

# Supported Conversation for Adults with Aphasia (SCA™)

Celebrating changes in unit culture through the Toronto Stroke Networks (TSN) Initiative

In this issue, programs highlight how they use SCA™ techniques to support staff and encourage more inclusive communication. SCA™ education and resources support practice and the development of an aphasia-friendly unit culture so that patients with aphasia feel respected, understood, and engaged.

## Neurology residents are now receiving SCA™ education

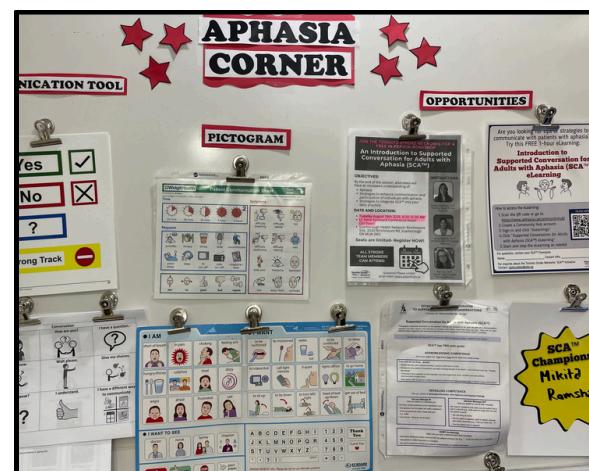
Keith Sivakumar (Neurologist) recently incorporated SCA™ into resident orientation:

- **12 Neurology Residents** received education at the Neuro Bootcamp in June 2025.
- Neurology residents completing their rotation at Toronto Western Hospital **are now asked to complete the the Aphasia Institute's 1-hour SCA™**.

## Resource and education sharing at Scarborough Health Network-Birchmount Site

This team has been working hard to reinforce SCA™ use on their stroke unit.

- Aanjana Piratheeparatnam (SLP) recently presented to unit staff on "**Wernicke's vs. Global Aphasia in Stroke Rehab**"
- Ramsha Babar (SLP), Heather Taylor (SLP), Mikita Patel (CPL), Ramindia Bastiampillai (Best Practice Coordinator) and Jemini Abraham (Manager) **established an "Aphasia Corner"** with tools and resources (See right).



## Training Milestone at Toronto Western Hospital (TWH)

As an SCA™ trainer, Scotia McKinlay (Stroke Outreach SLP) trained a **milestone number of interdisciplinary team members** (e.g. Allied Health, Nursing, Physician) from TWH's Neurovascular Unit and the Stroke Prevention Clinic over the last year, with plans to train even more!

Over 67 Staff trained at TWH!



Thank you to all SCA™ Champions and participants in the SCA™ Initiative to date! Your efforts and hard work have significantly contributed to making units aphasia-friendly!



For inquires about the Toronto Stroke Networks' SCA™ Initiative, program highlights or to be featured in an upcoming newsletter, contact: [jaclyn.gilpin@uhn.ca](mailto:jaclyn.gilpin@uhn.ca)