AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM TYPES & CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTION

A DRONE’S-EYE VIEW

MEDICARE FUNDING: AAC AS DME

- E 2500: digitized speech, pre-recorded messages, ≤ 8 minutes recording time
- E 2502: digitized speech, pre-recorded messages, 9-20 minutes recording time
- E 2504: digitized speech, pre-recorded messages, 21-40 minutes recording time
- E 2506: digitized speech, pre-recorded messages, >40 minutes recording time
- E 2508: synthesized speech, message formulation by spelling + access by physical contact with the device
- E 2510: synthesized speech, multiple methods of message formulation + multiple methods of device access
- E 2511: software programs that allow a computer to operate as a speech generating device
- E 2512: communication device accessories (mounts)
- E 2599: communication device accessories (switches, key guards, gaze, headmouse)
DIGITIZED DEVICES (E2500-E2506)

Digitally recorded human voices speaking messages stored in the device & played back upon selection

Designed for people who communicate primarily using pre-stored messages

Communicate by selecting photos/symbolic messages organized by

- semantic category
- context
- visual display

Static display: customized with paper overlays to correspond with pre-programmed message

SYNTHESIZED DEVICES (E2508-E2510)

Messages are converted via text-to-speech technology (computer generated speech) that sounds similar to human voice

Designed for people who primarily generate novel messages

- Use photos, symbols, text to construct messages
- Often rate acceleration features included, such as word prediction
- Storage for frequently used messages

Dynamic display: messages selected via computer screen (touch screen, or other access) – when selected, a new array of choices appears
SOFTWARE (E2511)

- Apps
- Visual scene displays

Text based
Symbol based

ACCESSORIES (E2512, E2599)

- Speech recognition software for voice access
- Eye gaze access device
- Switches for scanning access
- Head pointing access device
- Key guards for hand access
CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

1. Adapting to changes associated with progressive disease
2. Multilingual households
3. Representing appropriate symbol set
4. Communicating to ageing peers (vision, hearing loss)
5. Level of support necessary (particularly important if varied places of residence)