# 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 ICD 10 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

## 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 - Language Skills**

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

Trial Device 1 Apple iPad

Trial Type Ruled out without trying

**Device Type**High-tech 1

**Trial Device 1 Summary - High-tech 1** This device was trialed and ruled out due to it being heavier

than an iPad, making it difficult for the client to carry around. The family also preferred having an iOS operating system due to familiarity and ease of use with both the client and

family.

**Trial Device 2** QuickTalker Freestyle Pro 12.9"

Trial Type Ruled out without trying

**Device Type**High-tech 1

**Trial Device 2 Summary - High-tech 1** This device was trialed and ruled out due to it being heavier

than an iPad, making it difficult for the client to carry around. The family also preferred having an iOS operating system due to familiarity and ease of use with both the client and

family.

#### **DEVICE RECOMMENDATION**

Trial Start Date Wednesday, September Trial End Date Wednesday, December

1, 2021 1, 2021

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

John has been using an iPad based SGD with Prolquo2Go since 9/1/2021. 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?

## **Prognosis Using the Above Outlined Device**

John has demonstrated significant progress toward the acquisition of functional communication skills through use of iPad-based AAC app Proloquo2Go. However, the device he has been trained on does not belong to him/his family and he is unable to use it outside of speech therapy sessions. The implementation of an SGD that he is able to use 24/7 would

significantly improve his ability to communicate functional information and basic wants/needs across communication contexts. A QuickTalker Freestyle 10.2" with Proloquo2Go fulfills John's need for a device which travels with him across home, educational, and community contexts, allows for vocabulary growth as his language skills improve, and ease of access. 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 will 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

Client 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

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

Goal 3

Language functions

#### 3 - Language functions

Client will navigate pages appropriately to request, protest, or respond to a question 8/10 times gives 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** Thursday, January 13, 2022

NAME Sarah Pathologist

TITLE Speech Language Pathologist, CCC-SLP

Signature Signature