



Assistive Technology and/or Environmental Interventions

As defined in the CET Accreditation Standards

Narrator: Corinne Thomas, Senior Accreditation Coordinator, ACDS

Definition: Assistive Technology



Assistive technology (AT) is any

- item
- piece of equipment
- product or
- system



that increases, maintains or improves the individuals' functional capacities

- Best practice is to find AT that will let individuals control their environments independently

Examples of AT



Walking Aids

Walkers • Canes • Wheelchairs

Eating Utensils

Grippers or Foam Tubing on Cutlery • Scooper Plates
Suction Pads on Plates, Cups and Cutting Boards

Communication Systems

Cell Phones • Talking Watches • Amplified Phones
Type-to-Talk Devices • Text-to-Speech Devices
Tablets • Large Button Devices • Adapted Software



Definition: Environmental Intervention



- Environmental intervention (EI) refers to any equipment or modification that increases the individuals' functional capabilities



- Service providers are generally responsible for providing EI



Examples of EI



Equipment

Ramps • Lifts • Grab bars • Non-skid Mats • Stair Glides
Bath Chairs • Contrasting Toilet Seats or Covers

Interior and Exterior Modifications

Widened Doorways • Visual Contrast Tape
Automatic and/or Delayed Door Openers
Anti-scald Devices • Lowered Wall Outlets
Voice Activated and/or Illuminated Wall Switches
Intercom Systems • Walk-in Tubs and Showers



Categories of AT and/or EI



1. AT and/or EI that increases an individual's independence

- Category: Aids to Daily Living (ADL)

Examples

- Canes
- Wheelchairs
- Elevators
- Walkers
- Ramps
- Grippers and Grabbers





1. AT and/or EI that increases an individual's independence

- Category: Aids to Daily Living (ADL)
- Documentation
 - Consent
 - General Guidelines
 - Maintenance & Repair information





2. AT and/or EI that only limits an individual's independence to the extent needed to ensure health and safety

- Category: Health and Safety (H&S)
- Examples
 - Lap belts
 - A 3 or 5 point harness for posture





2. AT and/or EI that only limits an individual's independence to the extent needed to ensure health and safety

- Category: Health and Safety (H&S)
- Documentation
 - Consent
 - Guidelines
 - Maintenance & Repair information





- 3. AT and/or EI that only limits an individual's independence to the extent needed to address an identified behaviour of concern
 - Category: Behaviour of Concern (BOC)
 - Example
 - A 3 or 5 point harness to restrain an individual in a vehicle so that they will not hit the driver



When trying to determine which category to use

- Category: Health and Safety (H&S)
- Category: Behaviour of Concern (BOC)

ask the question, "What is the INTENT of the action or behaviour?"

- If it is a behaviour, then it is a BOC
- If it concerns posturing or falling, then it is H&S



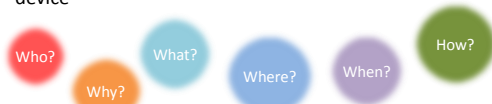
- Category: Behaviour of Concern (BOC)
- Documentation
 - Standard 32-Planned Restrictive Procedures
 - Standard 31-Planned Positive Procedures



Qualified Professional

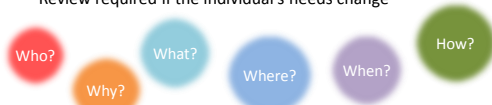


- Prior to using any AT and/or EI
 - Consult a qualified professional
 - Get an outline of the appropriate and best use of the device





- Prior to using any AT and/or EI
 - Consult a qualified professional
 - Review not required unless requested by qualified professional
 - Review required if the individual's needs change



Guidelines and Consent



- Guidelines can be provided by the qualified professional or through a staff write up
 - The purpose is to help staff be consistent
 - Guidelines address maintenance, repair schedules, and responsibilities





- Guidelines ensure that
 - Staff to know what to do with the device
 - Individuals can be as independent as possible
- The level of detail is dependent on the device
- Informed, signed consent must be in place for all AT and/or EI



Example #1



- ADL** • Wheelchair
- ADL** • Wheelchair with lap belt
 - Keep individual upright while in chair
- H&S** • Wheelchair with lap belt for safety
 - Individual needs staff help to get out of chair
- BOC** • Wheelchair with lap belt and 5 point harness
 - Keep driver and individual safe when in a vehicle

Example #2



- H&S** • Arm restraints
 - Put on an individual when eating with the help of staff
 - Stops the individual from knocking the food away
- BOC** • Arm restraints
 - Put on an individual to prevent injury when self-abusing
 - Example: breaking of skin when biting self

Example #3



- H&S**
 - Alarm on a door
 - Staff hear when a door is opening and an individual is going into the backyard
- BOC**
 - Alarm on a door
 - Staff are alerted to an individual who is exiting through the door
 - Staff can redirect the individual through a positive or restrictive strategy



- Category: Behaviour of Concern (BOC)
- Documentation
 - Standard 31-Planned Positive Procedures
 - Standard 32-Planned Restrictive Procedures





When trying to determine which category to use

- Category: Health and Safety (H&S)
- Category: Behaviour of Concern (BOC)

ask the question, “What is the INTENT of the action or behaviour?”



BOC

- Alarm and safety lock on the door
 - To keep individuals from running away
- For the individual with the BOC
 - Must be treated as a restrictive plan
 - Must meet Standard 32
- For everyone else in the home
 - Must meet the guidelines for use
 - Must have consents in place



Note



- Video cameras in living areas may be used for
 - staff training
 - safety of individuals or staff
 - monitoring individuals with BOC
 - Standard 32 must be met
- Signed consents must be obtained from individuals and staff



- When video cameras are used in common areas, Policy and Procedures must outline
 - the intent for using the camera(s)
 - who monitors the footage and reviews continual need, with timelines
 - the storage and destruction of the images, with timelines
 - storage locations



Any Questions?



This is a presentation of the
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Bay 19, 3220 – 5 Avenue NE
Calgary, AB T2A 5N1
Ph: (403) 250-9495
Fax: (403) 291-9864
Email: accred@acds.ca
