

Experience of living a Broca's aphasia period: a Scoping Review

Ana Frade¹

 orcid.org/0000-0002-0590-4290

Vanda Marques Pinto²

 orcid.org/0000-0001-7047-1498

Luísa d'Espinney³

 orcid.org/0000-0002-9018-0134

¹Doutoranda em Enfermagem pela Universidade de Lisboa & Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa; Mestre em Enfermagem; Professora Assistente Convidada; Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa; Centro de Investigação, Inovação e Desenvolvimento em Enfermagem de Lisboa (CIDNUR) da Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa, Avenida Professor Egas Moniz s/n, 1600-190 Lisboa, Portugal.

²Doutora em Enfermagem; Professora Coordenadora; Departamento de Enfermagem de Reabilitação; Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa; Centro de Investigação, Inovação e Desenvolvimento em Enfermagem de Lisboa (CIDNUR) da Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa, Avenida Professor Egas Moniz s/n, 1600-190 Lisboa, Portugal.

³Doutora em Ciências da Educação; Professora Coordenadora; Departamento de Enfermagem de Saúde Mental e Psiquiátrica; Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Lisboa, Avenida Professor Egas Moniz s/n, 1600-190 Lisboa, Portugal.

Abstract

Introduction

Broca's aphasia, non-fluent aphasia, encompasses articulation disorders, paraphasia, agrammatism, anomie, and discrete language comprehension disorders.¹ It is a frustrating condition with extensive psychological, familial, and social impact.² The reports of people who have already recovered or can express themselves are essential to understanding and increasing knowledge about the experience of living with Broca's aphasia,³ what promotes a better adjustment and optimization of the care.. *Living with Aphasia: a framework for Outcome Measurement (A-FROM)*⁴ is a framework that allows organize thinking about the impact of living with aphasia and includes four key domains: *Communication and language environment; Language and related impairments; Personal identity, attitudes and feelings, and Participation in life situations*.⁴ Nursing intervention is central to optimizing recovery and positively influencing the experience of successfully living with this clinical condition.⁵

Objectives

To map and identify the scientific evidence about the experience of people who lived through a period of Broca's aphasia, according to their perspective.

Method

A Scoping Review was performed following the Joanna Briggs Institute methodology. The review was based on the research question "How does the person report the experience of having lived through a period of Broca's aphasia?", formulated according to the PCC strategy: P=Population (adults who experienced Broca's aphasia); C=Concept (report of Broca's aphasia experience); C=Context (ambulatory and hospital). The search was carried out in the electronic databases MEDLINE®, CINAHL®, *Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection*, and *Scopus* in April 2020. The selection of articles was performed based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria. Primary studies, theoretical articles, literature reviews, and reports about Broca's aphasia experiences in English, Spanish and Portuguese, were included, with no time limit. The review followed the PRISMA-ScR EQUATOR checklist.

Results and Discussion

15 articles published between 1961 and 2020 were included. Data obtained on Broca's aphasia experience were grouped according to the key domains of the A-FROM tool⁴. Information related to *Personal identity, attitudes and feelings*, and *Participation in life situations* were the most cited in the literature, followed by *Language and related impairments and Communication and language environment*.

Conclusions and implications for knowledge development

This review highlighted the influence that health professionals, therapeutic interventions, spirituality, hope, context, interactions, and psychosocial factors have on experiencing this clinical condition. It is essential to continue investigating how people report the experience of having lived through a period of Broca's aphasia to improve the quality of care provided to people with this clinical condition and consequently optimize their well-being and quality of life.

Corresponding Author:

Ana Frade

E-mail: ana.ines.frade@escl.pt



Keywords

Aphasia, Broca; Communication; Language Disorders; Life Change Events; Nursing; Review Literature as Topic.

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