

## What is it?

Acquired brain injury is any damage to the brain that happens after birth. It can be caused by accidents or trauma, stroke, brain infections, brain tumours, or even some neurological conditions such as Parkinson's Disease. Individuals with a brain injury can present very differently in a clinical setting. The types of communication difficulties resulting from a brain injury will depend on which part of the brain has been affected. Brain injury can affect speaking, clarity of speech, communication as well as the thinking processes that affect communication, or our emotions and thoughts.

## What ChatAbout can do:

Speech Pathology intervention can work to support a person with an acquired or traumatic brain injury to achieve their highest level of independent communication function. This is vital for increased participation and satisfaction in their day to day lives. Therapy is tailor made for your communication needs and involves your loved ones around you.

Speech Pathologists can help to support people with acquired brain injury by:

- Finding out about your strengths and challenges.
- A restorative approach, where direct therapy is aimed at retraining the brain, and relearning skills to increase language and communicative functionality so you can aim to get back to everyday activities like socialising, leisure or work.
- Utilising and finding compensatory strategies which help you work around the challenges, learn new skills and methods to best get your message across or understood.
- Helping your family and friends communicate with you in the best way possible.
- Giving you information to feel empowered and better understood.



