

When to Refer: A Guide for Providers

Knowing when to refer a patient for AAC services can ensure timely intervention.

Refer if the Child Has...

- ☐ Limited speech development or no spoken language
- ☐ Unclear speech that impacts functional communication
- ☐ Difficulty making their wants/needs known
- ☐ Frequent frustration due to communication breakdowns
- ☐ A degenerative condition affecting speech
- ☐ Speech that is inconsistent or unreliable
- ☐ A history of unsuccessful speech therapy progress
- ☐ A history of language regression

Medical Diagnoses That Often Benefit from AAC

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Global Developmental Delay
- Cerebral Palsy (CP)
- Down Syndrome
- Apraxia of Speech
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Progressive Neurological Disorder

How to Refer a Patient

- Write a prescription for '*Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Evaluation*'
- Provide relevant medical history that impacts communication
- Direct families to Speech Tech or another AAC service provider for assessment