Continuing Progress: New Aphasia Therapy Options

The intensive and individualized aphasia therapy model that established the University of Michigan Aphasia Program as a pioneer in aphasia treatment is now available to clients in Michigan — without leaving home. UMAP is inviting clients to connect and continue the work through a new virtual Intensive, Comprehensive Aphasia Program (ICAP). The program is currently limited to clients in Michigan, with the potential to expand to other states eventually.

What is included in the Virtual Intensive, Comprehensive Aphasia Program?
The online-optimized U-M Aphasia Program includes:

- Intensive and individualized approach, tailored to the individual.
- An initial assessment.
- Minimum of 15 therapy hours a week, consisting of:
  - 2 hours of group therapy.
  - 13 hours of individual therapy with a senior, licensed Speech Language Pathologist (SLP).
- Additional social interaction with others with aphasia and care partners in a private, online environment.
- A minimum of 2 weeks.
- Costs can vary, depending on number of sessions, but averages to about $2300 per week for all individual and group therapies. Financial assistance options are available.
- Includes care partner education and access to U-M Aphasia Program resources.

The Best of Both Worlds: Online Optimized with Intensity at its Core

The program was created to address the increasing need for remote therapy. After perfecting an intensive, individualized approach to aphasia therapy, U-M Aphasia Program clinicians have created a balance between the in-person experience and the virtual. We know that intensity is key, but that online delivery of therapy requires a modified approach. Clinicians work with clients to avoid the fatigue that can come with online treatment and adjust approaches for individuals with different needs.

The online U-M Aphasia Program ICAP is a great way of continuing with aphasia recovery from home. It can also be a supplemental support for clients who may be receiving regular speech therapy from their local SLP or speech center, but who have had to pause during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also offer individual teletherapy (outside the ICAP) for those who are looking for a less-intensive approach or who reside in different states (outside of Michigan).

Who can Participate and What is Required?
UMAP clinicians will work with clients to determine if the virtual environment is a good fit before starting the intensive program. A client needs access to an updated computer or tablet with a stable internet connection, a camera, speakers or headphones, and a microphone. A UMAP representative can help you get the appropriate (free) software and show you how to access your online sessions.

Ready to Get Started?
Call the U-M Aphasia Program at (734) 764-8440 to find out more about the virtual ICAP.