



arata
participation through technology

Sun Sea & AT

The rising tide of innovation
and inclusive technology

Wednesday 6th November
Pre-Conference Workshop Descriptions



Australian
Assistive Technology
Conference 2024

6-8 November 2024
Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre

#aatc2024

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Morning Workshops

Accessible Gaming Special Interest Group (SIG): An Introduction to Accessible Gaming

Facilitated by Andrew Congdon, Assistive Technology Lab

Complexity of content: Introductory

ARATA's Accessible Gaming Special Interest Group will provide an introduction to gaming and the technologies that can improve access for gamers who face challenges with mainstream gaming technologies. Participants will learn about the different technologies, how they work and will also get to trial a range of gaming equipment during the workshop.

Using assistive technology for cognitive support within everyday activities: Demonstrating products and providing resources for use by assistive technology advisors

Facilitated by Libby Callaway, Rehabilitation, Ageing and Independent Living (RAIL) Research Centre, Monash University

Complexity of content: Introductory to intermediate

This workshop will demonstrate use of a range of assistive products, and information, resources and checklists on how to use technology, for cognitive support in everyday activities after acquired brain injury (ABI) and other conditions that impact executive functioning. Tools for both people with ABI and their families, and health professionals and other technology advisors, will be presented.

Prevention, identification and measurement of postural asymmetry in lying

Facilitated by Denise Luscombe, Postural Care Australia and Bas Jansen, Postural Care Australia

Complexity of content: Introductory

Adults and children with cerebral palsy (CP) who are wheelchair dependent are particularly vulnerable to chest, spinal, pelvic and hip postural asymmetry. This workshop will focus on managing supported lying postures: understanding prevention, measurement and intervention strategies for common postural asymmetries, and utilising standardised and modified manual outcome measurement options.

Let's 'High Five' Alternate Access - a hands-on workshop, an Introductory workshop for those new to Electronic AT

Facilitated by Rachelle Baldock, Cerebral Palsy Alliance

Complexity of content: The content will be introductory. Each workstation will have cheat sheets for participants to work through to guide their exploration of each method of alternate access.

This is an introductory practical workshop for people new to electronic AT. Participants will rotate in small groups around five workstations for different methods of control (touch, mouse, voice, switch and eye gaze). Decision making frameworks to select the right tool for the task will also be explored.

Fundamentals of Intermediate Assistive Technology

Facilitated by Emily Nunn, Everyday Independence

Complexity of content: Intermediate. Best suited to occupational therapists and/ or physiotherapists with at least 12 months post-graduate clinical experience, working in the disability and/ or community sector. Content is targeted towards practitioners who are wishing to expand their general OT/PT scope of practice to prescribe mid complexity assistive technology (not scripted/ high cost/ postural considerations). Suited to practitioners supporting people through the NDIS.

This workshop will introduce learners to the fundamentals of Assistive Technology for emerging AT Assessors. Workshop content will explore topics related to best practice steps for AT interventions and applying these to practical scenarios. It is best suited to occupational therapists and physiotherapists with at least 12 months post-graduate experience, working in the disability and/ or community sector.

Midday Workshops

Mobile phone access and Infra-red controls from Powered wheelchairs

Facilitated by Karthik Pasumarthy, Rehabilitation Engineering Clinic, Department of Health

Complexity of content: Intermediate ~ advanced

This workshop will deliver hands-on experience to attendees on how to optimise accessibility and interface features between power wheelchairs and their own Android or iOS phone. As well as setting up Infra-red (IR) control of IR operated devices such as a TV from a PWC

Minor modifications, equipment, and technology: A complementary partnership to achieve transformative outcomes

Facilitated by Elizabeth Ainsworth, Home Design for Living

Complexity of content: Introductory, intermediated and advanced

This workshop will discuss the complexity of decision making that is highlighted in an Australian framework of minor and major home modification service delivery. Attendees will also discuss the value of combining minor modifications and equipment with home technologies to create solutions that result in transformative outcomes for users.

Wheelie early: A global perspective on empowering early powered mobility

Facilitated by Rachael McDonald, Swinburne University of Technology

Complexity of content: Intermediate to advanced

Early access to powered mobility has shown multiple benefits in addition to mobility. This workshop will review the emerging evidence, gain an understanding of international expertise and finish with a call to action for future to participants to become engaged in data collection to grow the evidence base and influence policy.

U-BEACH Workshop for Beach Accessibility

Facilitated by Sasha Job, Central Queensland University

Complexity of content: Introductory

With increasing community demand and assistive technology for beach access, a critical missing piece to improve beach accessibility is training. This workshop presents key barriers to beach access and evidence-based facilitators and practical ideas to overcome them. This will support the execution of accessible beaches and establishment of beach-based services.

Getting the Best out of Custom Seating

Facilitated by Jenni Dabelstein, Gizmo Rehabilitation

Complexity of content: Intermediate

When should clinicians consider a fully bespoke system instead of a customisable off-the-shelf item, and when should early intervention be considered? What are the key strategies for success, and what are the potential pitfalls? What processes are required, to successfully assess, prescribe, mould and fit bespoke seating? Hear the theory, see the case studies, and join us for a practical demonstration.

Afternoon Workshops

Artificial Intelligence and Assistive Technology: What Do You Need to Know?

Facilitated by Kate Anderson, RMIT University

Complexity of content: Introductory

This workshop is for anyone. We will explore how artificial intelligence (AI) is being used in assistive technologies, and how to tell the difference between responsible and risky AI. Participants will draft an AI learning plan for themselves or their team, and co-develop plain language explanations of important AI concepts.

Addressing complexity to create inclusive and innovative housing and technology solutions

Facilitated by Elizabeth Ainsworth, Home Design for Living

Complexity of content: Introductory, intermediated and advanced

This workshop will showcase the housing experience of a client with complex needs. Attendees will explore the range of complexities associated with achieving innovative and inclusive housing and technology solutions, and ways to address these complexities. There will also be discussion about industry resources to assist practice.

Best Practice Guidelines for Assessment and Selection of Mobile Shower Commode Chairs

Facilitated by Emma Friesen, University of Queensland

Complexity of content: Introductory and advanced

This will be a two-hour practical for prescribing therapists to support people with complex pressure and postural needs in assessing and prescribing mobile shower commode chairs.

Tool Time with Manual Wheelchairs

Facilitated by Amy Susanne Bjornson, Clinical Director – Sunrise Medical

Complexity of content: Introductory intermediate

Don't let the lack of confidence prevent you from making changes to your client's manual wheelchair. During this workshop, attendees will have the opportunity to adjust the wheelchair set up and seating system. We'll show you how to easily make these adjustments. Attendees will feel how these changes effect posture and function first-hand.

Application of interface pressure mapping for pressure management and clinical intervention

Facilitated by Sandra Malkin, Rehabilitation Engineering Clinic

Complexity of content: Introductory to intermediate

This workshop will cover concepts of pressure mapping, how to use the system, interpreting the results, artefacts and misinterpretations associated, and how to carry out pressure mapping remotely and the equipment required to do it. Case studies will be used to demonstrate use of the pressure mapping system to assist with clinical reasoning and practice.