Ohio State’s Assistive Technology Center –

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) refers to all forms of communication other than verbal that are used to express thoughts, needs, wants and ideas. Individuals with communication impairments rely on AAC to supplement existing speech or replace speech that is no longer functional. Augmentative aids, from picture aids and symbol communication boards to more complex electronic devices are available, to help individuals express themselves.

Clinical Assessment

A licensed speech language pathologist (SLP) at Ohio State’s Assistive Technology Center will conduct an assessment of communication, cognition, physical status and vision.

The SLPs at OSU Medical Center have extensive training in the evaluation process, are familiar with all types of AAC and are knowledgeable with the funding process. Based on your needs, our team of occupational therapists, physical therapists and rehabilitation engineers will give you a personalized recommendation. The evaluation provides a demonstration and trial of multiple types of AAC, the need for alternative access methods and mounts for your communication needs, and training in the use of the equipment.

Our comprehensive approach ensures your needs are properly met.

Specialized Services

• Multi-modal communication strategies
• Trial multiple equipment
• Access methods
• Wheelchair mounts
• Speech generating devices
• Therapeutic intervention with selected AAC method

Types of Referrals

• Brain injury
• Stroke
• Aphonia/voice disorders
• Neurological impairments such as ALS, MS, MD

To Make a Referral

Fax the following referral information to 614-293-6400:

• Physician referral for speech therapy/AAC listing diagnosis
• Most recent office notes, including any medication lists

Address Info:

2050 Kenny Rd
Suite 2100 Martha Morehouse Medical Pavilion
Columbus, OH 43221