A pilot-study into the effectiveness of therapeutic app SimpTell for speakers with aphasia

No registrations found.

Ethical review	Not applicable
Status	Recruiting
Health condition type	-
Study type	Interventional

Summary

ID

NL-OMON25274

Source
NTR

Brief title
SimpTell

Health condition

Aphasia

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Centre for Language Studies (CLS), Radboud University, Nijmegen (The Netherlands)
Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Centre for Language Studies (CLS), Radboud University, Nijmegen (The Netherlands)

Intervention

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

1) Quantitative measure of verbal effectiveness (Ruiter, Kolk, Rietveld, Dijkstra & Lotgering,

2011), based on experimentally adapted scenarios of the ANELT (Blomert, Koster & Kean, 1995) and Picture Description Task (2008)
2) Quantitative measure of verbal efficiency (Ruiter, Kolk, Rietveld, Dijkstra & Lotgering, 2011), based on experimentally adapted scenarios of the ANELT (Blomert, Koster & Kean, 1995) and Picture Description Task (2008)

Secondary outcome

1) Percentage of words produced in ellipses (WIE; Ruiter, Kolk, Rietveld & Feddema, 2013) in the ANELT and PDT [Administered at T1 and T2]
2) Percentage of grammatically well-formed sentences produced in the Sentence Order and Inflection Test (SOIT; Kok, Kolk,& Haverkort, 2006), to control for spontaneous recovery [Administered at T1 and T2]
3) Token Test (36-item version, De Renzi & Fraglioni, 1978) as a measure of overall severity of aphasia [Administered at T1]

Study description

Background summary

The aim of the pilot study is to examine the effectiveness of therapeutic application called SimpTell (Language in Interaction Consortium, 2018). SimpTell is an acronym for Semi-independent Interactive Multimodal Production Training of ELLipses (in Broca's aphasia). The app supports speech and language therapists (SLTs) in teaching Dutch speaking persons with chronic Broca's aphasia to produce reduced utterances (i.e., ellipses) to compensate for their sentence production difficulties. Ellipses resemble telegraphic style (e.g., Stroke last year. Speaking difficult. Producing short sentences only). The study thus seeks to answer the question whether SimpTell enables chronically agrammatic speakers of Dutch to use elliptical constructions more frequently and whether this brings about an increase in verbal functional communication.

Study objective

In chronically agrammatic speakers of Dutch, SimpTell leads to an enhancement of elliptical style which in turn improves verbal functional communication, specifically verbal efficiency.

Study design

two, with a time interval of 6 weeks

Intervention

According to a treatment protocol, SimpTell will the administered for a period of 6 weeks (30

hours in total) either as:
(1) blended care (parallel in-person speech and language therapy)
2) Teletherapy (no parallel in-person speech and language therapy)

Contacts

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Eligibility criteria

Inclusion criteria

- Age between 16 and 75 years old
- Unilateral left hemispheric stroke
- At least 6 months post-onset (chronic stage)
- Disordered sentence production (expressive agrammatism) due to aphasia. On the 6-point scale of the subtest Spontaneous Speech of the Dutch version of the Aachen Aphasia Test (AAT; Graetz, De Bleser, & Willmes, 1992), the syntactic structure of the participant's speech output should be rated as 1 (mostly one or two word utterances; almost no inflection forms or function words) or 2 (short, simple sentences, which are mostly syntactically incomplete; frequent absence of function words and inflected forms).
- Native speaker of Dutch
- Pre-morbidly right handed
- The participant should approve the proposed aim, which is promoting the overuse of ellipses (telegraphic style)

Exclusion criteria

- A history of previous stroke
- Aphasia caused by tumor or trauma
- Severe aphasia (unable to understand instructions or provide consent). This is

operationalised via score on either (1) the Dutch Comprehensive Aphasia Test (CAT-NL; Visch-Brink, Vandenborre, De Smet & Marien, 2014) OR (2) the Dutch version of the Aachen Aphasia Test (AAT; Graetz, De Bleser, & Willmes, 1992). (1) CAT-NL: Subtest 9 [Comprehension of spoken sentences]: a score of 18 (out of 32) or below, and Subtest 10 [Comprehension of written sentences]: a score of 14 (out of 32) or below. (2) AAT: Subtest TB 1&2 [Comprehension of spoken language]: a score of 33 (out of 60) or below, and Subtest TB 3&4 [Comprehension of written language]: a score of 30 (out of 60) or below,
- (Even with visual aid) profound visual perceptual disorders;
- (Even with hearing aid) profound hearing deficit;
- Psychiatric or neurological disorders (other than stroke)
- Severe apraxia of speech or severe dysarthria (criterion: more than 5% unintelligible speech output).

Study design

Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Parallel
Allocation:	Non controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	N/A , unknown

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	05-07-2019
Enrollment:	10
Type:	Anticipated

IPD sharing statement

Plan to share IPD: Undecided

Ethics review

Not applicable

Application type:	Not applicable

Study registrations

Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL7855
Other	Ethics Assessment Committee of the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies (EACH) , Radboud University, Nijmegen [This study was exempt from formal medical-ethical approval (number 2019-5507, CMO Radboudumc Nijmegen)]. : ETC-GW 2019-8305

Study results