

FACT SHEET



PEDIATRICS

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Assistive Technology Resources

Assistive technology (AT) and AT services for children with disabilities are now a greater part of pediatric physical therapy practice due to the increased availability of technology and federal legislation that promotes the use of AT. Many pediatric physical therapists are seeking reliable information and resources for this part of their practice. Resources and online training and discussion communities are now available to enhance the ability to meet the AT needs of children.

The following is a select list of the many resources available to assist service providers in evaluation and assessment of the need, effectiveness, and fit of AT. The resource list includes funding, online discussion groups and learning communities, professional associations and organizations, research, technology and devices, training modules, and federal- and state-funded assistive technology projects.

Books

Alliance information sheet. *Assistive Technology for Infants and Young Children*. Minneapolis, MN: PACER Center; 2002.

Angelo J. *Assistive Technology for Rehabilitation Therapists*. Philadelphia, PA: F. A. Davis; 1997.

Bryant DP, Bryant, BR. *Assistive Technology for People with Disabilities*. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon; 2003. www.ablongman.com

Flippo KF, Inge KJ, Barcus JM. *Assistive Technology: A Resource for School, Work and Community*. Baltimore, MD: Brookes Publishing Co; 1997.

Judge SL, Parette HP. *Assistive Technology for Young Children with Disabilities: A Guide to Providing Family-Centered Services*. Brookline, MA: Brookline Books; 1998.

National School Boards Association's ITTE: Education Technology Programs. *Technology for Students with Disabilities: A School Leader's Resource Guide*. Alexandria, VA: National School Boards Association; 2004. www.nsba.org

Olsen DA, DeRuyter F. *Clinician's Guide to Assistive Technology*. Philadelphia, PA: Mosby; 2001.

Scherer MJ. *Assistive Technology: Matching Device and Consumer for Successful Rehabilitation*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association; 2001.

Scherer MJ. *Living in the State of Stuck: How Assistive Technology Impacts the Lives of People with Disabilities*. Brookline, MA: Brookline Books; 2000.

Evaluation, Assessment, and Determining Need

Consortium Model for AT Decision Making

Issue brief on a 10-step assistive technology decision-making model for children and youth with disabilities and special health care needs. (Consortium for Children and Youth with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs. *Consortium Brief #13: Promoting Assistive Technology in an Outcome Driven Model of Service Delivery*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development; 2003.) <http://gucchd.georgetown.net/ucedd/publications.html#assistive>

Education Tech Points Web Site

Framework for assistive technology planning in early intervention and school settings, including making AT determination, assessment, and implementation. Resources for providers, parents, and a “help desk” section that assists the user with pinpointing breakdowns in the AT implementation process. <http://www.educationtechpoints.org/>

Human Activity Assistive Technology (HAAT) Model

The HAAT model was developed to analyze the complexities of function and participation with the use of assistive technology is part of that context. (Cook AM, Hussey SM. *Assistive Technologies Principles and Practice*. St. Louis, Missouri: Mosby; 2002.)

Lifespace Access Profile for Individuals With Severe or Multiple Disabilities

Team-based AT assessment and planning observational protocol that evaluates an individual’s abilities across physical, cognitive, emotional, and support resources as well as an environmental analysis. (DeCoste D. *Assistive Technology Assessment: Developing a Written Productivity Profile*. Volo, IL: Don Johnston Inc; 2004.) Book and computerized version available for purchase here: http://www.donjohnston.com/products/teacher_resources/assistive_tech_assess/index.html

Matching Person and Technology (MPT) and Matching Assistive Technology & Child (MATCH)

Process and instrument for matching the individual with the proper assistive technology. The framework assists in determining need for, selection, and implementation of AT. MPT is for youth and adults and MATCH is for children. Institute for Matching Person and Technology Inc: <http://www.iam333.com/mpt/>

Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology (QIAT) Services and the QIAT Consortium

