

the ACT NoW study

Assessing the effectiveness of
Communication Therapy in the
North West

information for you and your family



the ACT NoW study

you are being asked to take part in a **study**

what is the study about?

the study compares 2 different ways to **help** people with **communication problems** after they have had a **stroke**

one way is to see a **speech and language therapist**

the other is to see an **ACT NoW** visitor

we want to find out **which is better**

why me?



you had a **stroke** and have difficulty with communication

we want to include **170 people** from the North West

who is doing the study?

the University of Manchester is **organising** the study



it is being done in your local health service



with help from

- experts in stroke
- experts in research

why is the study happening?

the **government** want us to find out the best way to **help** people who have had a **stroke** in the future

the **government** is **paying** for this study

will I see a speech and language therapist or a visitor?

who you will see will be decided by **chance**



half the people will see a speech and language therapist

half the people will see an ACT NoW Visitor



we do not know which will be better for you

what will they do?

a speech and language **therapist** will try to help your communication

or

a **visitor** offers one to one time and company

where will they see me?

the speech and language therapist

or

visitor

will come to see you at home or in hospital

it will take about 6 months

6 months



in the **first 4 months** you will see

a speech and language **therapist**

or

a **visitor**

up to **3 times** a week for up to **1 hour** at a time

after the first 4 months

you will have a **break from support** for 2 months

then an interviewer from the University will visit you and your family



what will the interviewer do when they visit?



they will make a video of you to see how your **communication** is at that time



they will also ask **you** and your **family** or **carer** about your communication

do I have to take part?

- **no** - taking part is **voluntary**

volunteer

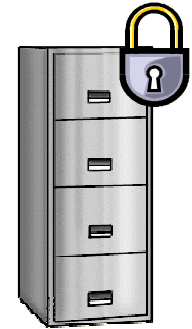


- you **must not** feel as though you have to take part

- you can **stop** at any time



will my information be public?



- no - all your information is **private**
- only **staff** from the study will see your **video**.
They will not know who you are
- your **doctor** will be told that you are involved in the study



what are the good things about taking part?

- you will get **4 months** of support

a speech and language therapist

or

a visitor

4 months



- we hope this **support** will **help** you but we cannot promise it will
- we hope this study will **improve treatment** for people who have had a **stroke** in the future

what are the bad things about taking part?

- it might be **tiring** for you

tired



- we **do not know** if speech and language therapy or a visitor is better for you
- it may **not be convenient** for some people

what happens if I do not take part?

- you will get the usual **NHS** speech and language therapy for your area



what happens when the study stops?

- your part in the study stops after **6 months**
- you will then be under the care of your local **NHS** service

6 months



who will be told about the results of the study?

- **you** and your **family**



- speech and language therapists

- the **government** and the **NHS**

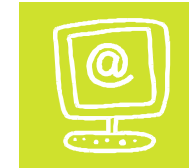


this will be done by

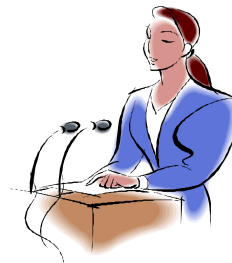
- regular **newsletters**



- a **website** has been set up for the study



- **conferences**



- **scientific reports**



what happens now?

- you will be **asked** if you want to take part in the study



yes / no ?

- if you do, you will be asked to **sign** a form. your family can help you sign



any questions?

the **interviewer** is happy to answer any **questions** you or your family may have about the study

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thank you

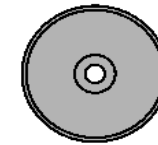
for reading this booklet

you can also have this information using **less words** and more **pictures**

or as a **video**



or **DVD**



or an **audio tape**



ask the **interviewer** if you would like one of **these**