

Supplemental Table 3. Examples of unsolicited responses from family members regarding VNeST treatment on functional communication.

Improvement area	Commenter	Comments
Improved communication in medical settings	P5's mother	"I cannot tell you how amazing it was to see [name omitted] talking to those doctors, nurses, and other patients. He could have never, ever done this before this study. He was able to describe his pain, what it was like for him and what he needed done . . . He kept telling people over and over, 'I have to get better to get back to [omitted] for my speech research study. It is making me talk so much better.' . . . He was so hesitant before and spoke in one word phrases. Now, he is talking in sentences and so much clearer. This has been a life saver for both of us!"
Improved sentence construction	P10's daughter	"Before she could only get out the beginning of the sentence, but now she can get out the whole thing."
More phone use	P10's daughter	"She called the cable company to tell them her cable was out. This shocked me, because before treatment she could not have done that. Not only could she not have conveyed the idea, she wouldn't have tried."
More confidence/ less frustration	P7's partner	"I feel this really helped. He is more comfortable communicating with others."
	P9's partner	"She gets less frustrated and has better comprehension."
	P10 herself	"I am more confident and motivated. This helped me be better."
	P2's partner	"He is more willing to talk and gets less frustrated. It helps us as a couple to communicate better."