



Communication Matrix

JANUARY 17, 2019

Agenda



Background



What is the Matrix?



Who does the Matrix support?



Website components



Walk through tutorial



How to utilize the Matrix



How CHAT clinicians utilize the Matrix



Questions

Background

- About the researchers
- Non-profit, free resource
- Informal assessment tool to utilize with individuals ages 0-21 with complex communication needs
- www.communicationmatrix.org

What is the Communication Matrix?

- Free, informal assessment to measure a child's current state of language functioning.
- Free website utilized by creating free account
- Questionnaire format
- Approximately 30-45 minutes to complete
- Graphs an individual's communication abilities on the basis of levels and stages of communication

Who does the Communication Matrix support?



Individuals with
complex
communication
abilities

Individuals utilizing
AAC in any capacity
Individuals who display
difficulty during
“typical” standardized
assessment measures
Individuals who are
nonverbal and have
cognitive delays



Parents and caregivers



Speech pathologists and educators

Tutorial Time!

	←						→											
Level 1 Pre-Intentional Behavior	A1 Expresses Discomfort	A2 Expresses Comfort					A3 Expresses Interest in Other People											
Level 2 Intentional Behaviour	B1 Protests	B2 Continues Action			B3 Obtains More of Something			B4 Attracts Attention										
Level 3 Unconventional Communication	C1 Refuses, Rejects	C2 Requests More Action	C3 Requests New Action	C4 Requests More Object	C5 Makes Choices	C6 Requests New Object	C8 Requests Attention		C9 Shows Affection									
Level 4 Conventional Communication	C1 Refuses, Rejects	C2 Requests More Action	C3 Requests New Action	C4 Requests More Object	C5 Makes Choices	C6 Requests New Object	C8 Requests Attention		C9 Shows Affection	C10 Greets People	C11 Offers, Shares	C12 Direct Your Attention	C13 Polite Social Forms	C14 Answers Yes/No Questions	C15 Asks Questions			
Level 5 Concrete Symbols	C1 Refuses, Rejects	C2 Requests More Action	C3 Requests New Action	C4 Requests More Object	C5 Makes Choices	C6 Requests New Object	C7 Requests Absent Objects	C8 Requests Attention	C9 Shows Affection	C10 Greets People	C11 Offers, Shares	C12 Direct Your Attention	C13 Polite Social Forms	C14 Answers Yes/No Questions	C15 Asks Questions	C16 Names Things/People	C17 Makes Comments	
Level 6 Abstract Symbols	C1 Refuses, Rejects	C2 Requests More Action	C3 Requests New Action	C4 Requests More Object	C5 Makes Choices	C6 Requests New Object	C7 Requests Absent Objects	C8 Requests Attention	C9 Shows Affection	C10 Greets People	C11 Offers, Shares	C12 Direct Your Attention	C13 Polite Social Forms	C14 Answers Yes/No Questions	C15 Asks Questions	C16 Names Things/People	C17 Makes Comments	
Level 7 Language	C1 Refuses, Rejects	C2 Requests More Action	C3 Requests New Action	C4 Requests More Object	C5 Makes Choices	C6 Requests New Object	C7 Requests Absent Objects	C8 Requests Attention	C9 Shows Affection	C10 Greets People	C11 Offers, Shares	C12 Direct Your Attention	C13 Polite Social Forms	C14 Answers Yes/No Questions	C15 Asks Questions	C16 Names Things/People	C17 Makes Comments	
	Refuse	Obtain					Social					Information						

- Not Used
- Emerging
- Mastered
- Surpassed

Website Components

- Assessment
 - Practitioners
 - Families
 - Administrators
 - Researchers
 - College Instructors
- Community
 - Collections
 - Shared Science
 - Events

Ways to implement



CREATE GOALS



IMPLEMENT IN
THERAPY



IMPLEMENT IN IEP
MEETINGS



USE AS BASELINE



ASSIST PARENTS IN
UNDERSTANDING
THEIR CHILD'S
COMMUNICATION



PROGRESS
MONITORING

Relevancy to CHAT

- Universal Account?
- Schools
- Clinic

Example explanation/IEP example

➤ Custom Report Feature

➤ Example Write-Up:

The Communication Matrix was used to assess ____'s communication progress. It shows his/her growth from *"unconventional communication in level 3 toward conventional communication strategies in level 4. He/She has started to use concrete symbols for communication which are in level 5. He/She has shown growth with a score of 47 (last year 36). Percentage growth from 23% to 28%. The growth areas were in requesting more actions, objects, attention as well as refusing objects."*

Resources/Media to Review

[Intro Video](#)

[The Basics](#)

[Answering Questions in the Matrix](#)

[Rating Descriptions \(Emerging, Mastered, Not Used\)](#)

Questions/Comments?

References

Rowland, C. (2020). Home Page - Communication Matrix. Retrieved January 12, 2020, from <https://www.communicationmatrix.org/>.

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