHAT feasibility project

Aims:

To evaluate the process and outcomes of implementing CHAT in a clinical rehabilitation setting: Specifically,

- To evaluate the clinical efficacy of CHAT in a rehabilitation setting;

- To describe the contextual factors which influence treatment fidelity and clinician and patient participation in the intervention;

- to identify barriers and facilitators to implementation; and

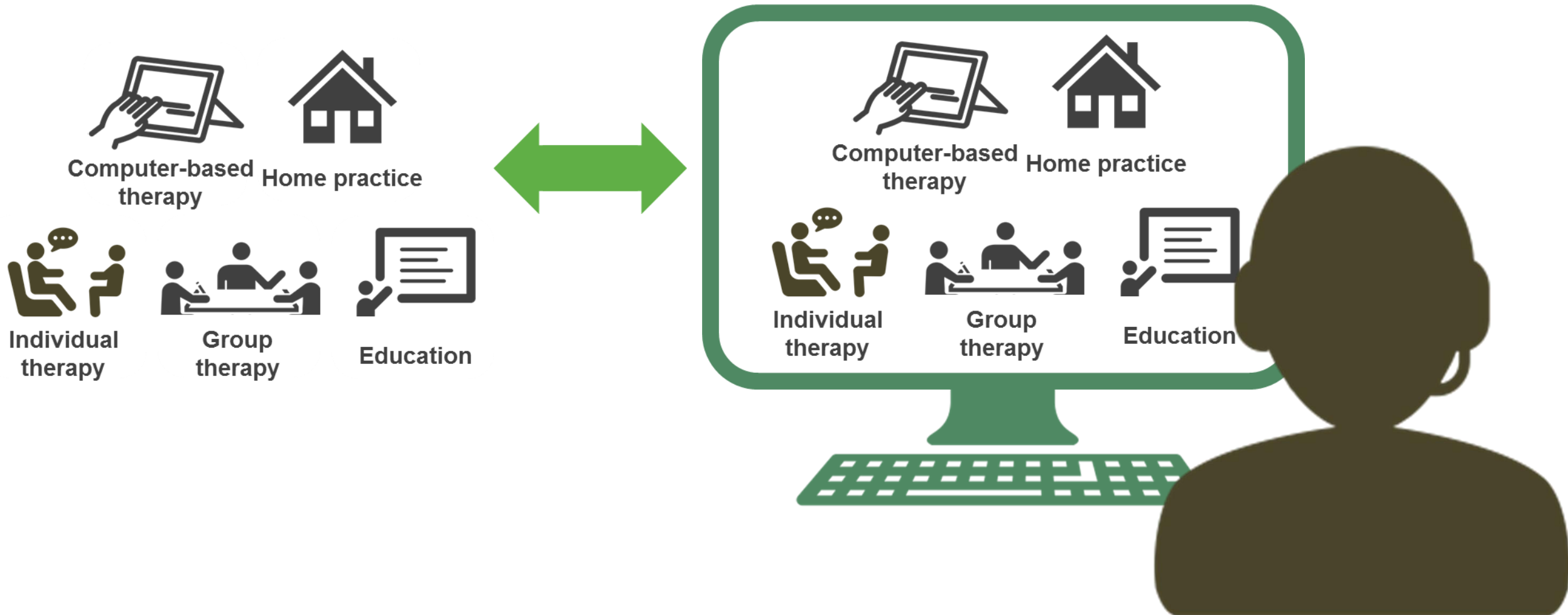- to provide a cost analysis for the intervention.