An interdisciplinary Web site about the development and delivery of quality assistive technology. The site contains resources and sample documents for considering AT and AT services on an Individualized Education Program. The site has a link to join an active online community about AT called the QIAT list. http://natri.uky.edu/assoc_projects/qiat/index.html

Student, Environment, Task, and Tools (SETT) (Zabala, 2001)

Framework for making decisions about AT in the school setting, including determining if AT is needed, assessment planning, and implementation of the AT. www.askaspecialist.ca.gov/articles/inclusion_transition.htm
<http://atto.buffalo.edu/registered/ATBasics/Foundation/Assessment/sett.php>

Learning Tools Web Site Assistive technology Web site that has a section dedicated to evaluation, assessment, and decision making. www.learningtools.us/Access/Assessment/eval_tools.htm

Funding

AbleData

Resource for assistive technology information including funding options. www.abledata.com/abledata.cfm
www.abledata.com/abledata_docs/funding.htm

Assistive Technology Funding and Systems Change Project (ATFSCP)

Provides training, technical assistance, and information on assistive technology funding and systems change issues nationwide. www.icdri.org/Assistive%20Technology/atfs.htm

Family Center on Technology and Disability (FCTD) Links to Funding Resources

Resource on technology and disability, including links to funding information and conferences.

www.fctd.info/webboard/displayResources.php?id=496

Funding for Assistive Technology and Assistive Technology Services

Publication about public, private, and community funding resources for AT and AT services. (Consortium for Children and Youth with Disabilities and Special Health Care Needs. *Consortium Brief #3: Funding for Assistive Technology and Assistive Technology Services*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development; 2005.)

<http://gucchdgeorgetown.net/ucedd/publications.html#assistive>

Assistive Technology Funding Search Tips From United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)

www.ucp.org/ucp_channel.doc.cfm/1/14/86/86-86/2938

Online Discussion Groups and Learning Communities

Augmentative Communication On-Line Users Group (ACOLUG)

Listserv created to information and experiences on augmentative communication.

<http://disabilities.temple.edu/acolug>

Alliance for Technology Access (ATA)

Network of community-based resource centers that provides information and support services to children and adults with disabilities, increasing their use of standard, assistive, and information technologies. Has an online community.

www.ataccess.org

The Infinitec Assistive Technology Coalitions

Managed by United Cerebral Palsy of Chicago. Online community based on assistive technology.

www.coalitionconnection.org

QIAT Consortium at the Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology (QIAT) Services

Online community about AT called the QIAT list. The QIAT list is a well-monitored interdisciplinary group of experts in AT, especially in early intervention and educational settings.

http://natri.uky.edu/assoc_projects/qiat/index.html

Technology and Devices

Ablenet

Products for children.

<http://ablenetinc.com/>

AbilityHub

The site directs you to adaptive equipment and alternative methods available for accessing computers.

www.abilityhub.com

Access Ingenuity

Universal access specialists for all disabilities and helpful resource material.

www.accessingenuity.com

Enabling Devices

Devices, including adapted toys.

<http://enablingdevices.com/catalog>

Enablemart

Education, learning, computer access, and communication devices.

www.enablemart.com

Meal Partners

Assistive dining devices and equipment.

<http://mealtimpartners.com/>

Rehabtool

Assistive technology and adaptive equipment for adults and children.

www.rehabtool.com

Simplified Technology

Links to AT resources, products, and handouts on how to make simple switches and other simple technology.

www.lburkhart.com

WheelchairNet

Dedicated to information on wheelchairs for consumers, clinicians, researchers, and funders. Resources for products, services, research developments, discussions, products, industry product standards, funding, services, etc.

www.wheelchairnet.org/index.html

Training

Assistive Technology Training Online Project (ATTO)

Information and resources on AT in elementary classrooms. Contains modules on decision making, resources, and tutorials.

<http://atto.buffalo.edu/> .

