

Speech-Language Pathologist Assessment for a Speech Device

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Patient's Name John Smith
Date of Birth Sunday, January 1, 2012
Address 1234 Star Place
Roseville, MN, 55113

Speech & Language ICD10 Code & Description (Select all that apply)

- F80.2 – Mixed Receptive-Expressive Language Disorder (top of list)
- F84.0 – Autistic Disorder

Date of Evaluation Thursday, January 13, 2022
Evaluating Speech-Language Pathologist Sarah Pathologist
Email Address of Evaluating Speech-Language Pathologist fundingservices@ablenetinc.com

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Medical history with summary of speech therapy intervention.

John was born 6 weeks premature . No other complications were reported. No known major hospital visits. He was diagnosed with Autism in August 2016 and has received speech therapy consistently since September 2016. He is currently still enrolled in speech therapy at Speech Clinic. John was enrolled in Early Intervention services with a focus on communication.

Current living environment: Home with family

CURRENT COMMUNICATION IMPAIRMENT AND LIMITATION

Current Communication Impairment and Limitation Non-verbal
Cognitive Status Cognitive prerequisites 1

Non-Verbal

John has been diagnosed with severe Mixed Expressive/Receptive Language Disorder. John does not have verbal production for functional communication. Prognosis is poor for verbal communication.

John is completely non-verbal. The client will occasionally and with maximum support use gestures or signs for simple requests such as "more" and "please, and the client will occasionally physically manipulate others in order to request or have needs met.

Given the severity of the communication impairment as described above, is the patient functionally non-speaking and requires the use of a speech-generating device (SGD)?

Yes

COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Hearing Status

Does hearing status influence the patient's communication and/or the choice or use of a device?

No

Does the patient show adequate hearing abilities to effectively use a SGD?

Yes

Comments - Hearing Status

John completed a hearing screening in September 2021, hearing is within functional limits.

Vision Status

Does vision status influence the patient's communication and/or the choice or use of a device?

No

Does the patient show adequate vision abilities to effectively use a SGD?

Yes

Comments - Vision Status

John completed a vision assessment in September 2021, vision is within functional limits. There are no concerns with vision.

Physical Status

Functional Ambulation/Mobility

Independent Ambulation

Communication device to used in the following positions:

Standing or Walking

Patient has reliable and consistent motor response sufficient to operating a SGD

Cognitive Status

Cognitive Status

Cognitive prerequisites 1

Cognitive prerequisites 1

John interacts with family, peers and school staff appropriately in social and academic settings. John demonstrates the necessary cognitive prerequisites for appropriate use of AAC/SGD (e.g. simple cause and effect, object permanence and procedural memory for the operation of the device). John is currently working on receptive language skills in sessions.

He has demonstrated the ability to maintain his attention to tasks. He has demonstrated the ability to locate icons/vocabulary on an SGD, independently. John demonstrates ability to use a speaking device to express a sequence of information with limited prompting. John demonstrates the cognitive abilities to use an SGD, high tech device.

Does the patient demonstrate the necessary cognitive abilities (i.e. attention, memory and problem-solving) skills to learn to use a SGD to achieve functional communication goals?

Yes

Language Skills

Does the patient's linguistic performance indicate the necessary language skills required to functionally communicate using a SGD?

Yes

Expressive Language Skills: Is the use of an SGD necessary for the patient to be able to adequately express ideas, thoughts, feelings or emergent information?

Yes

Receptive Language Skills: Is the patient able to adequately understand and respond in conversation with the assistance of a SGD?

Yes

Comments

John has severe speech and language impairment. However, John can respond to yes/no questions by shaking his head. John's intelligibility is 20% with unfamiliar communication partners and 30% with familiar communication partners. John can independently create sentences using the device, however he is unable to vocalize to communication partners.

The prognosis for speech production is poor. Receptively, John is able to follow multi-step directions independently. He is able to understand more than he is able to express. John is very responsive when asked a question. He responds using a communication device. He does not often initiate communication with peers or school staff. John exhibits the receptive abilities to use the requested speech device.

DAILY COMMUNICATION NEEDS

Must be able to communicate about:

Personal Needs Personal Information
Medical Needs Social Interaction
School Tasks

Where will the device be used for communication:

Home School Community

With whom will the device be used to communicate with:

Family Friends Therapists Teachers
People in Community

Comments - Daily Communication Needs

John needs to communicate basic wants and needs such as when he is hungry, sick, needs help, etc. His current communication methods do not allow John to meet his daily communication needs. John needs to communicate with family, friends, school staff, and caregivers in the home, community, and school settings. Daily communication activities for John include expressing wants and needs, express how he feels, interact with peers.

TRIAL INFORMATION

Device 1 Manufacturer

PRC-Salttillo

Trial Type

Trialed and ruled out

Device 1 Trial Summary

The NovaChat 10 is heavier than the QuickTalker Freestyle device. John needs a device that is lightweight and easy to carry. The NovaChat device is also not an iPad-based

device. John is familiar with Apple IOS products, and when trialing this non-iPad device, John was disengaged and was not independently using the device. John's family also is familiar with Apple products and therefore, would be better with day-to-day support for John. During this trial however, John was able to try LAMP - Words for life. He was successful in using this app to communicate. The trial with the NovaChat device was unsuccessful which is why I am ruling this device out.