Scheduled to commence at RBWH-GARU in September 2020
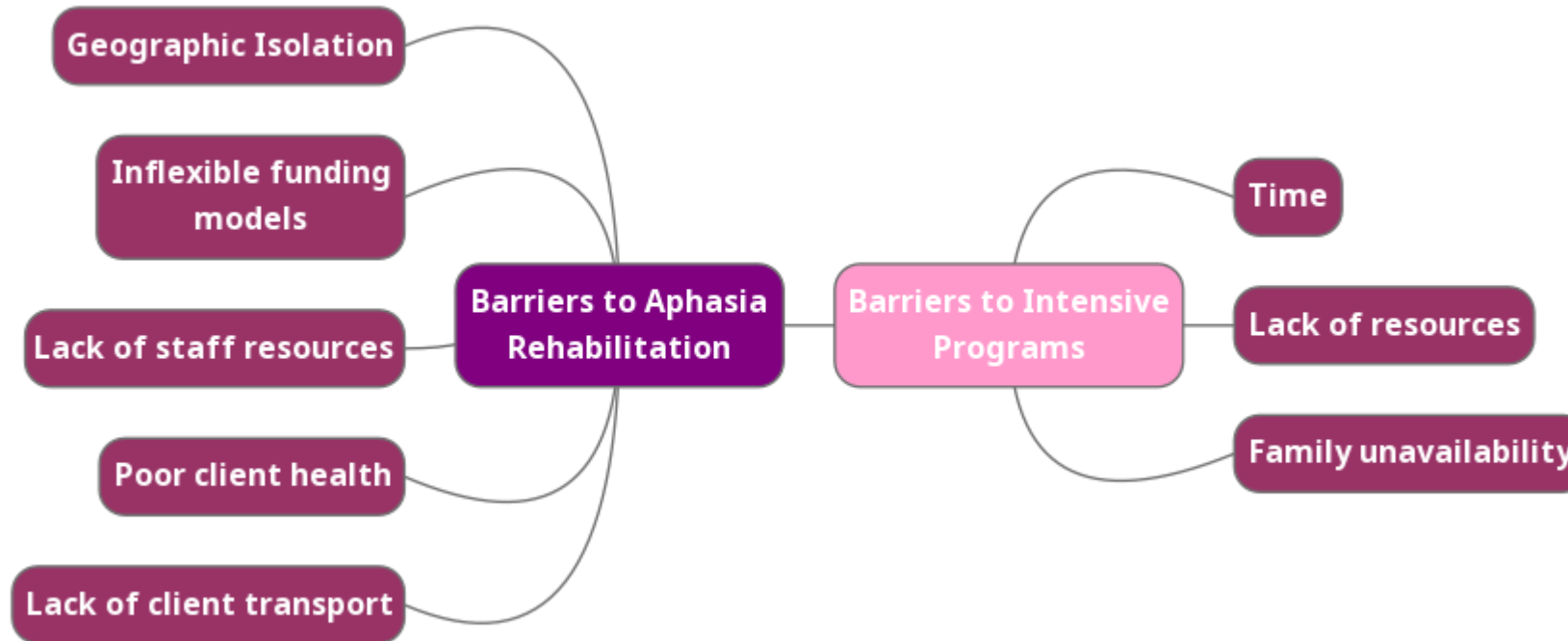
CHAT Implementation Study

- The CHAT program will be formally embedded within the Speech Pathology service provided through Surgical Treatment and Rehabilitation Service (STARS)

- Clinical implementation of CHAT will be supported by QARC

- Routine outcome measures will be collected to evaluate the clinical efficacy of CHAT

- Ongoing process evaluation of the implementation of CHAT will occur with clinician and stakeholder feedback

- Referrals from outside MNHHS welcome.

- **Referral process / procedures are still be finalised and will be updated through the QARC website and future QARC Research Forums and general communications (e.g. newsletter).**

Translating CHAT to Tele-CHAT

Why Tele-CHAT?

Telerehabilitation may be one potential solution

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Current Tele-CHAT study

Investigating the usability, feasibility, acceptability of delivering Tele-CHAT.

