

Assistive Technology: supporting independence and quality of life

With one in five people globally living with a disability, the market for Assistive Technology (AT) to support their independence and quality of life is enormous.

The rapidly accelerating rate of technology innovation has tremendous potential to reduce barriers for people with disability and become a powerful driver of inclusion.

Prescribing AT

Prescribing AT to support individuals to achieve their movement, communication and participation goals is a collaborative approach. At CPA, our therapy staff are skilled in providing AT services to meet our clients' goals.



Nicole,
CPA client

Types of AT

AT is an umbrella term that includes assistive, adaptive, and rehabilitative devices for people with disabilities, including the process used in selection and implementation. AT includes equipment that provides assistance in many areas of daily life such as:

- Eating and drinking equipment: adapted cutlery, plates, bowls and jar openers
- Household tasks equipment to help control environment: turning on/off lights, televisions, opening your front door or turning on an air conditioner
- Personal care and safety products: adapted beds and pressure care mattresses, specialised clothing, and personal alarms for peace of mind when home alone
- Communication and information equipment: speech generating devices or adapted computer mice, keyboards or switches to assist in accessing the computer or a tablet, and voice amplifiers and computer software such as voice recognition software, screen readers
- Personal mobility items to assist with transfers: slings and transfer belts, prosthetics and orthotics, walking sticks and frames, wheeled mobility items like manual and powered wheelchairs, specialised strollers and seating supports
- Recreation equipment: switch adapted toys, camera holders, specialist tricycles or bikes, beach wheelchairs or specific sport wheelchairs
- Home modifications: installing a stair lift or modifying a bathroom, kitchen or other areas of the home
- Vehicle modifications including adapting car seats and wheelchair accessibility.



Pioneering AT in Australia

From our world-class research to launching Australia's first disability focused impact accelerator, Remarkable, we strive to be at the forefront of providing unique innovative AT solutions for people living with disability. These are some of the cutting edge AT equipment and products we have brought to Australia to improve the lives of babies, children and adults living with cerebral palsy and a range of neurological conditions:

RaceRunners

RaceRunning is an innovative sport for people with disability, particularly with impaired balance. This Danish invention is fast gaining popularity. Its benefits include building up leg and core strength, increasing daily function, and the social and wellbeing aspect of being outdoors. CPA is the first provider of RaceRunners in Australia. One of our clients was the first Australian athlete to compete in RaceRunning in August 2018 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Wizzy Bug

The Wizzy Bug is a specialist piece of equipment for children as young as 18 months. They give children who are unable to mobilise independently an opportunity to work on spatial awareness and getting ready for more independent mobilisation. At CPA, families can trial the Wizzy Bug at our Powered Mobility Play Days based at our therapy sites, with the opportunity to take the Wizzy Bug on a longer term loan to use at home and in the community.

Infant Treadmills

Infant treadmill training aims to increase standing and walking motor skills in pre-ambulatory children under 3 years of age with cerebral palsy GMFCS I-III, Down Syndrome or other motor delay. These treadmills are portable and age appropriate. CPA's expert physiotherapists incorporate the infant treadmills as part of a home treadmill training program.

Loop +

Remarkable's startup, loop+ is a remote care management platform that supports clinician prescribed care plans and everyday risk management for people with limited mobility. An activity tracker for wheelchair users creates a positive feedback loop with carers and clinicians to measure and prevent health risks such as pressure injuries.

Lusio Rehab

This Remarkable startup is a gamified rehabilitation experience using wearable technology to motivate people with disability or injury. This technology encourages children to continue therapy and achieve their movement goals by tracking their movement while playing games. CPA uses Lusio rehab games in intensive therapy programs to work on functional goals.



WHO estimates that globally, more than 1 billion people need assistive products, and by 2050 that will increase to more than 2 billion

For more information, get in touch with us:



Call us on 1300 888 378



Email us at ask@cerebralpalsy.org.au



Visit cerebralpalsy.org.au

