

**Referral Criteria for the AAC hub.  
(Extracted from the AAC Service Specification)**

**2.1.4      *The criteria for referral to the specialised AAC aspect of the EAT Service Wales***

- *Each individual will have been assessed by the local Spoke level service, where Spoke services are in place. Where Spoke services are in development and/or are not fully operational it is expected that individuals will have been assessed by a registered healthcare professional e.g. local Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) or Occupational Therapist (OT). In the case of Service Users with a rapidly progressing condition (see section 2.2) direct referral from any registered healthcare professional may be permitted.*
- *An individual who would access a specialist AAC service would have the following:*
  - *A complex communication need associated with a range of physical, cognitive and/or learning disabilities and/or sensory loss.*

*In addition, an individual must:*

- *be able to understand the purpose of an AAC system;*
- *have the intrinsic intent and ability to communicate;*

**2.1.4.1 Exclusion criteria:**

*Not all individuals may be eligible for AAC services. The following exclusion criteria will apply:*

- *Have impaired cognitive abilities that would specifically prevent the Service User from retaining information on how to use a complex high tech AAC system.*

**2.1.5      *Access Criteria/Rationale***

The overarching criteria for referral to the services are as follows:

- The Service User is permanently resident in Wales or whose GP practice is in Wales and who lives within a CCG bordering Wales; and
- Initial referral must originate from a registered health care professional, using the EAT Service single point referral form,