

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) includes all forms of communications (other than oral speech) that are used to express thoughts, needs, wants, and ideas. We all use AAC when we make facial expressions or gestures, use symbols or pictures, or write. People with severe speech or language problems rely on AAC to supplement existing speech or replace speech that is not functional. Special augmentative aids, such as picture and symbol communication boards and electronic devices, are available to help people express themselves. This may increase social interaction, school performance, and feelings of self-worth. (©1997-2014 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association)

Here are some sites where you can get more information about AAC:

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association - the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for more than 173,070 audiologists, speech-language pathologists, speech, language, and hearing scientists, audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel, and students.

<http://www.asha.org/public/speech/disorders/AAC.htm>

AAC Institute - a not-for-profit, charitable organization dedicated to the most effective communication for people who rely on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC).

<http://www.aac institute.org/AAC.html>

PrAACtical AAC - a Pinterest supporting SLPs who provide AAC to children and adults with significant communication challenges.

www.PrAACticalAAC.org

