

Speech-Language Pathologist Assessment for a Speech Device

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Patient's Name	John Smith
Date of Birth	Friday, January 1, 1999
Address	12345 Star Avenue Minneapolis, MN, 55025

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

- F84.0 – Autistic Disorder

Date of Evaluation	Friday, August 12, 2022
Evaluating Speech-Language Pathologist	Sally Sue
Email Address of Evaluating Speech-Language Pathologist	Fundingservices@ablenetinc.com

REPLACEMENT DEVICE

Is this a replacement device?	No
Has this device been deemed un-repairable by the manufacturer?	N/A
Has the device had extensive repairs in the past?	N/A
Are more repairs anticipated?	N/A
Has the existing equipment outlived useful lifetime (5 years)?	N/A

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Medical history with summary of speech therapy intervention

John's mother reported he was a full-term baby born without complications. John walked unassisted and used single words to communicate at approximately 11 months old. At 17 months, John began to

withdraw and his expressive vocabulary diminished from 10 words to none. John's mother reported that at age 2, John was diagnosed with Autism at the Apple Medical Center. She reported that John began to speak again at 11 years old. John has received speech-language therapy consistently since age 5 and has demonstrated progress toward the development of functional communication skills. He currently uses Speech Generating Device (SGD), to supplement his approximations and gestures. He uses his SGD to request preferred items/activities/actions, use social phrases, and self-advocate.

Current living environment: Home with family

Is the patient's verbal speech expected to improve? No

CURRENT COMMUNICATION IMPAIRMENT AND LIMITATION

Current Communication Impairment and Limitation Other

Other

John demonstrates severely impaired speech and language skills. He is unable to objectively and consistently communicate wants, needs, and ideas without an SGD. This is especially apparent with an unfamiliar communication partner and without a known context.

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

Patient is hearing impaired

No

Patient possesses adequate hearing to understand speech generated by the device

Yes

Patient possesses the hearing abilities to effectively use a SGD to communicate functionally

Yes

Vision Status

Patient is visually impaired

No

Patient possesses adequate acuity for use of device

Yes

Patient possesses adequate visual tracking skills for use of device

Yes

Patient requires modifications to utilize the device (ex: lighting, angle)

No

Physical Status

Functional Ambulation/Mobility

Independent Ambulation

Communication device to used in the following positions:

Standing or Walking

Behavioral and Learning Abilities

Attention to task

Intact

Memory

Intact

Problem Solving

Intact

Understands cause and effect

Yes

Cognitive Status

Cognitive Status

Cognitive prerequisites 1

Cognitive prerequisites 1

Client 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).

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

Patient will access the SGD system by

Direct selection

Will the patient require assistance while physically accessing the SGD system? (If yes, please

select what type of assistance will be required)

No

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 - Language Skills

When John communicates with verbal utterances, he is intelligible 50% of the time to familiar listeners and 10% to unfamiliar listeners. John communicates using two to three word approximations, facial expressions, gestures, and a SGD to express wants/needs, greet, protest, gain attention, and comment. He uses an iPad running the AAC program, LAMP. Unfamiliar communication partners may not understand him without a known context or the use of his SGD. Without his device, John demonstrates limited patience when not understood verbally. John benefits from his device to repair communication breakdown and to express his everyday needs and thoughts. Despite progress towards functional communication skills, John continues to display severe communication abilities.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Describe past use of communication support and why it does not fit the patient's current needs

Previously, John received speech therapy in school 2 days a week for 30 minute sessions. John knows some sign language, however those around him are not fluent which makes it hard for John to get his needs known. He also knows 20 signs and methods to increase his sign language vocabulary has plateaued with these 20 signs. Writing was ruled out as John does not have the fine motor dexterity to be able communicate his wants and needs via this method.

Include typical communication partners and environments that this patient would be in while utilizing their SGD

John needs to communicate with family, health professionals, members of his community, and peers. This would include communication in the home setting as well as at doctors appointments, public spaces such as restaurants, stores, etc. He will need to communicate health needs, when something hurts (feeling pain), if he needs help, greeting others, asking questions and much more.

Trial Type

Trialed and ruled out

Device Type

Other

Trial Device 2 Summary - Other

John trialed using this application on the a loaner device. However, even with the WordPower pages, he was limited to the amount of vocabulary available to communicate about.

TRIAL GOALS**Goal 1 Baseline**

John currently requires cueing in 2/5 opportunities

Goal 1 Results

John was able to meet this goal during the trial period. He required minimal assistance as seen in the data below where he required one indirect and one direct prompt. Throughout the course of the trial, his level of independence with the device increased, thus he met this goal.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
#	Utterance Produced	Communicative Intent (Greeting question comment etc.)	Communication Setting (Home school community etc.)	Prompting Level	# of Buttons Pushed	# of Pages Navigated
1	I + want + Juice	Request item	Home	Independent	3	2
2	Want + hug	Request action	School	Independent	2	1
3	I + want + home	Request need	School	Independent	3	2
4	Hello	Greeting	School	Independent	1	1
5	No + more	Request	McDonalds	Indirect	2	2
6	like + blue	Comment	School	Direct	2	2
7						
8						
9						
10						

Trial Goal 2

John will initiate communication in 70% opportunities during the trial period.

