



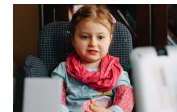
Identifying Potential Access Methods for AAC: A Systematic Approach

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1

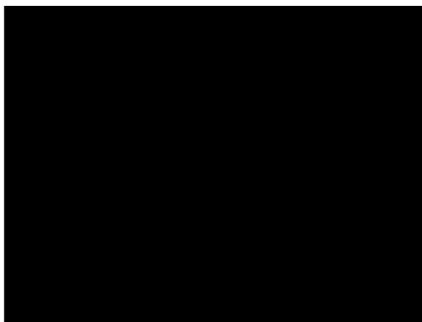
Definition of Access Method

"...how a person makes selections on a piece of equipment like a computer, tablet or a communication device."



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Hints

Positioning

- Throughout the day
- Quality
- Vision
- Fatigue
- Learning load



- Accuracy
- Efficiency
- Endurance

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Key Thoughts

Many people need more than one access method!

- Various positions during the day
- One for now and one for later

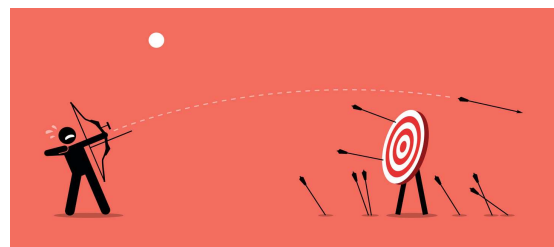
Best access is:

- Accurate
- Efficient
- Effective
- Offers the most options!

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Frequent Approach to Access Identification



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6

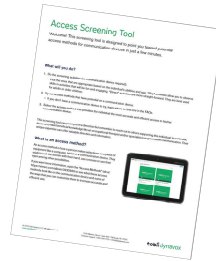
Systematic Approach to Access Identification

Free from Tobii Dynavox

Identify potential access methods

- During AAC evaluations
- Apply to low or high tech AAC
- In about 15 minutes

Created in cooperation with Christine Jasch, Occupational Therapist with specializing in access.



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Use of Access Screening Tool

Most applicable for:

- Less experienced team members
- Facilitating consensus
- Making evaluation process transparent

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Access Screening Tool

Welcome! This screening tool is designed to point you toward potential access methods for communication devices in just a few minutes.

What will you do?

1. Do the screening activities (no communication device required).
 - Pick the ones that are appropriate based on the individual's abilities and age. "Play" activities allow you to observe skills in activities that will be fun and engaging. "Direct" activities are more straight forward. They are best used for adults or older children.
2. Try out access methods that have potential on a communication device.
 - If you don't have a communication device to try them where to find one in the FAQs.
3. Select the access method that provides the individual the most accurate and efficient access to his/her communication device.

This screening tool can point you in a direction but remember to reach out to others supporting this individual; in particular, those who have beneficial knowledge like an occupational therapist and/or specialist in augmentative communication. Their unique expertise can offer valuable direction and information.

What is an access method?

An access method is how a person makes selections on a piece of equipment like a computer, tablet or a communication device. They might touch the screen with their hand, use a mouse or select their eyes among other possibilities.

If you want more information, open the "Access Methods" tab at <https://tobii.com/dynavox20200808> to see what these access methods look like on the communication device and some of the ways that you can customize them to increase accurate and efficient use.



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9

Importance of Team Involvement

- Knowledge
- Experience
- Perspective



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10

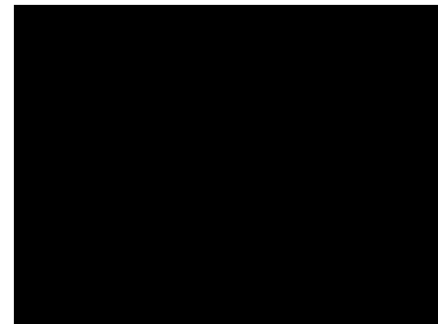
Process

1. Activity
 - Direct
 - Play
2. Observe
3. Decide



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Continue with Remaining Access Methods

2. Mouse (Hand)

Goal: Use any of the following activities to determine if this individual has potential to use a mouse to access their communication device.



Activities:

Direct

- Ask the individual to show you how he/she can use a mouse on a computer to click on increasingly small objects

Play

- Using a website of interest, have the individual point to and click on items on the screen
- Play a preferred computer game using the mouse
- Using music or videos of interest on the computer or online, have the individual select play and pause

Observe:

- Was the individual able to move the mouse to targets?
- Was he/she able to click on targets or able to allow pointer to dwell on a target for a period of time?
- Was the individual motivated to use the mouse as a way to access the computer?

Tip:

• Clicking is not necessary for successful use of a mouse on a communication device. Selection can occur by dwelling the

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13



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14

Try Access Methods with Appropriate AAC



Based on need and skills in:

- Ambulation
- Sensory
- Engagement
- Literacy
- Growth
- Etc.

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15

Systematic Approach to Access Identification

- Identify potential access methods initially
- Assess possible new options
- Use for any AAC
- Encourage team involvement

Hit the target!



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16

Resources

- Access Screening Tool - <https://www.tobiidynavox.com/products/mytobiidynavox-overview/tobii-dynavox-for-professionals/resources-for-professionals/>
- Access Videos
 - English - <https://vimeo.com/album/3235930>
 - Swedish - <https://vimeo.com/album/3350323>

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17