Predictors of Response to Semantic and Phonological Treatment for Aphasia

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Although studies have shown that aphasia therapy is successful, research regarding indicators of therapeutic success have not unanimously identified patient characteristics that predict who is likely to recover when provided a specific therapeutic approach. The ability to determine who is likely to recover, and from which treatment approach, may potentially increase the efficiency of assessment and personalized treatment planning for clinicians who treat people with aphasia. Accordingly, the POLAR (Predicting Outcomes of Language Rehabilitation) trial was initiated to investigate predictors of treatment recovery in a large sample of individuals (N=120) with chronic aphasia. Ultimately, the trial serves as an effort to improve clinical management of aphasia. This presentation will provide an overview of the POLAR trial and discuss preliminary analyses of biographical and cognitive-linguistic predictors of outcome obtained to-date. These analyses will focus on the effects of different treatment approaches, as well as long-term retention. Implications of these results will be discussed with regard to the aphasia treatment literature.

The online lecture can be followed online from your computer, tablet or smartphone, in Zoom. The zoom link is accessible via the C-STAR website: http://cstar.sc.edu/lecture-series/

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