



Dear Stroke Survivor,

Thank you for your interest in participating in our research study "*Neural mechanisms and recovery of language production deficits in aphasia*". This study, led by Nina F. Dronkers, Ph.D., and Maria V. Ivanova, Ph.D., investigates the neural mechanisms of language recovery after stroke. The project is supported by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders and is conducted at the Department of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley.

You qualify to take part in this project if you are older than 18 and have had a single, left hemisphere stroke that has led to speech or language deficits. The purpose of this study is to learn about the brain structures involved in language and cognition and to better understand language deficits caused by brain injury.

If you decide to participate, we will work with you over the course of one year. We will be testing your language and, if you are eligible, can do an MRI scan of your brain 2 to 3 times to understand more about what happened to you and how your language is recovering. Each testing session will last approximately 1 to 3 hours and could be completed over the course of several days. We will schedule the testing at your convenience. The testing can be done either on campus of the University of California, Berkeley, or at your home. During these sessions, we will ask you to do the following things: listen to or look at pictures or words in a booklet, make decisions about each item, and respond by writing a response or speaking aloud. Additionally, some of the language testing sessions can be done remotely through videoconferencing. At the same points in time, we would like to do an MRI scan of your brain, which should take about 1 hour. The scanning will take place at the University of California, Berkeley. You will be compensated for your time (at the rate of \$25 per hour) and transportation costs.

We emphasize that taking part in this research is completely voluntary and that there are no direct treatment benefits to participation. You can stop participating at any time. If you choose not to take part in this study, you will not be penalized or lose any benefits to which you are entitled. Your decision to participate in the study or not will not have any impact on the quality of the medical care you receive.

Once again, we greatly appreciate that you are considering devoting your time to help us better understand how individuals regain their language skills after stroke. Your participation will help us to determine better prognoses for future stroke survivors and select more optimal treatment options. People like you make a great contribution to improvements in stroke care.

If you would like to find out more about the study or are interested in participating, please contact us at:

Nina F. Dronkers, Ph.D. or Maria V. Ivanova, Ph.D. at 510-846-8905.

You can also send your inquiries to dronkers@berkeley.edu.

Prior to enrollment you will first be screened through a telephone interview.

We very much look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Nina F. Dronkers, Ph.D., and Maria V. Ivanova, Ph.D.

Department of Psychology

University of California, Berkeley.