

SPA 900: Professional MSc Project – Case study of AAC device recipients from AADL program

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Abstract

Speech generating communication devices (SGCD) help individuals with severe speech impairments meet the needs of daily communication. They are commonly used by individuals who have congenital, developmental and/or acquired disabilities in which their ability to speak has been impaired. The primary aim of this study is to gain an in-depth understanding of a child who uses augmentative/alternative communication methods, specifically using a Speech Generating Communication Device (SGCD) supplied by Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL), and the impact this device has on the life of the child and his family. Interviews of the child's family, teachers, and support workers, in addition to observations at home and at school, provided the opportunity to observe the device's use and impact in real world contexts.