Closing the Gap

Information, publications, conferences, and other training on assistive technology.

www.closingthegap.com

Assistive Technology Strategies, Tools, Accommodations, and Resources (ATSTAR)

Online training modules. Must subscribe to take the modules. Collaborative effort between Arlington, Texas School District, the Austin Community College, the University of Texas at Austin, Austin Harvard School, Sylvan Learning Center, Far South Community Schools, and Region XIII Education Service Center.

www.atstar.org

Professional Associations and Organizations

Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA)

ATIA is a not-for-profit membership organization of manufacturers or distributors selling technology-based assistive devices for people with disabilities or providing services. An annual conference is held in Orlando, Florida, in January.

www.atia.org

Assistive Technology Training Online (ATTO)

Provides internet-based training in both general and specific areas of adapted computer use. Focus on AT in elementary classrooms.

<http://atto.buffalo.edu/>

Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE)

Membership from countries throughout Europe. Focus on creating awareness of assistive technology, promoting research and development of assistive technologies. <http://139.91.151.134/index.asp?auto-redirect=true&accept-initial-profile=standard>

Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association (ARATA)

Conferences, special-interest groups, Web site, list-serv, membership directory, and a quarterly newsletter. <http://e-bility.com/arata>

International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC)

Focus on ACC, membership, training, conferences and information. www.isaac-online.org

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)

A section of the Web site devoted to AT and AT resources in diversity, funding, plan development, inclusion, policy, and quality assurance.

www.nectac.org/topics/atech/bibliography.asp

Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA)

Professional society for assistive technology and disability. This is the body that certifies assistive technology professionals (ATP). Many resources, professional development opportunities, and information.

<http://resna.org/>

Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)

Focus on accessibility of the Web through technology, guidelines, tools, education and outreach, and research and development.

<http://www.w3.org/>

Research

AAC-RERC

Augmentative and Alternative Communication Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (AAC-RERC) on Communication Enhancement. This is one of a network of RERCs funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) of the United States Department of Education.

<http://aac-rerc.com>

Consortium for Assistive Technology Outcomes Research (CATOR)

Conducts research to improve measurement, reduce barriers to the use of outcome measures, and understand the processes for AT adoption and abandonment.
www.atoutcomes.org

Trace Center

Research and information about how to make current and emerging technologies accessible to individuals with disabilities.
www.trace.wisc.edu

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)

Part of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), NIDRR is the major U.S. funder of assistive technology research. Funds the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers (RERCs), which conduct research and development in specific areas of assistive technology application, including full inclusion, social integration, employment, and independent living of individuals with disabilities.
www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/nidrr/index.html

Resources

AT Outcomes

The AT Outcomes listserv and this Web site are dedicated to the development, evaluation, and application of valid, reliable, and sensitive outcome measure tools.
<http://atrc.utoronto.ca/>

The Center for Universal Design

The Center for Universal Design is a national research, information, and technical assistance center that evaluates, develops, and promotes accessible and universal design in buildings and related products.
www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/

Do-It Center

Promotes access and participation through assistive technology. General resources, education, technology, legal, social, and political issues.
www.washington.edu/doiit

The Family Center on Assistive Technology
Resources, news, discussions, and a free family guides: www.fctd.info
Family Guide to Assistive Technology:
www.fctd.info/resources/fig

Learning Tools: Assistive Technology & Regular Technology for Students with Disabilities

Comprehensive assistive technology resource Web site for children and youth in school, including evaluation, access, learning, and recreation resources.
www.learningtools.us

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)

A library and information center on disability and rehabilitation.
www.naric.com

Technology and Media Division (TAM)

Resources and Web-based seminars on assistive technology. It also has an online publication called The Journal of Special Education Technology (JSET), which is available by subscription.
www.tamcec.org/index.htm

University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Georgetown University

A section of this Web site contains AT resources about funding AT, wheeled mobility, a list of Web-based resources, and an issue brief outlining a model for AT decision making.
<http://gucchdgeorgetown.net/ucedd/publications.html#assistive>

Wheel Me On

Page links include materials for wheelchair users to assist in everyday living and travel.
www.wheelmeon.org

Federally Funded Assistive Technology Projects

Funded by the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1998, the following programs assist individuals with disabilities in obtaining appropriate assistive technology and assistive technology services.

