

THE ABC'S OF APD
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APD TEST BATTERY

- There is no GOLD standard for auditory processing testing
- No single assessment tool is sufficient – must use battery of tests to confirm or rule out APD condition
- There are many different approaches to assessing auditory processing skills – Buffalo Model, Bellis-Ferre Model, Robert Keith's -SCAN.
- Test battery should include:
 - Dichotic Speech Tests
SSW, Dichotic Digits, Competing Words and Sentences
 - Temporal Processing Tests
Frequency Pitch Pattern/Duration Pattern/Gaps in Noise
 - Monaural Low Redundancy Speech Tests
Low Pass Filtered Words/Time Compressed Words and Sentences/ CID W-22 Words In Noise test/AFG Word test
 - Phonemic Synthesis
- Audiology test materials can be obtained from Auditec, Oaktree Products and Precision Acoustics

MYTHS REGARDING AUDITORY PROCESSING TESTING

- APD testing cannot be performed on children under the age of 7 years. This is false. There are several auditory processing tests that are normed and can be administered at a much younger age.
- You must have normal hearing to be a candidate for APD testing. This is false. An individual with a milder hearing loss may be tested. There are some tests that are more resistant to the effects of hearing loss and others that should not be used (filtered speech tests). It becomes more challenging in the interpretation of the results when the hearing loss is asymmetrical.
- Only those individuals with an IQ of 85 or above can be tested. This is false. Persons whose intelligence is low can often times be evaluated successfully and recommendations made to improve auditory processing skills. Determination of candidacy should be made on a case-by-case basis.

APD REMEDIATION THERAPY PROGRAMS

- DICHOTIC LISTENING PROGRAMS (INTEGRATION & SEPARATION)
Acoustic Pioneer's Zoo Caper Sky Scraper (Integration), CAPDOTS-Integrated (Integration) & CAPDOTS-Selected (Binaural Separation)
- DECODING, MEMORY AND SPIN TRAINING PROGRAMS
Auditory Processing Institute's APD Support Decoding, Memory and Words in Noise training
Acoustic Pioneer's Elephant Memory training
Hearbuilder – modules for phonological awareness, auditory memory and sequencing
- TEMPORAL PATTERNING (PROSODIC TRAINING) PROGRAMS
Acoustic Pioneer's Insane Earplane
Auditory Pattern Training App
- TEMPORAL PROCESSING TRAINING PROGRAMS
Scientific Learning's Fast ForWord

APD SERVICES REIMBURSEMENT

- APD and being IN-NETWORK usually don't mix!
- Perform a deep dive into your managed care commitments. What do they pay for the codes? Is APD testing seen as experimental?
- May be best to create another business entity for APD and be out of network
- Need to discuss with your key advisors whether adding APD services will add to your bottom line
- If an ADA member, contact Audiology-Insurance guru, Dr. Kim Cavitt. She can provide expert guidance in this area.
- INSURANCE CODES:
92620 – Evaluation of central auditory function; initial 60 minutes
92621 – Evaluation of central auditory function, with report; each additional 15 minutes
Diagnosis code: H93.25 Central Auditory Processing Disorder

APD EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- Become a member of IGAPS – International Guild of Auditory Specialists (www.IGAPS.org)
- Attend IGAPS annual conference
- Attend IGAPS workshops on Buffalo Model Assessment and Therapy
- Take APD Support Master On-Line classes (Diagnostics module and Therapy module) given by Angela Alexander, AuD of the Auditory Processing Institute out of New Zealand
- Obtain and read the following books:

- Bellis T. J. (2011). *Assessment and management of central auditory processing disorders in the educational setting : from science to practice*. Plural Publishing. Retrieved October 9 2022 from <http://site.ebrary.com/id/11043438>.
 - Geffner, Donna. Ross-Swain, Deborah. (2019). *Auditory Processing Disorders: Assessment, Management, and Treatment*, 3rd Edition. ISBN13: 978-1-94488-341-6.
 - Chermak, G. D., & Musiek, F. E. (Eds.). (2013). *Handbook of central auditory processing disorder: Comprehensive intervention: Vol. 2* (2nd ed.). Plural Publishing.
 - Bellis, T. J. (2003). *When the brain can't hear: Unraveling the mystery of auditory processing disorder*. Tantor Media.
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- Review [AAA Clinical Practice Guidelines](#) on the Diagnosis, Treatment and Management of Children and Adults with Auditory Processing Disorders
 - Review [Educational Audiology Association](#) statement paper on Auditory Processing Assessment