

Technology and Autism

Technology such as iPads, computers and smart phones have become valuable tools in the treatment and daily lives of individuals with autism. These devices can assist in areas ranging from behavior tracking to communication and more. There are many options for how to use technology to benefit each individual. Discuss the use of technology for your child with your treatment team.

The Autism Speaks Autism Apps database contains hundreds of helpful apps divided by age, platform and category. Categories include behavioral intervention, communication, social skills, educational, functional skills and more. Search the database at autismspeaks.org/autism-apps. Many of these apps have been found to help individuals with autism make great strides in their communication skills and abilities to express themselves.

Additionally, technology has been very helpful in allowing families of individuals with autism and their team members to track the child's progress and remain up to date on his or her schedule, improvements, strengths and challenges following treatments and interventions. Examples include:

My Medical App

This app stores complete medical histories for as many people as you wish, helps you keep critical and hard-to-remember information on hand all the time and allows you to track and chart tests results and vital signs and send the records to your doctors with the click of a button.

mymedicalapp.com

TherapyConnectApp

This app was developed by a team of speech-language pathologists and behavioral consultants dedicated to the service of children with disabilities including autism. It is a tool for both therapists/service providers and families who wish to maintain consistent treatment plans that work for their children by allowing the user to monitor the child or client's treatment plan from any iPad.

truetherapydata.com



AutismTrack™

Autism Track is a portable, customizable data tracking tool that empowers caregivers of those with autism to easily track interventions, behaviors and symptoms. Checkboxes allow daily recording of any therapy, medicine or diet.

handholdadaptive.com/AutismTrack.html

You can find additional information on technology and the many ways it can assist individuals with autism at

autismspeaks.org/family-services/technology.

Search the Autism Speaks Apps database for helpful apps for your child at

autismspeaks.org/autism-apps.

Autism and Wandering

Safety is a critical part of all of our lives, whether we are at home or out in the community, alone or with loved ones. Being aware of our surroundings and taking precautions to stay safe is even more important for individuals with autism and their families. Wandering is an especially prominent issue in the autism community. A 2012 study from the Interactive Autism Network confirmed that nearly half of all children with autism have attempted to wander or bolt from a safe, supervised place. Given the frequency of this problem, here are some tips that have been adapted from Autism Wandering Awareness Alerts Response Education Coalition (AWAARE) on how to prevent wandering: