

**Submitting an abstract to the BAS Therapy Symposium
City University London
6th - 7th September 2012**

Aims of Symposium

The aim of the symposium is to provide a platform for in-depth discussion of therapy cases, to consider current themes in aphasia therapy and to share novel therapy ideas. We are inviting four types of submission:

In-depth presentations of clinical cases (30 minutes + 15 minutes discussion)
Symposia dealing with clinical themes (90 minutes)
Speed presentations of therapy ideas (5 minutes)
Poster presentations

Submissions

Organise your submission under the following headings:

Type of presentation

Title

Author(s)

Full contact details of presenting author (job title, affiliation, address, telephone, email, fax)

Abstract

Specific guidelines per presentation type are given below.

Clinical Case Presentations

Presentations can cover single case or group explorations of therapy. We welcome accounts of all types of therapy, e.g. focussing on language processing, communication activities, compensatory strategies and/or participation issues.

Presentations should cover: the background (such as relevant theoretical issues and the existing evidence base for the chosen therapy), an introduction to the client(s), a detailed account of the therapy methods, the outcome measures and results. Examples of the therapy tasks, materials and procedures should be presented, ideally with video or audio recordings from sessions.

Although no specific structure is required for the abstract, the background, aims, methodology, main results and conclusions/clinical implications should be clearly presented. Abstracts should be no more than 400 words.

Symposia

Symposia will comprise 3 or 4 presentations linked by a theme. The time allocation is 90 minutes, which can be used flexibly by organisers. Submissions are invited on any clinically relevant theme, e.g. relating to assessment, therapy methods and techniques, service delivery or outcome measurement.

Abstracts should provide:

- The name, affiliation and contact details of the organiser (who will chair the symposium)
- The names, affiliations and contact details of presenters
- An introduction to the theme and its clinical relevance
- A brief outline of each presentation

The total submission should be no more than 1000 words.

Speed Presentations

These will be 5 minute presentations of novel therapy ideas. Topics can include: therapy approaches, tasks, materials, technologies, facilitation strategies, and methods of engaging others in therapy. To ensure that talks stay within 5 minutes the number of slides will be limited and will be set to automatically advance. Examples of such 'lightning talks' can be viewed on the website of Therapy Ideas Live: <http://therapyideas.org/live>

Abstracts should be no more than 100 words, excluding the name, affiliation and contact details of the presenter.

Poster Presentations

Posters can present studies of aphasia therapy (group or single case), outline a therapy method, or address a clinically relevant theme. Poster reading/discussion session(s) will be timetabled, to ensure that due prominence is given to the poster presentations.

Poster abstracts should be no more than 400 words, including background, aims, methodology, main results and conclusions/clinical implications.

Mentor Support

Speakers have the option of using a 'mentor' (either self-chosen or identified by the organising committee) to support them in their preparation and on the day. Submissions should indicate whether this is requested.

Procedure for submitting & reviewing abstracts

Please submit your abstract electronically to www.city.ac.uk/bas-symposium
The closing date for submissions is 29th February 2012. All submissions will be reviewed by an academic panel, which includes members of the symposium organising team and local SLT clinicians. The review process will follow the guidelines below.

Platform submissions may be offered a poster presentation, e.g. because the programme cannot accommodate all submissions, or because the material is judged to be better suited to a poster. Submitters should indicate whether they are willing to present the material in poster form.

BAS Conference Support Fund

Speakers/poster presenters may apply to the BAS conference support fund to cover their registration fee.

Review Guidelines

- (1) **How well does the abstract meet the main objectives of BAS.** These are to
 - a. Encourage dissemination of knowledge of aphasia and its treatment amongst all disciplines concerned with aphasia;
 - b. Promote the application of a scientific approach to include qualitative as well as experimental methods to aphasia investigation and its rehabilitation;
 - c. Promote the interests of people with aphasia by broadening the knowledge and understanding of aphasia; and
 - d. Promote and draw upon the expertise of people with aphasia.

- (2) **The general quality, content and presentation of the abstract** in terms of
 - Sufficient new/original information
 - Potential to stimulate intellectual curiosity
 - Likely to generate in-depth discussion
 - Relevance of therapy, which is interesting and insightful
 - Ethical issues i.e. resources etc have not been wasted, nor has the study been of harm to the participant
 - High priority e.g. addresses current issues in aphasia
 - Clear significance e.g. to clinicians

Content

- Reflects linguistic, functional and psychosocial aspects of therapy, or other areas as indicated by the breadth of study in aphasiology
- Brings new ideas / new perspectives on old ideas
- Is theoretically motivated
- Reflects evidence based practice
- The aims, methodology and main results are clearly presented
- Uses appropriate methodology
- Statistical or other analysis is adequate and accurate
- Sufficient and adequate data to support the conclusions made from the study
- Critical evaluation of findings is evident

Presentation

- Clear title
- Easy to read, grammatically accurate and well written

- Submitted appropriately online/electronically

Reasons for rejecting abstracts

- Abstract does not meet the set criteria
- Previously published (although previously published case examples may also be used if there is a new and fresh approach)
- Promotional in nature (e.g. commercial interests)
- Data are too preliminary or partial - however, pilot studies *can* be included