# Availability and Effectiveness of Aphasia-Specific Apps in Speech-Language Therapy: A Scoping Review

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## INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the use of technology has grown in popularity in the practice of speech-language pathology.

Consequently, many studies have focused on the use of apps in speech-language therapy (Edwards & Dukhovny, 2017; Heyman, 2020). However, few studies have specifically focused on the use of apps in the treatment of aphasia, despite their existence (Tactus Therapy, Lingraphica, Constant Therapy, iName It, etc.).

A scoping review was done to determine the body of evidence that is available on this subject more accurately.

## AIMS

1. Identify aphasia-specific apps that are currently available to speech-language pathologists for the treatment of aphasia.

2. Present what is known about the effectiveness of these apps.

## METHOD

Method used: PRISMA ScR
Databases: CINAHL, PubMed, PsycINFO, Google Scholar
Inclusion criteria: (1) original research published in a peer-reviewed journal between the years 2000 and 2021; (2) participants aged 18 years or older; (3) intervention in language for individuals with aphasia; (4) apps used by the speech-language pathologist in therapy sessions; and (5) articles written in English or in French.
Keywords: intervention OR therapy OR treatment, AND language, AND aphasia OR aphasic OR "people with aphasia", AND apps OR tablet OR iPad, AND adult, AND "speech-language pathology" OR SLP OR "speech therapy" OR "speech pathology".

**Studies focusing on the use of apps to treat aphasia in a clinical setting are scarce**

**Further research is needed to ensure evidence-based practice when relying on this therapy method that is growing in popularity**

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS
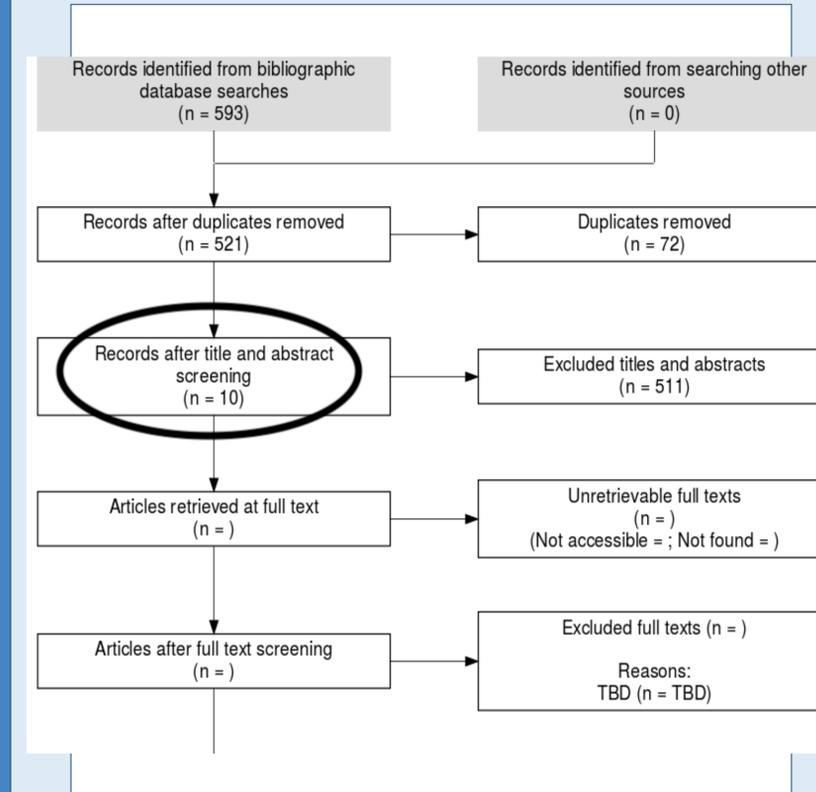


## CONCLUSION

This scoping review identified studies that focused on the use of apps for several therapy goals, including goals other than language intervention in aphasia on a wide range of populations.

However, the preliminary results of this scoping review highlight the very limited number of studies focusing on the use of apps to treat aphasia in a clinical setting.

Further research is needed to satisfy the aims of this present scoping review.

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