Helpful References for AT Applications

Ensure you address the NDIS reasonable and necessary supports in your AT application

Reasonable and Necessary Supports

a) The support will assist the participant to pursue the goals, objectives and aspirations included in the participant's statement of goals and aspirations.

b) The support will assist the participant to undertake activities, to facilitate the participant's social and economic participation.

c) The support represents value for money in that at the costs of the support are reasonable, relative to both the benefits achieved and the cost of alternative support.

d) The support will be, or is likely to be, effective and beneficial for the participant having regard to current good practice.

e) The funding or provision of the support takes account of what it is reasonable to expect families, carers, informal networks, and the community to provide.

f) The support is most appropriately funded or provided through the NDIS and is not more appropriately funded or provided through other general systems of service delivery or support services offered by a person, agency, or body.

References

Article and Reference	Key Points
Iacono, T., Trembath, D., & Erickson, S. (2016). The role of augmentative and alternative communication for children with autism: Current status and future trends. *Neuropsychiatric disease and treatment*, *12*, 2349–2361. https://doi.org/10.2147/NDT.S95967	• AAC has been found to be effective to highly effective for autistic children. • AAC is effective in reducing behaviours of concern. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, d)
Sterrett, K., Holbrook, A., Landa, R., Kaiser, A. & Kasari, C. (2022). The effect of responsiveness to speech-generating device input on spoken language in children with autism spectrum disorder who are minimally verbal, *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, https://doi.org/10.1080/07434618.2022.2120070	• The auditory output from AAC and communication partner speech is a factor in speech development for some children with Autism. • Children with limited attention to AAC and communication partners benefit from a focus on their sensory needs and joint attention. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, d, e, f)

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Updated 2024.01

Page | 1

Drager, K., Light, J., & McNaughton, D. (2010). Effects of AAC interventions on communication and language for young children with complex communication needs, *Journal of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine*. 3(4):303-10. doi: 10.3233/PRM-2010-0141.	• AAC can benefit functional communication skills, reducing challenging behaviour, expressive language, receptive language and speech production. • Introducing AAC early under 3 years can be beneficial. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, d)
Ganz, J. B., Morin, K. L., Foster, M. J., Vannest, K. J., Genç Tosun, D., Gregori, E. V., & Gerow, S. L. (2017). High-technology augmentative and alternative communication for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and complex communication needs: A meta-analysis, *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, 33:4, 224-238, doi: 10.1080/07434618.2017.1373855 https://doi.org/10.1080/07434618.2017.1373855	• High tech AAC can be effective for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. • If a person is minimally verbal and at school best practice recommends augmentative and alternative communication. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, d, e)
Light, J., & Mcnaughton, D. (2015). Designing AAC research and intervention to improve outcomes for individuals with complex communication needs. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication, 31*(2), 85-96. doi: 10.3109/07434618.2015.1036458	• AAC helps people participate in their daily activities. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, d, e)
Morin, K. L., Ganz, J. B., Gregori, E. V., Foster, M. J., Gerow, S. L., Genç-Tosun, D., & Hong, E. R. (2018). A systematic quality review of high-tech AAC interventions as an evidence-based practice. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication, 34*(2), 104-117. https://doi.org/10.1080/07434618.2018.1458900	• High tech AAC assists in teaching social and communication skills. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, d, e)
Ryan, S. E., Shepherd, T. A., Renzoni, A. M., Servais, M., Kingsnorth, S., Laskey, C., & Bradley, K. (2018). Responsiveness of a parent-reported outcome measure to evaluate AAC interventions for children and youth with complex communication needs. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, *34*(4), 348-358. https://doi.org/10.1080/07434618.2018.1520296	• AAC assists in developing communication competence Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, d)

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Reference	Key Points
Therrien, M. C. (2019). Perspectives and experiences of adults who use AAC on making and keeping friends. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, *35*(3), 205-216. https://doi.org/10.1080/07434618.2019.1599065	• AAC helps people to develop friendships. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c)
Ripat, J., Verdonck, M., Gacek, C., & McNicol, S. (2019). A qualitative metasynthesis of the meaning of speech-generating devices for people with complex communication needs. *Augmentative and alternative communication (Baltimore, Md.: 1985)*, *35*(2), 69–79. https://doi.org/10.1080/07434618.2018.1513071	• AAC promotes participation in social events and environments. • AAC allows people to have control and independence over their lives. • AAC allows people to display and develop their personality and identity. • AAC allows people to engage in meaningful activities. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, e)
Franco, J. H., Lang, R. L., O'Reilly, M. F., Chan, J. M., Sigafoos, J., & Rispoli, M. (2009). Functional analysis and treatment of inappropriate vocalizations using a speech-generating device for a child with autism. *Focus on Autism and other Developmental Disabilities*, *24*(3), 146-155. https://doi.org/10.1177/1088357609338380	• AAC increases engagement in activities and interactions with others. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, e)
Blackstone, S. W., Williams, M. B., & Wilkins, D. P. (2007). Key principles underlying research and practice in AAC. *Augmentative and alternative communication (Baltimore, Md.: 1985)*, *23*(3), 191–203. https://doi.org/10.1080/07434610701553684	• Training for AAC communication partners is essential for effective AAC implementation • AAC supports developing and maintaining social connections Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, e)
Lee, Y. C., Chin-Hung Chen, V., Yang, Y. H, Kuo, T. Y., Hung, T. H., Cheng, Y. F. & Huang, K. Y. (2019) Association between emotional disorders and speech and language impairments: A national population study. Child Psychiatry and Human Development. 51(3): 355-365. doi: 10.1007/s10578-019-00947-9	• Communication difficulties can lead to psychological disorders. Reasonable & Necessary supports (c)

Iacono, T., Trembath, D., & Erickson, S. (2016). The role of augmentative and alternative communication for children with autism: Current status and future trends. *Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment*, *12*, 2349-2361. doi:10.21	• AAC can assist in reducing behaviours of concern. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c, e)
Dukhovny, E., & Gahl, S. (2014). Manual motor-plan similarity affects lexical recall on a speech-generating device: Implications for AAC users. Journal of Communication Disorders, 48, 52–60. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcomdis.2014.02.004	• The consistent locations of icons on a grid can assist motor learning. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c)
Thistle, J., Holmes, S., Horn, M., Reum, A. (2018). Consistent Symbol Location Affects Motor Learning in Preschoolers Without Disabilities: Implications for Designing Augmentative and Alternative Communication Displays. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*. Vol. 27. 1010–1017.	• A consistent location of symbols on a grid can assist with language development. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a, b, c)
Moorcroft, A., Scarinci, N. & Meyer, C. (2019). Speech pathologist perspectives on the acceptance versus rejection or abandonment of AAC systems for children with complex communication needs, *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, 35:3, 193-204, doi: 10.1080/07434618.2019.1609577	• Without adequate support from communication partners, families and the community communication devices may be abandoned. • AAC needs to be introduced in a family centred way. • Speech Pathologists need to undertake specific training in AAC for effective implementation. Reasonable & Necessary supports (a,b,c,d,e,f)

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Page | 4