

Communication Success Screening

If you know an individual who has difficulty communicating with others, the following checklist may help you determine whether you should explore some communication tools that could help. You can use this screening in a few different ways:

- Complete this screening on your own and then discuss with the appropriate individual (e.g., physician, speech-language pathologist, educator, etc).
 - Have each member of the intervention team (e.g., speech-language pathologist, family members, educators, job coach, etc.) answer these questions individually and then come together to discuss.
1. Does the individual have a diagnosis (e.g., autism, CP, aphasia, ALS, etc.) that puts him/her at risk for speech and language challenges? Yes___ No___
 2. Does the individual have less than 20 words or signs/signals that can be understood by unfamiliar listeners? Yes___ No___
 3. Does the individual have difficulty communicating his/her ideas (e.g., asking for a desired item, telling a story, expressing an idea)? Yes___ No___
 4. Does the individual have difficulty having basic needs met? Yes___ No___
 5. Does the individual attempt to communicate verbally, but attempts are unintelligible to most listeners (e.g., Apraxia, dysarthria)? Yes___ No___
 6. Does the individual become frustrated and exhibit inappropriate behaviors when unable to communicate with others? Yes___ No___
 7. Does the individual show an interest in social interaction, but lacks the verbal skills to do so? Yes___ No___
 8. Does the individual have difficulty initiating interaction with others? Yes___ No___
 9. Does the individual use objects, photographs or picture symbols primarily for requesting but needs a way to increase language function? Yes___ No___
 10. Does the individual fall below either developmental milestones for expressive language or previous expressive levels? Yes___ No___
 11. Does the individual lack a reliable yes/no response? Yes___ No___

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12. Does the individual have difficulty participating appropriately in conversations with peers? Yes___ No___
13. Does the individual benefit from help from a familiar communication partner to communicate effectively with others? Yes___ No___
14. Is the individual non-verbal and communicates most successfully using facial expression, body language, gestures and behaviors (either socially appropriate behaviors or challenging behaviors)? Yes___ No___
15. Do pictures seem to increase both comprehension and expression? Yes___ No___
16. Is it difficult for the individual to successfully participate in meaningful day-to-day activities (e.g., routine classroom activities, work, leisure)? Yes___ No___

Count the number of YES responses and write it here  _____

If you have 5 or more YES responses, then this individual might be a good candidate for augmentative communication intervention.

Use the space below to write any additional concerns or questions that you want to discuss.
