

Implementing & Assessing Communication

for people with Acquired Communication Disabilities

Join Bethany Diener from Tobii Dynavox and our local Link Assistive Speech Pathologists Charlene Cullen and Amy Litton to discuss augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) strategies and free implementation resources for people with acquired communication disabilities including aphasia, dementia and acquired brain injury.

This workshop is for anyone working with people with acquired communication disabilities who use or may benefit from augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). Free app and print-based tools will be used to guide learning and will serve as ongoing support after the workshop. Client examples will be used to help you practically implement a range of free resources available to support the implementation and assessment of AAC.

The information and resources presented in this workshop can be applied to a range of different AAC systems.

THIS WORKSHOP WILL:

- Identify the difference in AAC assessment and implementation for people with acquired communication disabilities compared to those with developmental disabilities
- Demonstrate the use of free assessment tools in writing goals for communication and monitoring progress including Access Screening Tool, AAC Needs Assessment, Stroke & Brain Injury Communication Goals Grid
- Identify and compare the different vocabulary layouts available within AAC system design including grids and visual scene displays
- Discuss how AAC can be used to support everyday communication and participation for people with acquired communication disability



DATES AND REGISTRATION

Half Day Workshop (9am—12pm) \$50 per attendee

Brisbane 9th of April 2019 <https://www.trybooking.com/BAKZD>

Melbourne 11th April 2019 <https://www.trybooking.com/BAKZB>

Adelaide 16th April 2019 <https://www.trybooking.com/BAECS>

Sydney 18th April 2019 <https://www.trybooking.com/BAJNG>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Amy Litton

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Assistive Technology

About the Presenters



BETHANY DIENER

Bethany Diener, MS, CCC-SLP is the Manager of Implementation Resources at Tobii Dynavox. She received her Master's degree from Purdue University and has provided speech & language services for adults and children with a variety of diagnoses and in many environments since 1987. Her deep interest in AAC began during her graduate studies and has continued throughout her career. In addition to provision of clinical services, Bethany has spoken nationally and internationally on a variety of subjects related to augmentative communication and communication needs of individuals with severe communication impairments. As part of her current responsibilities, she participates in product development and creates training and implementation resources that are used in clinical and academic settings. Bethany is dedicated to encouraging independence and success in the use and implementation of augmentative-alternative communication in daily lives of augmented communicators and their partners.

CHARLENE CULLEN

Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne

Charlene has worked for over 20 years as a speech pathologist in the disability sector with children and adults with complex communication needs in the government sector in Western Australia and within the Assistive Technology field for technology suppliers Spectronics and Link Assistive for the last 10 years. Charlene's main areas of interest are Eye Gaze Technologies, Mounting Solutions, Voice Banking and providing training and clinical consultation.



AMY LITTON

Perth, Adelaide

Amy has worked for over 12 years as a speech pathologist in the disability sector with children and adults with complex communication needs within government, non for profit and private practice settings in Western Australia. Has been with Link Assistive for over a year. She has particular interest in working with schools and has worked with mainstream and education support schools throughout Western Australia providing training and in-classroom support to use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), Eye Gaze and other Assistive Technologies.

