In most cases, the cause of apraxia is unknown.

However, evidence suggests that genetics play a role. Many children with apraxia also have other conditions, such as neurological impairment, autism, epilepsy and other genetic or chromosomal abnormalities.

IDENTIFYING AND TREATING CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH:

Speech-language pathologists are specially trained to assess, identify and treat children with communication disorders, including childhood apraxia of speech. Children with apraxia can benefit from specialised, intensive speech therapy that helps them learn the movement patterns required for speech.

This may include:

- Practicing words and phrases repeatedly
- Using a variety of cues and prompts
- Finding other ways to express themselves until their speech improves (e.g., using sign language or communication devices, such as computers or tablets)

If you think your child may have apraxia, or if you are worried about any aspect of your child’s speech and language development, contact a speech-language pathologist today.

Find a speech-language pathologist near you at www.communicationhealth.ca