

Services for Primary Progressive Aphasia – Frequently Asked Questions

What is Dyscover?

Dyscover is a small independent charity, established in 1994.

Our core services are for people with aphasia caused by stroke, and are led or overseen by specialist Speech and Language Therapists.

In 2015 we established a separate service for people with Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA). This now runs one day a week and is led by Rosemary Townsend, Principal Speech and Language Therapist and PPA specialist.

Where is Dyscover – do you have a catchment area for referrals?

Our base is in Leatherhead, Surrey (KT22 0BN). We may see people here, or online, using Zoom. Our Leatherhead premises has free parking and is completely accessible.

We have no geographical catchment area and can accept referrals from the UK and overseas, provided people meet our referral criteria (see below)

Does Dyscover charge fees?

Yes, we charge a subsidised rate for our SLT interventions. Dyscover secures grants to meet the remainder of our costs.

We do not charge for telephone enquiries or triage calls.

Assessment, education and therapy sessions are charged at £50 an hour. Invoices are issued prior to the session. A cancellation fee may be charged for non attendance.

What does the PPA service offer?

Our service aims to provide information, advice and support to enable people with PPA to participate in everyday communication with friends and family, and to enjoy as much success as possible. This may include making changes to the environment, or to the way in which partners respond in conversation.

We may offer one off sessions, group meetings with families, or a series of therapy sessions.

Where appropriate, we may also offer the opportunity to meet others living with a similar type and severity of PPA, for mutual support.

What are your criteria for referral?

We accept referrals of people who have diagnosis of Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA)

PPA is a language – led dementia. The main symptom should be progressive loss of speech and language, with relatively preserved insight and memory.

Different terminology is sometimes used – contact us if you are unsure.

We work to maintain practical everyday communication, and so prefer to include a spouse or other family member in our support sessions and interventions.

Depending on location, we may offer in person support at Leatherhead, or online support, using zoom. Access to a device, and a good Wifi connection are a prerequisite for online support.

What happens after I am referred?

Receipt of referral will be acknowledged. One of our staff will contact you by phone or email to find out more about your communication problems and your current needs. If we feel you are suitable for our service, you will be offered an initial appointment with our specialist SLT. This may take place in person, in Leatherhead, or online. It will involve fact finding, assessment, and exploring how we may be able to help you.

How do I contact Dyscover?

All our staff work part-time. Our Leatherhead offices are open Monday to Friday. Outside of office hours you can leave a voicemail on **01737 819419**. You can email info@dyscover.org.uk