



THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF SPEECH THERAPISTS

香港言語治療師協會

原發性漸進性失語症

Primary Progressive Aphasia





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WHAT IS PRIMARY PROGRESSIVE APHASIA (PPA)?



- A rare neurological condition that gradually affects a person's ability to communicate
- Individuals may struggle to express their thoughts, understand language, or find the right words
- PPA occurs in individuals with frontotemporal dementia, a rare type of dementia that typically affects people at a relatively younger age, usually between 50 and 60.

COMMON SYMPTOMS



- Difficulty finding words or naming objects
- Struggling to understand conversations
- Trouble reading or writing
- Speech becoming slow or hesitant
- Loss of ability to speak or comprehend language over time





KEY FACTS



- Progressive Condition: Symptoms develop gradually, often before age 65, and worsen over time
- Affects Communication: difficulty speaking, writing, reading, or understanding spoken language
- Unlike Stroke: PPA progresses slowly and primarily affects language abilities before impacting other cognitive functions
- PPA features are language-specific.
 Chinese speakers show different speech and language deficits compared to English speakers.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



- Be patient and give extra time for communication
- Use alternative ways to communicate, such as gestures, writing, or pictures
- Raise awareness and support research efforts to help those affected

Early diagnosis and speech therapy can help slow progression and improve quality of life!





Spread the Word. Support Those Affected. Raise Awareness!



