

Table 1
Communicative Means

Means	Definition	Descriptive Example
Gesture		
Discrete Motor Behavior ^a (DM)	Full or partial body movement that is distinct, differentiated, and conveys meaning	Body extension, lean toward, turn away, stand up, move away, clasp fists to chest, bounce up and down
Referential (Deictic) ^b (REF)	Gestures that indicate or call attention to an object, person, or event The referent is present in the environment.	Show, point, give, reach, take, throw, drop, touch, push, pull
Representational ^{b,c,d} (REP)	Gestures used to convey meaning <i>Symbolic gestures</i> that represent some aspect of the referent (using object or portion of object to depict activity). <i>Conventional gestures</i> that are culturally defined and used as social markers Idiosyncratic gestures that individual uses consistently to convey a specific meaning	<i>Symbolic:</i> Pantomime opening a jar, stroke cheek to signal “gentle”, brush action in front of teeth to represent toothbrush, tap top of head to say “yes” <i>Conventional:</i> head nod, head shake, wave, summoning gesture
Formal Sign ^{e,f} (SIGN)	Formal visual-motor language systems such as ASL or SEE	“C”-shaped hand to mouth for “drink”, fingertips of flat “O” hands touch in front of chest for “more”
Vocalization/Verbalization		
Discrete Vocalization ^{g,h,i} (VOC)	Vocalizations that are distinct and differentiated	Unintelligible vocalization, audible breathing, grunt, groan, cry, whimper, laugh, scream, tongue click
Verbalization ^h (VERB)	Verbal word approximations, spoken words, and phrases	/i/ for “eat”, /ma/ for “mom”, /I wa__/ for “I want”, “go”

Facial Expression		
Facial Movement ^g (FAC)	Facial movement, including idiosyncratic facial gestures that conveys specific semantic content	Smile, pout, frown, grimace, surprise, furrowed brow, unilateral lip elevation to signal "yes", kiss gesture, move tongue back and forth across lips, stick tongue out for "yes", in for "no"
Eye Gaze		
Eye Movement ^{g,i} (EYE)	Gaze in direction of or fixate gaze on communication partner(s), object, or place Avert gaze from person, object, or activity Alternate eye gaze between objects, people, or locations Use of idiosyncratic eye movement to convey specific semantic content	Look directly at or toward partner, look at a specific location within the context; look directly at an object, gaze away from a partner, object or activity; look in the direction of a person, and then in the direction of an object or location; gaze upward for "yes", downward for "no"; blink once for "yes", twice for "no".
Proxemics		
Proxemics ^a (PROX)	Approach a person, location, or object	Move in close proximity to the door, go into another room, approach a person, move walker toward a toy, crawl to location near the food, walk to the refrigerator, approach and sit next to person
AAC System		

<p>AAC^{g,i,j} (AAC)</p>	<p>Augmentative/alternative communication (AAC) system includes use of symbols (picture/word), aid (physical object/device), strategies (indicate from a field of choices) and techniques (gestures, directly select, scan)</p>	<p>Activate message on Speech-Generating Device (SGD) , point to a specific symbol on a manual board, point to picture mounted on a wall, gaze at a symbol given a choice of two symbols, pick up miniature toilet (as tangible object symbol) and give it to the partner to request bathroom, write word</p>
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^a Adapted from Harper, Wiens, & Matarazzo (1978)

^b Adapted from Iverson, & Thal (1998)

^c Adapted from Musselwhite & St. Louis (1982)

^e Sternberg (1981)

^f Gustason, G. Pftzing, D., Zawolkow, E. (1980)

^g Adapted from Harris (1978)

^h Adapted from Wetherby, Cain, Yonclas, & Walker (1988)

ⁱ Adapted from Light, Collier, & Parnes (1985)

^j Adapted from Buzolich (1983)

^k ASHA (1991)