Purpose & Clinical Question

- Intensive language treatments incorporating the participation domain of the WHO-ICF are emerging.
- The intensive program, University of Delaware Aphasia Summer Intensive, aimed to address individualized language goals and encourage recreational participation for PWA.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) Internal Classification of Functioning, provide a framework for incorporating quality of life domains within clinical practice, including participation.
- “Participation” is defined as “involvement in life situations”
- Example: Are you restricted in talking to your friends?

Methods

- The study was approved by University of Delaware’s (UD) Institutional Review Board (IRB).
- Participants were recruited from ‘Brew Crew’ (UD aphasia support group) and the UD Speech-Language Hearing clinic.
- Of the 9 participants, 8 were included (5 female/4 male) in this study (one withdrawn due to attendance challenges), mean age 61.3 years, mean time post onset 21.4 months.
- Pre-testing: Pre-test sessions were completed approximately one month prior to the initiation of UDASI. Participants completed the CAT and CPIB.
- UDASI Intervention
  - Two-week intensive treatment program, three hours each day for two weeks (weekdays only) in July of 2018.
  - Each day of camp had a theme relating to a different conversational topic or context.
  - Each participant’s schedule consisted of 45 minute sessions, for a total of four individual treatment sessions and ten large group treatment sessions over the 2-week program.
- Post-Testing
  - Post-test sessions were completed on the last day of the program to determine if change in communicative participation was observed. Participants completed the CPIB.

Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Time Post Onset</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>NOMS Severity Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>42 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>14 mos</td>
<td>African American</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>30 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>3 mos</td>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>26 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>32 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>24 mos</td>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions & Discussion

- Both increasing and decreasing pre- to post-treatment scores were observed.
- Based on the literature:
  - Increased awareness, confidence and positive outlook may have influenced increasing post-program scores.
- Decreased post-program scores may have related to increased awareness of one’s deficits, chronic stage of aphasia, aphasia severity, or perceived communicative participation as participants transition back to everyday life.
- Results demonstrate the need for continued research regarding the efficacy of aphasia camp service delivery and perceived communicative participation.

Future Studies could further explore
- How individuals with aphasia perceive their communication abilities compared to others with aphasia.
- Increased confidence as a result of aphasia treatment.
- Using the CPIB to identify what specific communication environments/scenarios participants demonstrated increasing or decreasing scores.

References