

Speech & Language Therapy Adult Service North Devon

Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio tape or computer disk, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please telephone the PALS desk on 01271 314090.

What the service offers

Adult Speech and Language Therapy in North Devon is concerned with the management of disorders of language, communication and swallowing. A speech and language therapist is an allied health professional. They work with patients, carers, doctors and other professionals such as occupational therapists and dieticians.

Types of problems

Speech and language therapists work with:

- Adults with communication and/or eating and swallowing problems following neurological events such as stroke, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, motor neuron disease, dementia and head injury
- Head, neck and throat cancer
- Voice problems
- Physical difficulties
- Stammering
- Learning difficulties

What we do

Speech and language therapy cannot always cure the problems presented, but it can play a huge part in helping patients and carers understand their difficulties and ensure communication is maximised and eating and drinking is optimal and safe.

Communication – we will arrange to come and meet you. We may see you a few times. Treatment is patient led and it may involve exercises or exploring ways to maximise communication.

Swallowing difficulties – after an assessment, we will give advice and recommendations regarding consistencies and the safest way to eat and drink.

How to refer

Hospital – doctors usually support a referral to speech and language therapy for patients in hospital.

Community – anyone can ask to be seen by a speech and language therapist to see if we can help. Please see the contacts below.

Where service is provided

We are based in the following hospitals or health centres:-

Barnstaple Health Centre	01271 371761 ext 620
South Molton Community Hospital	01769 572164
Holsworthy Community Hospital	01409 253424
Ilfracombe Tyrell Hospital	01271 863448
Bideford Community Hospital	01237 420235
North Devon District Hospital	01271 322388

Further information

Adult Speech and Language Therapy
Barnstaple Health Centre
Vicarage Street
Barnstaple
North Devon
EX32 7BH

Tel: 01271 371761

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or e-mail ndht.pals@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple. Alternatively, it may be possible for us to arrange an appointment in your area.

Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of the ward staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

'Patient Opinion' comments forms are on all wards or online at www.patientopinion.org.uk.

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