

Workshop: Communication difficulties in MND – a multidisciplinary team approach

- 09:30 – 9:45 *Registration and coffee*
- 09:45 – 10:00 **Introduction to the day** – aims and objectives
- 10:00 – 11:00 **The range of communication difficulties in MND**
In this session you will be introduced to the direct and indirect impact of communication difficulties in MND.
- dysarthria, dysarthrophonia and voice change, anarthria
 - cognitive communication related difficulties (related to FTD and behavioural variant),
 - impact of physical changes (e.g. reduced hand function making writing or typing difficult)
 - breathing / ventilator use – impact
impact of saliva difficulties on communication
- 11:00 – 11:15 *Comfort break*
- 11:15 – 12:45 **Solutions and strategies – how can we support a person living with MND to communicate?**
In this session you will explore the importance of an MDT approach to maintaining effective communication and be introduced to a range of potential strategies.
- Importance of MDT working in communication
 - AAC – from the no tech to the low tech to the high tech – why it's important to have a multifactorial approach.
 - Voice and message banking – how to raise this and support with it in early stages. Options for voice banking.
 - Video banking and other legacy tools.
 - Strategies for the person speaking and their communication partner
 - How strategies change over the patient journey
 - The impact of unmanaged communication difficulties on care, e.g. decision making, ACP, clinic appointments etc
- 12:45 – 1:15 *Lunch*
- 1:15 – 2:45 **Get hands on and practice!**
In this session you will have the opportunity to try out some communication strategies and discuss their application.
- 2:45 – 3:00 *Comfort break*
- 3:00 – 3:45 **Case studies and panel discussions**
In this session you will be given case studies outlining communication challenges and use them to engage in problem solving and discussion with fellow attendees and a panel of presenters from the day.
- 3:45 – 4:00 **Evaluations and close**