

## Saturday

### **"Please don't assess him to destruction": introducing the R.A.I.S.E. Assessment framework to guide evaluation of people with PPA**

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#### **State of the Art**

Speech and language therapists/pathologists (SLT/Ps) provide assessment for people with primary progressive aphasia (PPA) to identify challenges and strengths, monitor change, and inform treatment using speech, language, communication, and well-being measurement tools. In this work, a framework for person-centered assessment was conceptualized, shifting the perspective on the purpose of assessment to being an ongoing relational process, integrated within a therapeutic approach. This framework is contextualized in current practices and provides practical SLT/P guidance.

#### **Methodology**

A narrative review process reflective of the Delphi consensus initiative was used to synthesize authentic SLT/P experiences of case studies of people with PPA to investigate approaches to assessment. In this context, informal and standardized assessment measures and approaches, the partnership between the client, SLT/Ps, and partners, and opportunities for advocacy were analyzed.

#### **Results**

The analysis culminated in the R.A.I.S.E. Assessment framework: prioritize the **R**elationship between client, SLT/P, and partners involved in care, establish the approach and assessment types to **A**ssessment, **I**nclude opportunities for feedback while remaining mindful of complexity, **S**upport and promote advocacy, and allow for assessment to **E**volve over time.

#### **Conclusion**

The R.A.I.S.E. Assessment framework provides a novel and guided approach to support clients and SLT/Ps throughout the longitudinal assessment process in the face of a progressive diagnosis by shifting the focus from revealing deficits to revealing competency. This conceptualization highlights the unique and essential role of the SLT/P and how assessment can be driven through partnership while keeping pace with best practice principles in PPA intervention.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

Not applicable.