



# Predicting language outcome and recovery after stroke

A new Wellcome Trust funded study is showing that language function continues to improve over decades following stroke.

Louise Ambridge, Alex Le [\[redacted\]](#), Jenny Crinion and Cathy Price report

## PLORAS FACTS

3-D maps of brain damaged areas created and analysed by specialised software

Data from patients at different stages post stroke grouped according to area of brain damage

Highlights recovery patterns

information on how other patients with similar brain injuries recovered over time.

### PLORAS principles

At the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging we are conducting an ongoing study called •Predicting Language Outcome and Recovery After Stroke• (PLORAS). The study involves building a database of language recovery patterns in patients with and without aphasia.

The PLORAS database combines detailed information about the effect of the stroke on brain structure (from magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanning) with the results

who vary in the time since their stroke but are grouped carefully according to the parts of the brain that have been damaged.

### Location location

The focus of the PLORAS study on the location of brain damage may be surprising given many previous studies have reported that the effects of damage to a particular brain area are inconsistent amongst different patients (Mohr et al, 1978; Lazar and Antonello, 2008).

However, a renewed optimism of the

