**HKAST webinar 7 April 2022**

**Biography**

Dr Suzanne Beeke is an Associate Professor at University College London. She trained as a speech and language therapist and her research focuses on understanding the impact of language and communication disorders on the everyday conversations of adults with acquired neurological conditions. She leads the Better Conversations Lab (tinyurl.com/BetterConversationsLab) and is lead author of Better Conversations with Aphasia, a free online training resource and therapy programme available at <https://extendstore.ucl.ac.uk>

**Webinar title**

Better Conversations with Aphasia: Communication partner training for people with aphasia and their families

**Webinar abstract**

This webinar provides an overview of the Better Conversations approach to communication partner training for people with aphasia and their family communication partners for speech and language therapists who are new to this therapy approach. Participants will develop an understanding of how aphasia affects everyday conversations, and the principles of the Better Conversations approach to communication partner training. After this training, participants will be able to identify conversation barriers affecting people with aphasia and their family conversation partners, and offer techniques to reduce these barriers.

**Handout for use during the webinar**

You will use the handout called ‘Better conversations – facilitators and barriers proforma’ during the webinar. Have it ready to record your observations.

**Before the webinar - optional**

You might like to register for our BCA online resource by setting up an account with your email address and password. You can do this by clicking the blue ‘select – free’ button on this page:

<https://extendstore.ucl.ac.uk/product?catalog=UCLXBCA>

Once you have registered, you might like to complete *Module 2.4 What is conversation like when you have aphasia?* Here is the direct link to this module (you will need to login to your BCA account to access this):

<https://extend.ucl.ac.uk/mod/scorm/view.php?id=59566>

**Resources**

This open access paper presents a therapy case study using Better Conversations with Aphasia:

Beeke S., Johnson F., Beckley F., Heilemann C., Edwards S., Maxim J., & Best W. (2014) Enabling better conversations between a man with aphasia and his conversation partner: Incorporating writing into turn taking. *Research on Language and Social Interaction*, 47:3, 292-305. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08351813.2014.925667>