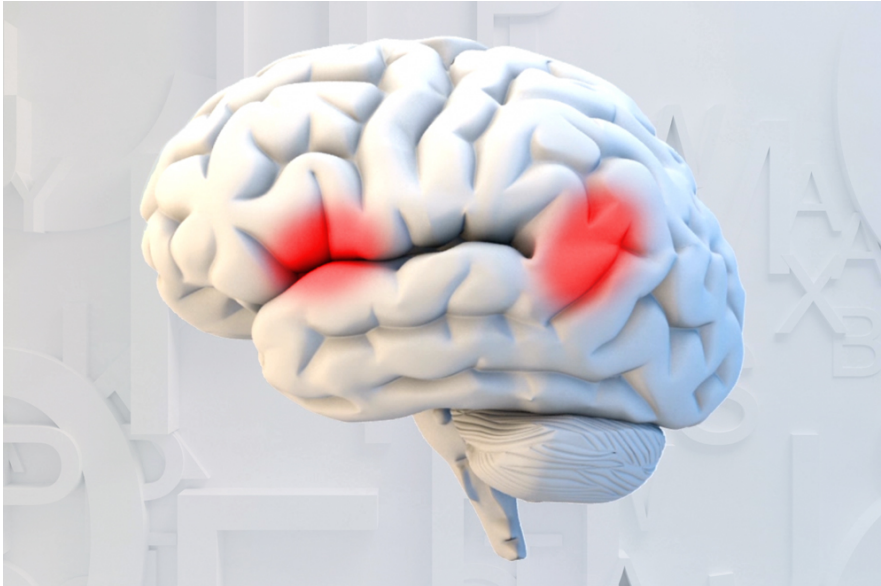




Aphasia



Overview

This is a problem with the areas of the brain that process language. With aphasia, you may have trouble making sense of what others are saying. And it may be hard for you to communicate clearly.

Causes

What causes aphasia? Often, it develops suddenly. And when it does, it's usually linked to some form of brain damage. In many cases, aphasia results from a stroke. It can also be caused by a traumatic head injury or an infection that happens in the brain.

Developing over time

Sometimes, aphasia develops over time. When this happens, it may be linked to a brain tumor. It could also be linked to a progressive brain disease. For example, you could develop aphasia because of Alzheimer's disease.

Symptoms

What are the symptoms? Well, there are different types of aphasia, and they affect you in different ways. Some people with aphasia speak in long, rambling sentences that don't make sense. They may make up words. And they may have a lot of trouble understanding what you say to them. Other people with aphasia can understand you very well. They know what they want to say, but they have trouble saying it. They speak in short sentences, and they leave out words. Trying to talk can be very frustrating for them. Other forms of the disorder have symptoms that are more or less severe.

Treatment

Treatment for aphasia depends on what caused it and what part of the brain is damaged. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.

