

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES & HEALTH

ICPLA 2021: 23rd - 25th June 2021

#### **Abstract Submission**

We are still finalising the format of online presentations. We expect most to be posters. Please indicate if you have a strong preference.

Paper Type:	Poster or Short Oral Presentation
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# **Author Details**

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# **Abstract Title:**

The Impact of Dysarthria on Communicative Participation in Pakistani Cultural Context

## Background:

Dysarthria is a collective name for a group of neurological speech disorders that reflect abnormalities in strength, range, steadiness, tone or accuracy of movements (Duffy, Joseph R, 2013) which can contribute significantly to changed communication patterns. This can result in increased barriers to communication leading to isolation, decline in psychological well-being and decreased quality of life. Different cultures have different perceptions when it comes to any impairments and/or disabilities; these are planned and lived through cultures. Despite the presence of well documented research, there is a

dearth of research in Pakistan about the impact of dysarthria on communicative participation. Hence, it is imperative to find out what the cultural differences are and how they impact the patients with dysarthria living in Pakistan. This study aims to fill the gaps intending to gain a clearer understanding of the psychosocial impact, participation and severity of changes in quality of life in a Pakistani cultural context after dysarthria.

#### Methods:

There were two parts to data collection: questionnaire and interviews. Twenty six adults diagnosed with acquired dysarthria as a result of Stroke, Parkinson's disease, Multiple sclerosis, Motor degenerative diseases and TBI completed four self-reporting questionnaires — Communication Participation Item Bank (CPIB), Dysarthria Impact Profile (DIP), Voice Handicap Index (VHI) and Short Form-36 (SF-36) — and took part in interviews.

#### Results:

Preliminary results showed that the impact of dysarthria on communicative participation was not related to age, diagnosis, severity or disease duration. The leading problems correlated to gender, socio-economic status, religion and role in the family, where socio-economic status played a vital role as limited patients could afford speech therapy.

### Conclusion:

Early data suggests that the importance of investigating cultural issues to find out the impact of dysarthria is crucial. Final conclusion based on the full analysis will be presented.