



In the United States and worldwide, brain damage due to stroke, traumatic brain injury (TBI), progressive neurological disease, and other etiologies is extremely common. Each year in the United States, approximately 1.7 million individuals will suffer a TBI (Faul, Xu, Wald, & Coronado, 2010); over 66,000 will be diagnosed with a brain tumor (American Brain Tumor Association, 2012); 795,000 will have a stroke (Roger et al., 2011); and well over 6 million are living with a progressive disorder such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, or multiple sclerosis (e.g., Alzheimer's Association, 2012; Wright Willis, Evanoff, Lian, Criswel, & Racette, 2010). Neurogenic language and cognitive disorders are common consequences of these forms of brain damage and disease.

The purpose of this book is to provide a thorough review of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders for speech-language pathology students, clinicians, and researchers, as well as those in related health-care disciplines (such as occupational therapy, neuropsychology, physiatry, and nursing), who provide services to the above patient populations. Several features of this book, in terms of both content and organization, make it a valuable resource, regardless of the reader's degree of experience with neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. First, a number of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders are systematically described, including aphasia and cognitive-communicative disorders associated with right hemisphere brain damage, TBI, and dementing diseases such as frontotemporal lobar degeneration and Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease. Second, traditional descriptions of neurogenic language disorders are expanded upon by discussing both the linguistic and cognitive bases of these disorders, and by including a thorough review of cognitive assessment and treatment approaches. Third, both theoretical and applied clinical issues are highlighted throughout the book, with a special emphasis on the World Health Organization's (WHO, 2001) International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) as a guiding framework for understanding and managing neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. Fourth, our description of treatment procedures includes evidence-based reviews of not only more traditional behavioral protocols (e.g., melodic intonation therapy; spaced retrieval), but also pharmacotherapy and alternative therapies (e.g., relaxation therapy) for neurogenic language and/or cognitive disorders. Accordingly, this book will serve not only as a comprehensive textbook for university courses that must cover a range of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders, but also as an up-to-date reference for both researchers and clinicians looking to expand their knowledge base.

On an editorial note, readers will note that throughout the book we use the term “patients” to refer to individuals who have been diagnosed with a neurogenic language or cognitive disorder. We acknowledge that there is a move in both research and clinical practice to replace terms that denote impairment with more neutral language (e.g., using “individuals” or “adults” instead of “patients”); however, in those sections of the book in which discussions focus on both patients and caregivers, the text became too cumbersome and confusing when trying to use neutral terminology for all individuals being discussed. Therefore, for clarity purposes, we elected to use the term “patients.”

## Organization of This Text

Several frameworks have been adopted to organize the material in this book. First, the ICF classification system is used to highlight the importance of addressing neurogenic language and cognitive disorders in terms of not only linguistic and cognitive symptoms (i.e., ICF levels of body structure and function) but also the effects of these symptoms on patients’ daily personal, social, education, and/or vocational endeavors. Likewise, the ICF system acknowledges the influence of contextual factors (e.g., supportive vs. deleterious environmental variables) on the severity of and recovery from neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. Second, a language-processing model is followed to organize and allow in-depth descriptions of procedures for assessing and treating linguistic aspects of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. Lastly, because neurogenic disorders commonly cause both linguistic and cognitive symptoms, rather than discussing assessment and treatment with respect to separate neurogenic language or cognitive disorders (e.g., aphasia, dementia), we separated management approaches in terms of those appropriate for addressing linguistic problems and those appropriate for addressing cognitive problems.

The first three chapters of this book review constructs and conditions essential to managing neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. In Chapter 1, constructs pertaining to the book’s organizational frameworks (e.g., the ICF classification system) are introduced and explained. In Chapters 2 and 3, impairments and activity limitations associated with neurogenic language and cognitive disorders, including those associated with aphasia, right hemisphere brain damage, TBI, or dementia, and common etiologies of these are described.

The next five chapters pertain to diagnostic issues. First, Chapter 4 provides an overview of the assessment process, then Chapters 5 through 8 review procedures for identifying complicating conditions and for evaluating the linguistic symptoms; cognitive abilities; and daily communication activity, participation, and quality of life of patients with neurogenic language and cognitive disorders.

The next four chapters offer a discussion of treating neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. Management strategies targeting underlying impairments in linguistic and cognitive processing are explored in Chapters 9 and 10, respectively, and pharma-

colological treatment approaches are summarized in Chapter 11. These chapters are followed by a consideration of procedures suitable for targeting activity and participation restrictions, in Chapter 12.

Finally, in recognition that managing neurogenic language and cognitive disorders does not take place in a vacuum but rather takes place within the larger health-care culture and under certain policies, Chapter 13 provides an overview of the U.S. health-care system, exploring the influences of legislative and economic variables on the assessment and treatment of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders. Chapter 13 concludes with an exploration of how the management of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders may evolve in the coming decades.

## Features

Within each chapter, the reader will find a number of special features. These features were designed to augment the reader's experience and to help the reader successfully navigate the content. Special features include:

- *Learning Objectives*: Each chapter begins with a carefully constructed list of its main concepts. These can be used as a framework for what to expect, as well as a review and study aid.
- *Key Terms*: Also setting the tone for each chapter is a list of its key terms. Definitions for each of these terms can be found in the Glossary. Readers can scan the terms as an orientation to the chapter's terminology, as well as use them as review and study aids.
- *Video Samples*: Callouts to video clips, as well as samples of patients' writing, are included in most chapters. These samples illustrate a number of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders, as well as assessment and treatment procedures reviewed throughout the book.
- *Sidebars*: Sidebars are included throughout to place information in the real-life context of clinical practice. Directly related to the chapter, sidebars provide models for applying the theoretical concepts in clinical settings with clients.
- *Summaries*: Each chapter concludes with a summary that pulls everything together and provides solid footing for moving on to subsequent chapters.
- *Discussion Questions*: For each chapter, discussion questions have been provided. Such questions may serve to promote readers' application of the material reviewed in each chapter, as well as to assist instructors in leading class discussions pertaining to the book's content.
- *Comprehensive References*: The book provides a highly comprehensive, up-to-date, relevant list of references for readers looking for further information on the topics covered.

Given the prevalence of neurogenic language and cognitive disorders, there is an ongoing need to identify effective and efficient means by which to manage them. By reviewing the current literature and highlighting areas in need of additional investigation, it is our hope that this book will spur further theoretical and clinical interest in understanding, assessing, and treating neurogenic language and cognitive disorders, and thus in turn will result in improved outcomes for those patients and caregivers directly affected by neurogenic language and cognitive disorders.