

University of Michigan

Aphasia Program

Fact sheet

- The University of Michigan Aphasia Program (UMAP) is the oldest, most effective program of its kind for the treatment of aphasia in North America.
- UMAP was established in 1947 to assist World War II veterans who had sustained injuries in combat. The program has successfully treated thousands of people with stroke- and closed-head-injury-induced aphasia.
- Unlike any other aphasia program in the United States, the University of Michigan Aphasia Program takes a unique approach to aphasia therapy. Key distinguishing factors include:
 - Six-week intensive program
 - Clinically trained professional speech language pathologists (not students)
 - Intensive 23-hour therapy schedule each week
- Provides an individualized therapy program with a limited number of patients to ensure a high ratio of staff-to-clients for the most direct and effective one-on-one treatment.
- Lives of UMAP clients improve dramatically following their treatment; they are able to communicate effectively with their families and with the world around them.
- Many UMAP clients are younger than 40 years old; one third are between 40 and 60 years old. People as young as 16 years old and as old as 80 years old frequently are received into treatment. The average age is just over 54 years old.
- The program offers intensive, individualized speech-language intervention options for aphasia patients that optimize language recovery, patient self esteem and self understanding. Therapy programs include family members and caregivers to provide support and increase the patient's functionality.
- Programs can be tailored to meet the individual needs of patients and their families. In addition to the six-week program, one- and two-week programs can be designed to give intensive therapy in specific areas.
- Located on the University of Michigan medical campus in Ann Arbor.

* * * * *