

Resources and Strategies for Children with Complex Communication Needs

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Overview

- I. Intro to Speech/Language Disorders
- II. Speech and Language in 17q12
- III. What is AAC?
- IV. The AAC Assessment Process
- V. FAQs

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Speech and Language Disorders

- Impairments in speech and language are the most common developmental problems of early childhood
 - Prevalence estimates range from 14.5% 19% of 4 5 year old children (McLeod & Harrison, 2009: Beitchman et al., 1986)

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Speech and Language Disorders

- · Speech sound disorders
 - · Articulation or phonological disorder
 - Dysarthria
 - Apraxia
- · Language disorders
 - · Receptive
 - Expressive
 - Pragmatic
- · Stuttering/ Fluency
- · Voice or resonance disorders

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Speech and Language Disorders

- · Most children do eventually learn to talk
- Some children take much longer, and some will remain nonverbal or minimally verbal
- · Complex communication needs
 - 12% of preschoolers enrolled in early intervention (Binger & Light, 2006)
 - * 3-6% of school-aged children in special ed (Matas et al., 1985)

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Speech & Language in 17q12 Deletions

- All who participated in 17q12 registry (6 responses) reported current speech therapy or speech therapy in past (Patient Crossroads-17q12 Interest Group)
- Most, but not all, individuals appear to have communication difficulties
 - Developmental area most likely to be affected
 - · Delayed first words
 - Receptive and expressive language impairment into school-age
 - · Speech sound disorder
 - · In context of more global cognitive delay vs. speech delay only

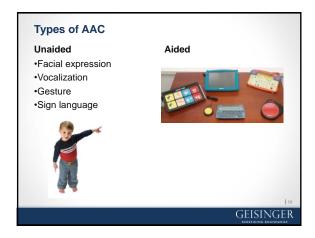
(Moreno-de-Luca et al., 2010; Nagamani et al., 2010; Roberts et al., 2014; *Unique; Patient Crossroads*)

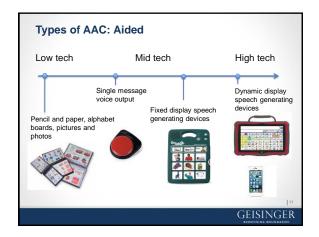
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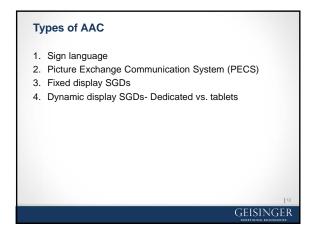












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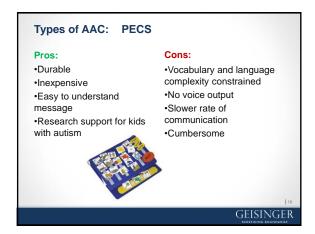
Types of AAC: Sign Language

- · American Sign Language (ASL) is a "real" language
- Before 1990, was most common AAC strategy used with people with autism and/or ID
- Some argue it is easier for individuals with ID to learn signs vs. picture selection (Sundberg & Sundberg, 1990)
- Total communication approach- using both sign and speech simultaneously

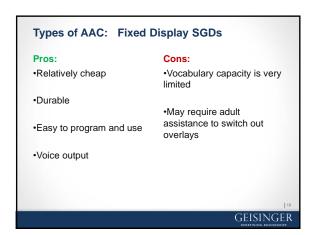
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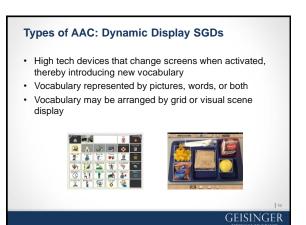
Types of AAC: Sign Language Pros: Unlimited, generative vocabulary Portable/ accessible Inexpensive Fast rate of communication Fast rate of communication Pros: Not all communication partners will understand signs Learning demands on communication partners Impossible if there are motor impairments

Types of AAC: PECS • Picture Exchange Communication System • Bondy and Frost (1985)- training protocol based on principles of ABA • 6 distinct phases: 1. How to communicate 2. Distance and persistence 3. Picture discrimination 4. Sentence structure (sentence strip) 5. Answering questions 6. Commenting

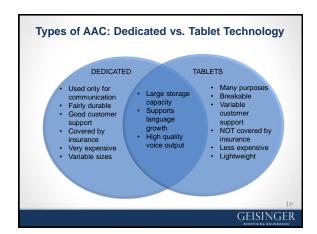


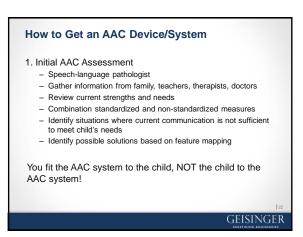




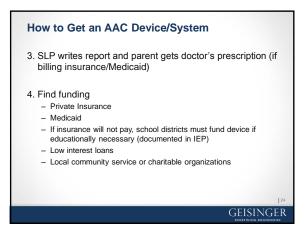


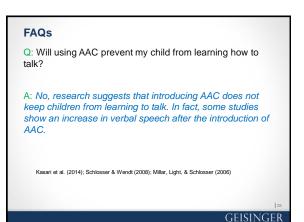














FAQs Q: How can I get an iPad or other tablet with communication software for my child? A: Be creative! - Ask the school district - Look into low cost or no interest loans - Research grant opportunities (disability organizations, etc.) - Work with local charities - Explore special deals and discounts

