290 eligible patients being with stroke-induced aphasia from three sub-centres give informed consent

Baseline assessment

Health education and conventional medical treatment

Control group (N=145)
- speech and language therapy (once a day, 30 minutes each time, 5 days per week)

Experimental group (N=145)
- speech and language therapy (the same as the control group) and Scalp acupuncture therapy (once a day, 30 minutes each time, 5 days per week)

4 weeks intervention and 12 weeks follow-up

Outcome assessment at four time points, including 2 weeks after treatment, 4 weeks after treatment, 6 weeks after follow-up and 12 weeks after follow-up

Safety assessments and economic evaluation

Statistical analysis