Device 2 Manufacturer

Tobii Dynavox

Trial Type

Trialed and ruled out

Device 2 Trial Summary

The SC Tablet is an iPad-based speech device. During the trial, John was successful in accessing buttons on the iPad device and using the power button, volume and touch screen. However, he was unsuccessful in using the communication apps on this device. He trialed TD Snap where he required maximal prompting support. As noted in the other trial above, John was successful in using the communication app, LAMP - Words for Life. This device was ruled out due to lack of offering the communication app that best meets John's needs.

Device 3 Manufacturer

AbleNet Inc.

Trial Type

Trialed and recommended

Device 3 Trial Summary (including dates)

Model: QuickTalker Freestyle #70000117 (10.2" screen size)

LAMP - Words for Life

John has been using an iPad based SGD with LAMP - Words for Life since 9/1/2022.

He has demonstrated the ability to independently communicate his wants and needs. He required minimal to no prompting in requesting objects, greeting family and therapists, and requesting for help. When communication partners could not understand John verbally, he used his SGD to effectively communicate. This has significantly decreased his tendency to physically manipulate these partners and decrease behaviors associated with not being able to communicate effectively.

John would greatly benefit from having his own dedicated SGD as the one he is currently using is not his own but a trial device. His success during this trial indicates he is ready for a personal device to carry with him between school, home, and community settings.

DEVICE RECOMMENDATION

Trial Start Date Thursday, September 1,
2022

Trial End Date Monday, October 10,
2022

Trial outcomes and explanation as to why the QuickTalker Freestyle is recommended

John has been using an iPad based SGD with LAMP - Words for Life since 9/1/2022. He has demonstrated the ability to independently communicate his wants and needs. When communication partners could not understand John verbally, he used his SGD to effectively communicate. This has significantly decreased his tendency to physically manipulate these partners and decrease behaviors associated with not being able to communicate effectively.

John would greatly benefit from having his own dedicated SGD as the one he is currently using is not his own. His success during this trial indicates he is ready for a personal device to carry with him between school, home, and community settings.

Device Model QuickTalker Freestyle #70000117 (10.2" screen size)

Communication App Proloquo2go

Do you need AbleNet accessories? No

Prognosis Using the Above Outlined Device

John's prognosis for improved communicative function with continued skilled treatment and generalization of SGD is good-to-excellent based on his cognitive capacity, improving pragmatic skills, and prior success with AAC. Implementation of an SGD across communication contexts (home/social, school, therapy) improves the likelihood of his ability to develop functional communication skills and relate functional information with a wide variety of communication partners.

The QuickTalker Freestyle meets all medical necessity requirements for my client's communication needs while being the most cost-effective device compared to all other alternatives. The QuickTalker Freestyle comes with a 5-year warranty, while all other speech-generating device manufacturers only offer a 1-year, 2-year, or 3-year warranty. Additionally, the device comes with an exclusive technical support program, ableCARE. The ableCARE program allows my client and their family members to access AbleNet's technical staff quickly and easily to ensure the device is not only operable but successfully used so that we meet or exceed the goals outlined in my speech assessment.

The QuickTalker Freestyle (HCPCS code E2510) is a dedicated speech-generating device that, when configured, allows access ONLY to the communication app that I am recommending and the client's physician is prescribing. Though the QuickTalker Freestyle is iPad-based, it is NOT a tablet that allows other apps to be installed. It is, therefore, a dedicated medical device used solely for communication purposes.

GOALS

Goal 1 Daily and medical needs goals

1 - Daily and medical needs goals

John will use the QuickTalker Freestyle to effectively express their daily and medical needs with 80% accuracy within 1 month.

Goal 2

Wh questions

2 - Wh questions

John will answer "who" and "what" questions in 80% of opportunities given aided language stimulation and fading cues.

Goal 3

Language functions

3 - Language functions

John will navigate pages appropriately to request, protest, or respond to a question 80% of the time given language stimulation and fading models.

Treatment Plan

John's primary caregivers have shown great support and the need for him to have a dedicated device of his own. John will attend speech therapy 1x/week for the next 3 months to ensure his goals as stated above are met. Not only will the family and myself be there to support John with a funded device, but the ableCARE Success Team at AbleNet will be there to offer endless support, troubleshoot issues, help with updates and any other problems that arise.

SOLE RECIPIENT STATEMENT

The recipient of the QuickTalker Freestyle will be the sole user of the SGD.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST SIGNATURE

I am not an employee of, nor do I have, a financial relationship with AbleNet Inc., the QuickTalker Freestyle speech device supplier.

DATE

Monday, October 10, 2022

NAME

Sarah Pathologist

TITLE

Speech Language Pathologist, CCP-SLP

Signature

Sign Here 😊