AbleData

Federally funded project to provide information on assistive technology and rehabilitation equipment available from domestic and international sources to consumers, organizations, professionals, and caregivers within the United States.

www.abledata.com

Association of Tech Act Projects

Provides links to the Assistive Technology Act Projects funded through federal grants under the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1998. The programs provide information, referrals, and many other services to children and adults with disabilities.

www.ataporg.org

Access Board

Contains information on Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, requiring that electronic and information technology developed, procured, maintained, or used by the federal government be accessible to people with disabilities.

www.access-board.gov

Center for Information Technology Accommodation (CITA)

Facilitates an interagency network of accessibility specialists. It supports activities of the Council on Accessible Technology and the Federal World Wide Web Consortium. It provides resources on devices and accessories such as keyboards, Braille readers, pointing devices, screen readers, speech recognition, and mobility devices.

www.gsa.gov/cita

National Center to Improve Practice (NCIP)

Located at Education Development Center Inc, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, OSEP to promote use of technology to enhance educational outcomes for students with disabilities.

www2.edc.org/NCIP

State Tech Act Projects

The Assistive Technology Act of 1998 funds programs in the states and territories to improve the provision of AT to individuals with disabilities across the lifespan and their families, guardians, and advocates.

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP)

National network of state AT programs assist states in implementing the AT Act. Has a comprehensive list of the each State Tech Act Project.

www.ataporg.org

Selected State AT Projects (See the ATAP Web site (www.ataporg.org) for a complete list):

Alabama Statewide Technology Access &

Response Project: www.rehab.state.al.us/Home/default.aspx?url=/Home/Services/VRS/STAR+System/Main

Alaska Assistive Technology Program:

www.labor.state.ak.us/at/index.htm

Colorado AT Project: www.uchsc.edu/atp

Connecticut Tech Act Project: www.cttechact.com

DC Assistive Technology Program: www.atpdc.org

Florida: Alliance for Assistive Service and

Technology: www.faast.org

Georgia: Tools For Life: www.gatfl.org

Idaho Assistive Technology Project:

www.educ.uidaho.edu/idatech/index.asp

Illinois Assistive Technology Project: www.iltech.org

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT):

www.uiowa.edu/infotech

Kentucky Assistive Technology Services (KATS)

Network: www.katsnet.org

Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network

(LA TAN): www.latan.org

Maine Consumer Information and Technology

Training Exchange (CITE): www.maine cite.org

Maryland Technology Assistance Program

(MD TAP): www.md tap.org

Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership:

www.atp.ne.gov

New England Assistive Technology Marketplace:

www.neatmarketplace.org

New Jersey: Assistive Technology Advocacy Center

(ATAC) of NJ P&A: www.drnj.org/atac

New Mexico Technology Assistance Program:

www.nmtap.com

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project:

www.ncatp.org

North Dakota Interagency Program for Assistive Technology:

www.ndipat.org

Assistive Technology of Ohio:

www.atohio.org

Oklahoma ABLE Tech:

www.ok.gov/abletech

Oregon Technology Access Program:

www.otap-oregon.org/Pages/Default.aspx

Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology:

<http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/assistive/piat>

Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership:

www.atap.ri.gov

Vermont AT Project:

www.dail.state.vt.us/ATP

Virginia Assistive Technology Project:

www.vats.org

Wisconsin AT Program (WisTech):

<http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/disabilities/wistech/index.htm>

For More Information:

If you have additional questions, would like to order additional copies of this fact sheet, or would like to join the Section on Pediatrics, please contact the Executive Office of the Section on Pediatrics of the American Physical Therapy Association at: APTA Section on Pediatrics, 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, pediatrics@apta.org, www.pediatricapta.org.

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