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Chapter 8. Narrative discourse segmentation in clinical linguistics

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Abstract

This chapter deals with segmentation, definition of basic units and annotation of the first corpus of Russian narratives by individuals with brain damage – people with aphasia and right hemisphere damage – and neurologically healthy speakers. We show that parameters such as pause length and intonation contours cannot be used for segmentation of impaired speech. Instead, they use syntactic criteria for the identification of the basic, or – as they are called in this paper – *elementary discourse units* (EDUs). The Russian CliPS (Clinical Pear Stories) corpus contains multi-layer annotation of audio- and video-recordings, performed on micro- and macro-linguistic level, and can be used as a source for qualitative and quantitative research on various aspects of speech in aphasia and right hemisphere damage.

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