Improving AAC for Children

INTRODUCTION

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) often benefits children with severe disabilities. The most effective AAC systems consider the child's individual needs and support learning and social interactions. This journal self-study explores ways to improve AAC systems to increase language skills, allow for more active participation in communication, and encourage emotional competence. Incorporating parent perceptions about AAC use into decision-making is also discussed, as are the benefits of peer involvement in communication using AAC. Clinicians will be able to incorporate strategies discussed to enhance services for children using AAC.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
You will be able to:

- discuss parent views on communication in children who use AAC
- explain the benefits of teaching children to ask questions and make requests using AAC
- describe aspects of AAC system design that improve effectiveness
- explain the importance of including options for discussing emotions when using AAC
- describe how involving peers affects communication using AAC

CONTENTS

PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Articles originally published in ASHA's scholarly journals
Start date: January 20, 2017
Peer reviewed: January 30, 2018
End date: January 30, 2023

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the test with a passing score on or before **January 30, 2023**.

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This course is offered for 0.4 ASHA CEUs (<u>Intermediate</u> level, <u>Professional</u> area).