Many studies have looked at aphasia therapy delivered via computers, and most have found it to be highly effective. They conclude there is Level 1/1A evidence for using computer-based treatment in aphasia therapy.


Further evidence can be found on the ASHA Evidence Maps: http://necmaps.org/aphasia/bx/comp-based/

Using a Tablet:

Accessibility:
Tablets and smartphones are relatively affordable technology ($300-800), designed to be easy to use with a simple hand, making them accessible for stroke survivors with hemiplegia.

Naming TherAppy is available for download on Apple and Android devices, including iPhone, iPad, Kindle, and GalaxyTab.

Screening:

The Test in Naming TherAppy is an informal screen to see if the client is able to name a sample of the items in the app. The items are arranged in order of word frequency and offer a representative sample of the categories in the app.

If a client is able to name all the items on the test, they are unlikely to benefit from Naming Practice, but may still benefit from using Describe or Flashcards with the included or custom items to learn new strategies and techniques.

Introducing:

Word-finding impairments are some of the most common and frustrating for people with aphasia (PWA). Clinicians need an easy way to deliver evidence-based therapy to their clients, and clients need a way to intensify their therapy between sessions. Naming TherAppy is an app designed by a Speech-Language Pathologist to fit both needs. The features of the app and supporting evidence are presented here.

Phonological Components Analysis:

The Phonological Components Analysis (PCA) is a cueing technique demonstrating effectiveness in both treatment and in improving long-term naming. The technique is possible with the built-in customization options in Naming TherAppy.


Phonological Components Analysis is the most frequently used cueing technique in Naming TherAppy.

Naming Practice is a computerized version of PCA, which is one of the most commonly used cueing techniques in Aphasia Therapy.


Cued Naming:

Choosing Your Own Therapy:

Choose the amount of cueing for each word. This app allows you to customize the cues for each word.

Customization:

No matter which type of words you want to train, based on typicality, length, frequency, salience, or phonemic environment, you can add your own words to create lists for each client or approach. Add family members, environment-specific pictures, and functional words. Back up and share lists between devices for home practice or research.

Studies have shown that when PCA was used with those with more mild aphasia, this technique is possible with the built-in customization options in Naming TherAppy.

Phonological components are the most common and frustrating for people with aphasia (PWA). They need a way to deliver evidence-based therapy to their clients, and clients need a way to intensify their therapy between sessions. Naming TherAppy is an app designed by a Speech-Language Pathologist to fit both needs. The features of the app and supporting evidence are presented here.

| Disclosure: |
| This author has a financial relationship to Tactus Therapy Solutions, the developer of the app discussed in this poster. She is a founding owner and director of the company and is also the designer of this app. |

For the Settings, users can customize the number of syllables to appear in the app. For users with severe apraxia, focusing on 1 syllable words may be best. For those with more mild apraxia of speech, focusing on 4-5 syllable words gives an opportunity to practice longer words.

For others who train on larger sets of words retain more words. Naming TherAppy provides over 700 words to choose from with controls to turn on any item or category on or off along with unlimited custom items so you can control the therapy based on the user's memory, endurance, and vocabulary needs.


Using a Tablet:

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A recent study showed that when PWA were given either SFA or PCA therapy, 7 out of 8 improved with SFA, though the ones who improved had phonological impairments. This study presented pictures and cues in a way closely resembling Naming TherAppy.


An App for Evidence-Based Naming Therapy

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Naming Practice uses the evidence-based therapy technique called cued naming. While many different types of cues have been used in studies throughout the years, the evidence points to cueing hierarchies with multi-modality cues being effective to help in word retrieval.

Naming TherAppy provides 6 steps of cueing, arranged in a hierarchy from least to most helpful (from definition on the left to repetition on the right). The cues included are a mix of semantic (definition and phrase completion), orthographic (first letter and printed word), and phonemic (first sound and word repetition). As cues in Naming TherAppy are available to be used in any order, the client or clinician can choose the order that works best.

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For others who train on larger sets of words retain more words. Naming TherAppy provides over 700 words to choose from with controls to turn on any item or category on or off along with unlimited custom items so you can control the therapy based on the user’s memory, endurance, and vocabulary needs.


Many therapeutic activities can be done using the pictured nouns, verbs, and adjectives in the Flashcards, such as written naming, yes/no questions, gesturing, and rapid naming. Selecting only verbs lends itself well to the evidence-based response elaboration training protocol.


Several of the most common and frustrating for people with aphasia (PWA). Clinicians need an easy way to deliver evidence-based therapy to their clients, and clients need a way to intensify their therapy between sessions. Naming TherAppy is an app designed by a Speech-Language Pathologist to fit both needs. The features of the app and supporting evidence are presented here.

Semantics Feature Analysis:

Decades of research examine the treatment of thinking about the semantic properties of a word when trying to retrieve it. This classic, effective therapy technique is the heart of the Describe mode of Naming TherAppy, asking users to generate features.


Choosing Your Own Therapy:

Choose the amount of cueing for each word. This app allows you to customize the cues for each word.

Customization:

No matter which type of words you want to train, based on typicality, length, frequency, salience, or phonemic environment, you can add your own words to create lists for each client or approach. Add family members, environment-specific pictures, and functional words. Back up and share lists between devices for home practice or research.

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