

In the picture or behind glass? Describing facilitators, barriers and practices in people with aphasia accessing and participating in Museums and Art Galleries.

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Aphasia, Museums and Art Galleries



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People with aphasia have **fewer hobbies and interests** than people without disabilities.

Hobbies and interests may be **less enjoyable** or **harder to do**.

People with aphasia **visit museums and art galleries less** too.

This is **important**.

Visiting museums and art galleries can **help** people **enjoy life more**.

However **museums and art galleries** can be **complicated** places for **disabled people**.

Some **things are difficult** ('**barriers**') and some **things make visits easier** ('**facilitators**')

There is **very little research** about **aphasia, museums and art galleries**.

Public-Patient Involvement activity (March – July 2021)

Public-Patient Involvement activity is **not research**.

It was a way of us **finding out why** and **how to do research** in the **future**.

Who took part?

4 people with **stroke and aphasia**

- **All** had **visited museums and art galleries after stroke**, with **family and friends**
- The **person with severe aphasia** had **visited with stroke and aphasia groups too**

1 Speech and Language Therapist and 1 Speech and Language Therapy Assistant

- **Both** had supported **aphasia group visits** to museums and art galleries

2 Museum and Art Gallery staff

- **Both** had done lots of **work in Access teams**
- **1** had **worked with people with stroke and aphasia** in the past

What did they do?



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Everyone took part in **1:1 discussions with Jayne Lindsay**.

The discussions were by **Zoom or on the phone**.

There were questions about

- **What it is like** for people with aphasia in museums and galleries
- **Help** for **people with aphasia** and **people with communication disability**.

Everyone gave **ideas** and **practical advice** to help **design a future research project**.

For **2 people with aphasia**, there was a **1:1 visit** to a **museum or gallery with Jayne**.

The visits happened **once Covid-19 restrictions allowed**.

What happened?

Here is **some of what people told Jayne** in the calls.

Barriers



The **4 people with aphasia** described **61 barriers** in their visits with family and friends

- **Some** were **before getting to the museum or gallery**. E.g. **hard to read websites**
- **Some** were to do with being in a **noisy and crowded building**
- **Maps and signs** were sometimes **too complicated**
- The **staff didn't know how to communicate** with people with aphasia
- The **talks and tours are not suitable** for people with aphasia

3 people with aphasia went to **museums and galleries less** due to these problems.

These people were **sad about visiting less**.

The **Speech and Language Therapy** and **Museum and Art Gallery staff** said that **people working in museum and art galleries** often **don't know about aphasia**.

Facilitators



The **people with aphasia** also described **38 facilitators**.

- Some were to do with **resources**. E.g. **more seats for rests**, or **good audioguides**
- Some museums and art galleries had **clearer maps and signs**
- **Museum and gallery staff** were **willing to help**
- **Some staff slowed their speech** and **helped people find their way** around

The **Speech and Language Therapy staff** described **help** they gave **before and after aphasia group visits**.

The **Museum and Art Gallery staff** told of **changes made for other people with communication disability**. E.g. **quiet visits with more staff to explain and help**.

Project Design



Everyone gave ideas about how to do a research project about aphasia, museums and art galleries

- Comments on the **overall design**
- **Who to include** in the research
- **Practical advice** on doing **surveys**, as well as **questions to ask**
- Ideas about **how to do research inside museums and galleries**

The 1:1 visits

One person chose to **go to a museum** and **one person** chose an **art gallery**.

The **1:1 visits helped** Jayne and 2 of the people with aphasia

- **Look at barriers and facilitators** together
- **Discuss more about the design** of the research

The people with aphasia **found more barriers**.

Some barriers were to do with **how objects and art and words are displayed**.

Covid-19 had also **changed** how **museums and art galleries** worked.

Some of the **changes helped** the people with aphasia.

Fewer visitors made the rooms **quieter** and there were **no crowds**.

It was easier to **concentrate** on the **art, objects** and **conversations**.

What next?



Despite the **problems**, **people with aphasia** still want to visit museums and galleries.

The **ideas** and **practical advice** have **helped design** a large future research project.

What people said about **barriers and facilitators** will **help with survey** and **interview questions**.

This **new research project** has been **funded**. Jayne **starts** the research in **October 2021**.

Thank you to **all the people who took part** in this Public-Patient Involvement activity.

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