



Introduction

- Garrett, Beukelman and Low-Morrow (1989) found that both initiation of conversing and rate of conversational turns increased using augmentative-alternative communication (AAC) strategies.
- Lasker and Bedrosian (2001) found increased acceptance of communication disability (as reported by the spouse), and showed overall increased communication effectiveness once the AAC system was introduced.
- Porter (2008) developed Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) systems in order to provide the following:
 - Organization of vocabulary by communicative function and discourse requirements
 - Efficiency of a system to meet communication requirements
 - Use of an effective strategy, aided language intervention, to introduce how to use the PODD for communication and to navigate the system

Purpose

- Determine the effectiveness of a PODD communication book on functional conversation of an individual with aphasia

Methods

- Participant
 - 63 year-old male who presented characteristics of Broca's aphasia
 - Western Aphasia Battery-Revised (WAB-R) relatively good comprehension and significant difficulties in production
- Baseline
 - Stable baseline established across three sessions
 - Second behavior (asking for information) remained in baseline during intervention of first behavior
- Intervention
 - Intervention began on providing information
 - Intervention on second behavior began once first behavior met training criterion

Results

Figure 1. Total score per session for baseline and intervention for providing information by the participant

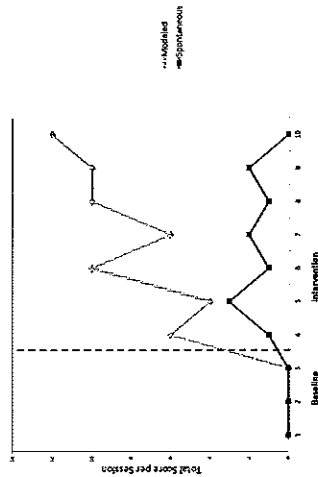
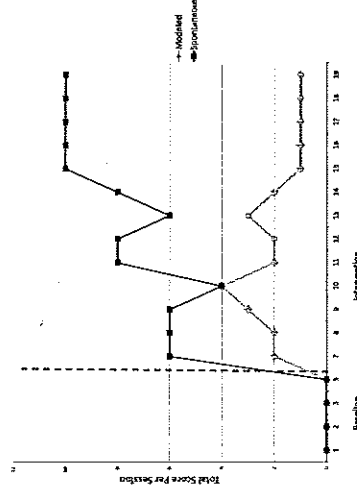


Figure 2. Total score per session for baseline and intervention for asking for information by the participant



Discussion

- Participant's ability to accurately demonstrate knowledge of the PODD increased throughout the intervention period (more spontaneous use of PODD over time)
 - Participant's acceptance of the PODD increased throughout the intervention period
 - Current results support previous studies in regards to functional communication being benefited by use of an AAC system
 - Garrett, Beukelman and Low-Morrow (1989)
 - Lasker and Bedrosian (2001)
 - Johnson, Hought, King, Vos and Jeffs (2008)
- ### Future Research
- Replication across other individuals with aphasia with similar characteristics as well as those with other types and severity of aphasia
 - Replication with participants from a variety of cultural backgrounds
 - Develop in-depth training sessions for caregivers to teach them about the PODD and how to appropriately utilize it with the participant
 - Develop questionnaire of acceptance or social validity for patients and caregivers to complete

References

- Garrett, K., Beukelman, D., & Low-Morrow, D. (1989). A comprehensive augmentative communication system for an adult with Broca's aphasia. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication, 5*, 55-61.
- Johnson, R. K., Hought, M. S., King, K. A., Vos, P., & Jeffs, T. (2008). Functional communication in individuals with chronic aphasia using augmentative communication. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication, 24*, 269-280. doi:10.1080/07434610802463957
- Lasker, J. P., & Bedrosian, J. L. (2001). Promoting acceptance of augmentative and alternative communication by adults with acquired communication disorders. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication, 17*, 141-152.
- Porter, G. (2008). *Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display Communication Books*. Retrieved from <http://www.cpecc.org.au/resources.html>