Using a human-centred design process (ISO, 2010)

1. Tasks analysis to inform a design for delivering TeleCHAT (Currently happening)

   a) Literature Review

   b) Translating therapy tasks so that they are suitable for use through telerehabilitation

Example Task Analysis Table for Semantic Feature Analysis

Therapy Activity	Stimuli	Therapy Preparation	Tech functionality	Tech Products needed	Clinician response	Tech functionality	Tech Products needed	Client response	Tech functionality	Tech Products needed
Semantic based tasks e.g. Semantic Feature analysis, Action naming	SFA template - e.g. in PDF worksheet	Clinician to modify templates - adding images and text to the templates	Formatting tools	Word/Powerpoint/ Adobe Reader	Verbal, Hearing and Gesture	Visual and Audio	Camera and Microphone	Verbal, Hearing and Gesture	Visual and Audio	Camera and Microphone
	Videos				Typing	Typing	Keyboard	Typing	Typing	Keyboard
	Pictures				Upload and share material	File upload and storage	Cloud/storage. Ability to upload into software		File upload and storage	Cloud/storage. Ability to upload into software
	Personal photographs				Indicate specific texts/images	Pointer	Curser	Indicate specific texts/images	Pointer	Curser
	Text					Annotate on screen	Digital whiteboard on VC software with screen sharing	Annotate e.g. circle, highlight, cross, tick, write	Annotate on screen	Digital whiteboard on VC software with screen sharing

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Current Tele-CHAT study

Investigating the usability, feasibility, acceptability of delivering Tele-CHAT.

2. TeleCHAT Trial to evaluate feasibility, usability, acceptability of TeleCHAT
- Face to Face training for clinicians and participants to use Telerehabilitation Technology
- Home visit for set up of technology, assessment and goal setting sessions
- 50 hours of therapy over 8 weeks using Telerehabilitation
- Happening from QARC Telerehabilitation Suites (within STARS)

Recruitment (still finalising referral pathways)
- Start early 2021
- Adults with post stroke aphasia (>1 month TPO)
- Recruiting from Metro North region and beyond

Note: Ethics soon to be submitted

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EOI - Call for Clinical Speech Pathologists

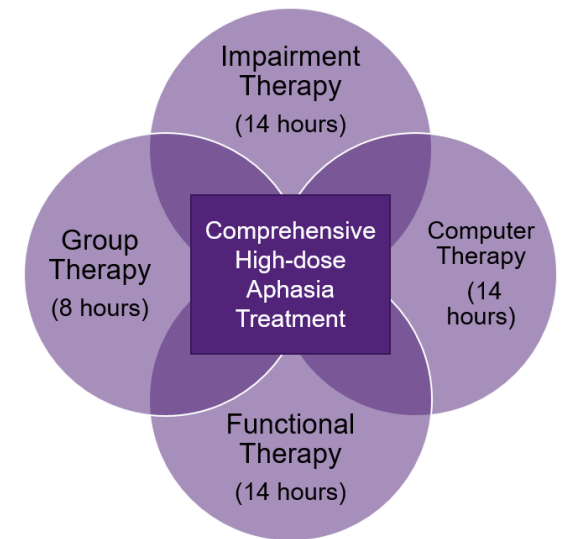Development of a **clinical steering committee** to inform the CHAT program

We are looking for speech pathologists

- Across the continuum of care (acute, in/outpatient rehab, day hospital, community)
- From geographically diverse locations (metropolitan, regional, rural, remote)
- With varying degrees of clinical experience (new graduates to >15years experience)

Requirements

- 1-2 hours via zoom
- Engage in discussion about current aphasia practice (e.g., assessments / resources used)
- Provide feedback on therapy options and plans / proposals for CHAT and CHAT structure

Email: j.dignam@uq.edu.au OR qarc@uq.edu.au

Impairment Therapy (14 hours)

Group Therapy (8 hours)

Comprehensive High-dose Aphasia Treatment

Computer Therapy (14 hours)

Functional Therapy (14 hours)

Thank you

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