

Resolution of Expressive Aphasia

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A 78-year-old right-handed woman with a history of atrial fibrillation, prior transient ischemic attacks, and cerebrovascular disease developed expressive aphasia. She immediately began writing a note to a companion. Her first 2 attempts (Figure, A and B) demonstrated expressive aphasia with no compromise in motor function. Her third attempt (Figure, C) demonstrated resolution of her aphasia. The 3 notes were written over a course of approximately 15 minutes. The patient was admitted to the hospital, anticoagulated with heparin and warfarin, and discharged without neurological deficit. A transcript of the note follows:

I don't develope whate
evdeveloppe eveope developpe
I don't explope to start it
redelype. I don't to devellope to
explain what is wrong explain
whats wrong with me whats alright
I don't wrong with me. I think I
had a stroke.
I don't how to explain what has
happened to me. What should I do to me.
I couldn't explain how to explain
what I what I want to put into words.
I feel much better. I think I can explain
what is happening to me. I think I had
a small stroke.

Disclosures

None.

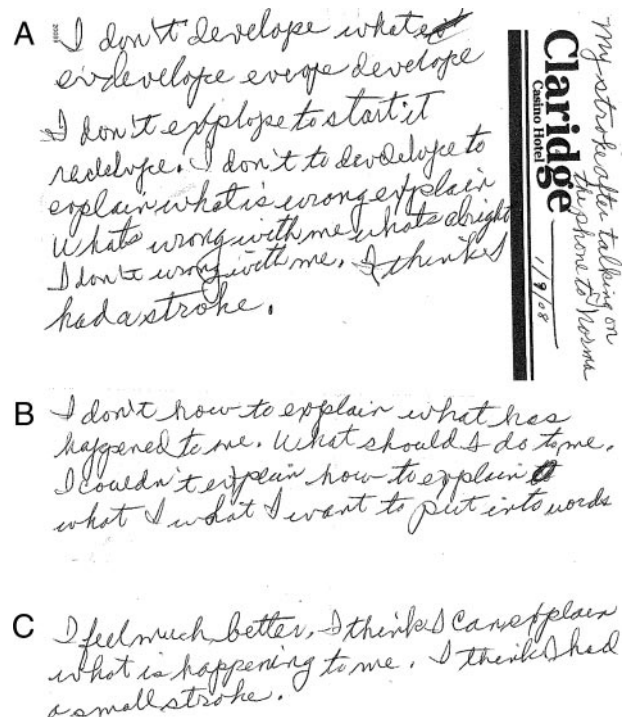


Figure. Reproduction of 3 successive notes (A, B, and C) written by the patient over a 15-minute period.

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