Goal 2 Baseline

John currently initiates communication in 40% of opportunities

Goal 2 Results

John was able to initiate communication in 60% of opportunities. He was independent with 60% of his communication as it relates to requesting. Before the trial, John would not initiate any communication as he often was not understood through sign language or gestures. With the SGD, he is more confident in initiating communication.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
#	Utterance Produced	Communicative Intent (Greeting question comment etc.)	Communication Setting (Home school community etc.)	Prompting Level	# of Buttons Pushed	# of Pages Navigated
1	Hello + Ms. Johnson	Greeting	School	Independent	2	1
2	Bye + mom	Farewell	Home	1 direct prompt needed, hand on hand assistance to locate icon	2	1
3	you + like + cookies?	Question	School	Independent	3	2
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

Trial Goal 3

John will be able to comment in speech therapy sessions in 3/5 opportunities

Goal 3 Baseline

John currently is able to comment in 1/5 opportunities

Goal 3 Results

John met this goal. He had troubles locating off of the first page for a few utterances, but overall he did well through the navigation.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
#	Utterance Produced	Communicative Intent (Greeting question comment etc.)	Communication Setting (Home school community etc.)	Prompting Level	# of Buttons Pushed	# of Pages Navigated
1	Like + purple	Comment	Speech Therapy	Independent	2	3
2	No	Comment	Speech Therapy	Independent	1	0
3	More + Please	Comment	Speech Therapy	Independent	2	2
4	Thank you	Comment	Home	Direct	2	2
5	was + fun	Comment	Home	Indirect	2	2
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

DEVICE RECOMMENDATION

Trial Start Date Wednesday, June 1,
2022

Trial End Date Thursday, June 30, 2022

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

John was able to meet multiple trial goals and has shown tremendous progress over the 30 day trial. The other devices tried did not result in such positive results in these trial goals which further supports the recommendation for the QuickTalker Freestyle with Proloquo2Go.

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 is not able to effectively communicate his wants and needs via verbal language and/or low tech communication supports. Consequently, he needs an alternative means to effectively and consistently communicate his wants and needs to familiar and unfamiliar listeners. Medically, John needs to clearly communicate critical information concerning his symptoms and daily care information to physicians, therapists, and staff across a variety of settings and environments. John also needs to communicate critical information in situations of emergency. An augmentative communication device would increase John's ability to communicate effectively in these situations. It would also increase his control over his environment and subsequently decrease his dependency upon staff. John's use of an augmentative communication device would increase his independence and communicative competency and thus improve his quality of life.

Explain why less costly alternatives (mid/low-tech, PECS etc.) are not appropriate for the patient's current needs.

Low or mid tech devices will not meet John's needs because they do not have a large enough set of vocabulary available. Secondly, the page sets on these devices need to be manually switched out. Considering John's age and independence, he will need a device that he can use independently and without assistance. John needs voice output, this will allow him to get the attention of others, especially in emergency situations.

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

Short Term Goal 1

Other

Other

John will use total communication (using his SGD paired with verbal approximations) to produce functional phrase(s) for the purpose of self-advocating ("I need help", "I need break", "finished" "I am hurt,") with 80%accuracy, provided visual and verbal support.

Short Term Goal 2

Other

Other

John will use total communication (using his SGD paired with verbal approximations) to demonstrate independence/responsibility by sharing personal information (name, address, phone number, etc) when needed with 80% accuracy, provided visual and verbal support.

Short Term Goal 3

Daily and medical needs goals

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.

Long Term Goal 1

Other

Other

John will use total communication (using his SGD paired with verbal approximations) to produce functional phrase(s) for the purpose of self-advocating ("I need help", "I need break", "finished" "I am hurt,") with 85%accuracy, independently.

Long Term Goal 2

Language functions

Language functions

John will navigate pages appropriately to request, protest, or respond to a question 8/10 times gives language stimulation and fading models.

Long Term Goal 3

Other

Other

John will use total communication (using his SGD paired with verbal approximations) to maintain (e.g. ask follow-up question, make association, make comment) interactive communication at the conversational level, for 4 exchanges, with 85% accuracy, independently.

Frequency/Duration

Client will be seen 1x weekly for 6 weeks.

Type of treatment

Individual

Individuals responsible for troubleshooting

ableCARE

ASSURANCE OF COVERAGE GUIDELINES

The patient has a severe expressive communication impairment related to a medical condition or developmental disability that interferes with the patient's ability to meet daily functional communication

Yes

The patient's ability to communicate using speech and/or writing is insufficient to meet daily functional communication needs

Yes

The patient cannot meet daily functional communication needs with any unaided means of communication

Yes

The recommended device can be used to communicate with multiple individuals in multiple settings within the trial location while conveying varying message types without being fully dependent on prompting or assistance in producing the communication

Yes

The member has the cognitive, auditory, visual, language, and physical abilities to use the recommended SGD for functional communication

Yes

A licensed Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) experienced in AAC service delivery has made the recommendation for the device and a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant enrolled as a NY State Medicaid provider has prescribed the device or software - (See below and attached documents for documentation)

Yes

The member has demonstrated the ability to use the recommended device and accessories or software for functional communication as evidenced by a data-driven device trial showing that skills can be demonstrated repeatedly over time, beyond a single instance or evaluation session

Yes

The SGD and related accessories are the adequate, less expensive alternative to enable the patient to meet daily functional communication needs. Other alternatives have been ruled out

Yes

The SGD and related accessories must allow members to improve their communication to a functional level not achievable without a SGD or less costly device

Yes

PHYSICIAN INFORMATION

This report was forwarded to the treating physician so that he/she can write a prescription for the recommended SGD and accessories.

Physician

Mark Johnson

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

Friday, August 12, 2022

NAME

Sally Sue

TITLE

Speech Language Pathologist

Signature

