

Patient information

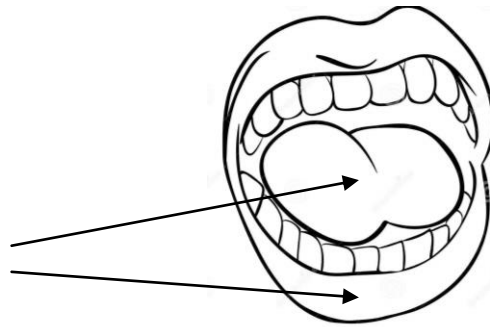
What is Dysarthria?

Dysarthria causes **difficulty** with **speech**.



It is usually **caused** by **damage** to **motor-speech areas** of the **brain**, often a **stroke**.

Dysarthria results in **weakness**, or **stiffness** of the **speech muscles**, including the **jaw**, **lips**, and **tongue**.



It can make speech sound **slurred**, **jerky** or **nasal**.

It can also change the **speed**, **volume** or **pitch**. This can make it more **difficult** for other **people** to **understand** you.



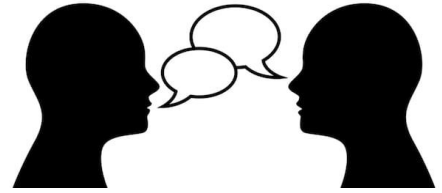
If you would like to **speak** to a member of the **Speech and Language Therapy** team, please **call** us on (01284) 713303

Tips for clearer speech

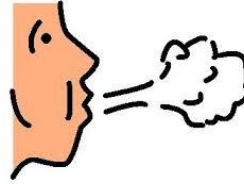
- Speak with **no background noise** or **distractions**.



- **Look at** the **person** you are talking to



- Take a **deep breath** before talking



- Be **patient**. Give yourself **time**.

- Speak **slowly** and **loudly**



- Use **other ways** of **communicating**. If you are having trouble saying a word:



- Can you **write** it down?



- Use **gesture** or **point to it**



If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo) <https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>

