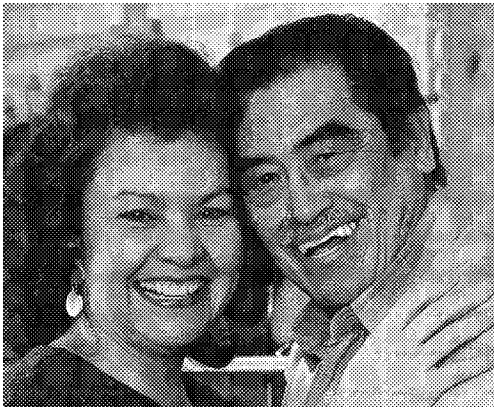


**Patients and their families
had the following experiences
after completing the
Intensive Aphasia program:**

*“My husband spoke to both his
sons after one of the
program sessions.
Both commented on his speech,
neither of them knowing of his
participation in the
Intensive Aphasia Program.”*

*“After going through the program,
my husband was able to manage
the receptionist’s questions and
registration at the doctor’s office!
Prior to the program,
I took care of those details.”*



***Speak Easy* Education and
Support Group**

A group for stroke survivors recovering from communication problems

North Memorial’s Stroke Center also offers *Speak Easy* Education and Support Group for survivors recovering from communications problems resulting from stroke.

Speak Easy meets weekly with persistence, empathy and joy – and combines ongoing speech therapy education in a comfortable setting. The agenda allows for socialization and communications skill practice. Activities vary from special educational speakers to celebrations of success.

The group meets on Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Stroke Center. Registration is \$120. Family and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend at no additional charge. Scholarships are available through the North Memorial Community Foundation.

Call the North Memorial Stroke Center at **(763) 520-5900** for the start date of the next 12-week group.

Intensive Aphasia Program

A Unique Speech Therapy Rehabilitation Program for Stroke Survivors



What is the Intensive Aphasia Program?

Medical research indicates intense therapy over a short amount of time can improve speech and language abilities for stroke patients with aphasia. Improvement is noted for patients who receive intense therapy even several years after their stroke occurrence.

North Memorial's Stroke Center offers this innovative outpatient program that includes many hours of intense therapy over the course of three weeks. The program is designed to help participants relearn old ways or develop new alternative ways of communicating. Patients participate in a combination of individual and group treatment sessions for approximately three hours per day, five days per week. The program is offered three times a year.

The Intensive Aphasia Program Overview:

The program starts out with a one-on-one comprehensive communication skill evaluation.

Each participant attends fifteen highly structured program sessions that meet weekdays for 3-1/2 hours each session. Sessions are individualized to each participant's needs and include:

- One hour of one-on-one therapy with a speech pathologist
- One hour of computer-based independent language skill building
- Thirty-minutes of structured social communication activities
- One hour of group therapy with speech pathologist(s)

Upon program completion, participants receive a one-on-one wrap-up communications skill evaluation. Patients complete the program with individualized recommendations and resource referrals to help promote continued results and achieved progress.

Is the Intensive Aphasia Program right for me?

The program is designed for people with communications problems as a direct result from a stroke. Generally, the following apply:

- Have had at least six months recovery time from their stroke occurrence
- Are generally healthy with good vision and hearing
- Are generally mobile and able to endure 3-1/2 hours of ongoing therapy five times a week
- Are committed to working hard to achieve personal results

Where is the program offered?

The program is offered at North Memorial Medical Center's Stroke Center, Robbinsdale, Minnesota – ten minutes west of downtown Minneapolis.

Accommodations are available through North Memorial's Guest House, as well as through area hotels – some of which offer our patients and their families discounted rates.

How do I apply for North Memorial's Intensive Aphasia Program?

Contact the Stroke Center at (763) 520-5900 for program cost, additional information or a program application. Please contact your health insurance representative to see if the cost or a portion of the program's costs can be covered.

