



Development of the first Pakistani AAC App

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Izhaar is the first indigenous, linguistically, culturally and economically viable assistive communication App developed in Pakistan. The AAC App allows for individual modifications according to each patient's needs. It allows for use anywhere in the world, with any population, on android devices, allowing for greater accessibility and communication for all.

Development of an AAC app

Izhaar differs in the way that it is the first AAC App to be designed in Pakistan but is also globally useful. Pictures can be taken or uploaded to either a single message or up to a 6 message grid. Messages are recorded by pressing down on the picture.



The device further offers a choice of varied button sizes as well as soft and long touch.

What is the impact for AT users and other stakeholders?

Evidence Based Research suggests benefits in

- ❖ Functional Communication
- ❖ Choice Making
- ❖ Increased Inclusion
- ❖ Accessibility
- ❖ Frustration Reduction
- ❖ Improved Social Wellbeing
- ❖ Basic Human Right
- Increase Quality of Life

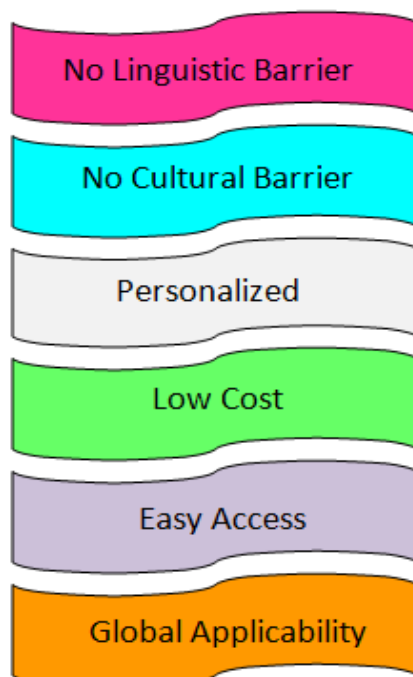
Implications for Products, Provision, Personnel or Policy?

Provision The user, their family, professionals and clinicians lie at the centre of the development model.

Personnel Limited AAC trained clinicians available. However, the App aims to be user friendly, requiring limited training. Framework being established.

Policy. The aim is to pave way for developing future policies.

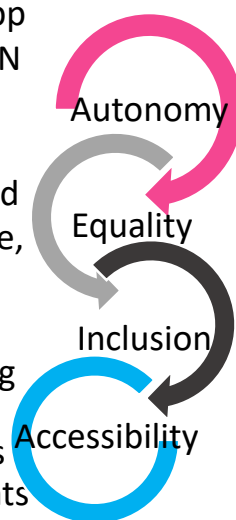
Products AAC products are limited and research is dominated by surveys assessing knowledge and attitudes. The current product will be the first AAC App



Implications for other aspects of the Global Research Agenda

The Izhaar App delivers on UN CRPD as it:

- Promotes autonomy and independence, including freedom of choice making
- Provides opportunities for equal rights for all
- Assists in effective participation and inclusion in society
- Accessibility for all



Strategies to share and build global capacity based on this work

International interest is welcome, particularly from Developing Nations.

Currently available

- ✓Prototype of the App
- ✓Pilot evaluation plan
- ✓Preliminary report

Future Prospects

- ✓Research opportunity
- ✓International liaison
- ✓Global Applicability

Contact details for global liaison

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