

I CAN Centre for Assistive Technology Adult Communication Skills - Communicator Types for Aphasia

■ Please return with completed “Request for Services” form and supporting documents.

MAIL

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Name	Date of Birth (yyyy-Mon-dd)
Type of Aphasia	
<p>Please complete this form if your client has Aphasia. This section should be completed by a Health Care Professional, such as a Speech-Language Pathologist or Occupational Therapist.</p>	
<p>These questions are based on the AAC-Aphasia Categories of Communicators Checklist (Garrett & Lasker 2005, available at http://aac.unl.edu)</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Partner Dependent Communicator (ie, requires assistance from partner for the majority of communication interactions)</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Emerging communicator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Looks up when greeted <input type="checkbox"/> Takes objects and returns them within familiar routines <input type="checkbox"/> Emerging ability to demonstrate acceptance or rejection of a tangible choice <input type="checkbox"/> Increased attentiveness to tangible objects (e.g. clothing), personal photos, or familiar items <p><input type="checkbox"/> Contextual choice communicator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Clearly aware of daily routines <input type="checkbox"/> Clearly indicates an answer or preference by pointing to a choice of objects, pictures, or large print written words <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes tries to communicate via natural modalities <input type="checkbox"/> Can participate in multi-turn conversations given partner supported strategies (<i>written choice, tagged yes-no questions, augmented comprehension</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Confirms or selects topics of interest <input type="checkbox"/> Partner input and support enhances comprehension <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transitional communicator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Can use complete messages on a board or device with cues <input type="checkbox"/> Can shift modalities with cues <input type="checkbox"/> Can initiate a partial message on occasion and in specific contexts but requires support to communicate a complete message <input type="checkbox"/> Can request by pointing or vocalizing <input type="checkbox"/> Can greet or produce gestural or spoken word responses in automatic social conversation 	

**I CAN Centre for Assistive Technology
Adult Communication Skills - Communicator Types for Aphasia**

Independent Communicator (*ie, does not depend on partner support to communicate and is able to independently communicate with variety of partners*)

Stored message communicator

- Initiates communication without support
- Independently locates messages that have been stored in advance by others
- May occasionally produce meaningful spoken words or phrases
- May occasionally communicate portions of ideas by writing or using symbolic gestures
- Aware of communication breakdowns but unable to repair successfully

Generative message communicator

- Independently combines a variety of modalities and/or message components to create new messages
- Independently navigates to multiple locations in a communication system to retrieve appropriate messages
- May utilize several steps to produce a single message (e.g. symbol sequences, word prediction, spell a series of letters)
- Uses stored messages independently in predictable situations when rapid communication is needed
- Can sometimes communicate by drawing schematics, maps, objects
- Recognizes errors and breakdowns and is sometimes successful at repair

Specific need communicator

- Has indicated a need to perform a specific communication task more efficiently
- In specific contexts or life situations, selectively uses AAC systems and strategies to communicate messages
- May fall into either independent or dependent classifications

Form completed by (*Print Name*)

Signature