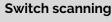
AAC Access Methods



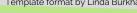






Partner assisted scanning









Indirect Selection

User selects their desired word/language by indicating (e.g., switch hit, head nod) when the word/language is presented or by making multiple selections (i.e., corresponding color + number) that indicate their desired word's location (coded access).

Examples:

- Switch scanning (e.g., timed, step)
- Partner assisted scanning
- Coded access

Who Might Benefit:

- Those with fine motor or vision impairments that makes direct selection challenging
- Those whose language skills require access to more vocabulary than their physical skills allow via direct selection
- Those who can use direct selection, but are unable to do so all the time due to fatigue, positioning, sensory, or environmental factors

Consider indirect selection if direct selection is not always possible or if direct selection requires restricted language options

Access to robust language and automonous communication is the ultimate goal. Other than efficiency, direct selection is not inherently better than indirect. It's okay to use a combination of supports or to use indirect selection while you continue to develop direct selecting access skills.

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AAC Access Methods

Direct Selection

User directly points to, touches, or activates words/locations on the AAC system.

Examples:

- Point/touch to screen, book, or board
- Eye tracking
- Pointing devices (e.g., stylus, head pointers, joystick)

Who Might Benefit:

- Those with relatively strong fine motor skills
- Those with sufficient vision
- Those who use indirect selection for access to language at their language level, but benefit from additional AAC supports for quick access to a fixed number of words/messages.

Direct selection is preferred when possible because it is the most efficient.



Touch to screen or book



Eye tracking







Access to robust language and automonous communication is the ultimate goal. Other than efficiency, direct selection is not inherently better than indirect. It's okay to use a combination of supports or to use indirect selection while you continue to develop direct selecting access skills.

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