



ADULT AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION (AAC) CLINIC

AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY

“Communication is the essence of human life.”
— Janice Light



M.D. STEER SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND SWALLOWING CLINIC

Lyles-Porter Hall
715 Clinic Dr.
West Lafayette, IN. 47907

CONTACT:

Michelle Gutmann
mgutmann@purdue.edu
765-494-3809

WHAT IS AAC?

According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, AAC is an area of clinical practice that supplements or compensates for impairments in speech- language production and/or comprehension, for both spoken and written language.

Prescription of a speech- generating device (SGD) may be made following a comprehensive assessment.

Treatment will address set- up and training on how to use an individual's AAC device or system as well as integration of the client's device or system into their life.

We work with local AAC vendors so we can access state-of-the-art AAC equipment.

The power of communication.

“If all my possessions were taken from me, with one exception, I would choose to keep the power of communication – for by it I would soon regain all the rest.”

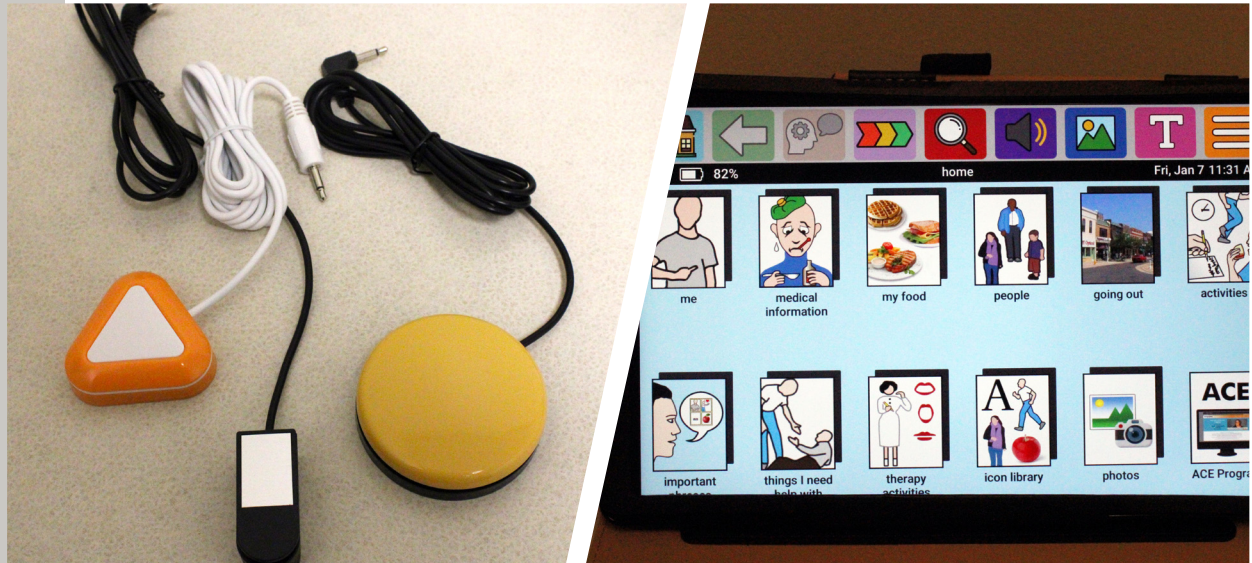
— Daniel Webster

For people who have lost their ability to speak, AAC provides communication options.



IS AAC COVERED BY INSURANCE?

- AAC devices and systems may be covered by insurance, depending on coverage.
- The AAC Clinic currently accepts Medicare, Aetna and Anthem insurance.



High tech augmentative and alternative communication devices, such as Lingraphica® assistive software (right) and switches (left), allow individuals with severe acquired communication disorders to convey a variety of messages with the touch of a finger.

Who needs AAC?

Adults with acquired neurogenic communication disorders or neurodegenerative diseases who have difficulty meeting their daily needs for spoken and/or written communication may benefit from AAC.

This includes individuals experiencing the following severe speech, language and cognitive impairments:

- Aphasia
- Dysarthria
- Severe apraxia of speech
- Cognitive-communication deficit related to:
 - Aphasia
 - Cancer
 - Traumatic brain injury (TBI)
 - Dementia (mild-moderate)

Deficits may be secondary to diagnoses such as, but not limited to:

- ALS, multiple sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's disease
- Cancer (head and neck)
- Dementia
- Stroke (CVA)
- TBI or mild TBI

How do I get an appointment?

Consult with your doctor and request a referral. Doctor's referral must include:

- Patient's Full Name
- Date of Birth
- Specify "AAC Evaluation and Treatment"
- Fax prescription to confidential clinic fax line at 765-494-0771.