Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Pathway for motor neurone disease (MND)

This pathway is interactive: if you’re viewing online, click the bold text to view further details. These links will only work if you are connected to the internet. Go direct to our information on communication evaluation and management at: www.mndassociation.org/aac

Referral to MND multidisciplinary team (MDT) with initial speech and language therapy (SLT) assessment

Can the person be managed locally for their AAC needs?  
Yes → Local SLT service oversees AAC needs as appropriate: consult the Decision chart

No → Referral for assessment by specialist AAC service

Does the person meet eligibility criteria for specialist AAC service?  
Yes → Option throughout local route of referral to specialist AAC service if/when criteria is met

No or not yet → No

Local SLT service to assess and use QA framework if applying for NHS England equipment-only provision

Specialist AAC service provides assessment applying priority criteria

Trial of equipment

Local AAC service to assess and use QA framework if applying for NHS England equipment-only provision

Specialist AAC service provides equipment as appropriate

Where a delay in funding or provision risks welfare, MND Association may be able to provide support with funding or short-term loan of limited range of equipment

Trial of equipment

QA report submitted to specialist assessment service for ratification for NHS England equipment-only provision

MND Association provides information about accessing training and support

Training and support

AAC equipment needs monitored by local SLT service and reviewed by specialist AAC service

Equipment provided by MND Association returned to MND Association when no longer required (unless gifted)

Equipment provided locally returned to local SLT service

Option throughout local route of referral to specialist AAC service if/when criteria is met

Yes

Referral for assessment by specialist AAC service

Local AAC service to assess and use QA framework if applying for NHS England equipment-only provision

Training and support

AAC equipment needs monitored by local SLT service and reviewed by specialist AAC service

Equipment provided by specialist AAC service returned for recycling

Equipment provided by MND Association returned to MND Association when no longer required (unless gifted)

Option throughout local route of referral to specialist AAC service if/when criteria is met

No or not yet → No

Local SLT service oversees AAC needs as appropriate: consult the Decision chart

Trial of equipment

Local AAC service to assess and use QA framework if applying for NHS England equipment-only provision

Specialist AAC service provides equipment as appropriate

Where a delay in funding or provision risks welfare, MND Association may be able to provide support with funding or short-term loan of limited range of equipment

Training and support

AAC equipment needs monitored by local SLT service and reviewed by specialist AAC service

Equipment provided by MND Association returned to MND Association when no longer required (unless gifted)

Equipment provided locally returned to local SLT service

Option throughout local route of referral to specialist AAC service if/when criteria is met

No or not yet → No

Local SLT service oversees AAC needs as appropriate: consult the Decision chart

Trial of equipment

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Equipment provided locally returned to local SLT service