

Minspeak with Individuals with Adult Onset Disabilities

Adults with acquired disabilities, such as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) or Motor Neuron Disease (MND), use Minspeak systems that have been designed specifically for their needs.

Generally, individuals with ALS or MND had normal speech and language skills prior to the onset of their disability. When facing the need for use of an AAC system, these individuals generally want a system that gives them all the communication power that they had as speakers. They voice their wants clearly.

“I want to say exactly what I want to say.”
“I want to say it as quickly as possible.”
“I want something easy to learn and use.”

Initially, people with ALS or MND consider using spelling as a primary AAC strategy because the person with ALS or MND already knows how to spell and read. However, spelling letter-by-letter or even using word prediction is slower than using Minspeak.

How can you get the **SPEED** of Minspeak, but the **EASE** of use and learning? Can you be talking with a Minspeak system in an hour or less? The answer is “yes” – if you use a Minspeak system designed specifically for literate adults with intact language skills.

Currently, there are two Minspeak Application Programs, in English, designed for literate individuals that can easily be learned in an hour or so - Adult Quick Learning System (AQLS) and Word Core. Both of these programs are available from Prentke Romich Company.

By having a Minspeak system designed for quick and easy learning, the adult with an acquired disability can continue to be an effective communicator.