Specialist Communication, Access & Mobility Potential (SCAMP) Assessment

SCAMP clinics are designed for the assessment of Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT)*

- Communication
- Powered Mobility
- Computer Access

For more information please visit our website:
www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk
Or contact the SCAMP clinic coordinator:
Chailey Heritage Clinical Services, Beggars Wood Road, North Chailey, Near Lewes, East Sussex. BN8 4JN
Tel: 01825 722112  Fax:01825 724729

* Where appropriate the clinics start with a seating/postural assessment
Specialist Communication, Access and Mobility Potential (SCAMP) assessment

We aim to provide a comprehensive assessment of an individual’s potential to access a range of activities including powered mobility, communication, computers, and environmental controls through the use of Assistive Technology (AT).

The Team

The multi-disciplinary assessment team consists of:

- Clinical Engineer
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
The team work together throughout the clinic to provide a multi-disciplinary approach. In addition there may be involvement of other professionals which consists of a Doctor, a Physiotherapist, a Speech and Language Therapy Technical Assistant, and a Rehabilitation Engineer.

**Assessment Process**

For children and adults with complex needs we are able to offer a multi-disciplinary clinic over the course of up to two and a half days. This allows the client the time and opportunity to explore a number of options in order to meet their potential, whilst taking into consideration their home/school environment and resources.

It is also important to mention that the assessments are flexible and not all clients require a full two and a half days. The duration of the assessment depends on the individual’s needs and requirements of the referrer. The duration of the assessment may vary from half a day to two and a half days.

The family, carers, and local team are encouraged to be actively involved in the assessment process, and there is plenty of time for discussion and explanation to take place.

There is flexibility within the clinic programme which allows the client the opportunity to return to an activity a second time if they are not ready to take part the first time.

Many who take part in the SCAMP clinic undergo a postural assessment and have the opportunity to have all aspects of access investigated.
Posture

Posture is a very important part of determining an access method e.g. suitable switch position and type. When a posture assessment is required the SCAMP clinic starts with a posture clinic, reviewing the current postural management equipment that the individual uses and, determining whether changes could improve the functionality of the user. Some of the time during the assessment may then be spent on either making those changes or putting together equipment (e.g. a seating system) to be used for the remainder of the assessment period.

Assistive Technology (AT)

The focus of the assessment is on determining a suitable access method and the appropriate equipment to use for an activity e.g. powered mobility. Access method may be direct e.g. Touch Screen, Eye Gaze or indirect e.g. Switches. It is only through an assessment that the access method is tried and determined. To start with, the client is set up with their current method of access if applicable. This provides an opportunity for the assessment team to observe the client’s current skill level.

Then, more detailed investigation of powered mobility, computer use, and, or environmental control/toy access takes place with the opportunity to return to any of these during the following days.

The assessment of augmentative methods of communication also takes place during the clinic. This includes low tech methods e.g. communication books as well as high tech methods e.g. Voice Output Communication Aids (VOCA). Appropriate communication aids will be trialled according to the current skills of the individual, for example their level of receptive language and access ability.
Referral Process

Chailey Heritage Clinical Services is a tertiary level service. Therefore it is intended for those whose local services have been unable to resolve particular problems.

Referrals are accepted from any NHS professional and should be sent to:

SCAMP Clinic Co-ordinator
Chailey Heritage Clinical Services
Beggars Wood Rd
North Chailey
East Sussex
BN8 4JN
Tel: 01825 722112
Fax: 01825 724729

Referral forms are available to download on our website at http://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/chailey or can be requested to be sent to you by post or fax.

Upon acceptance, a letter will be sent to the referrer and the family will receive forms that need to be filled in and posted to us before the clinic. The information from the family is important as it will help us to plan the clinic more efficiently.

Relevant reports/information will then be requested from the local team. It is very important that this information is obtained prior to the clinic to avoid using clinic time gathering information.

Other information

All details of the assessment, recommendations, and additional information e.g. equipment used, costs, are supplied in a report four weeks post assessment.
### Pre-SCAMP Information

A video of the individual actively engaged in any or all of the following would be very helpful; play, switch activity, powered mobility & communication etc...

The type of information that would be useful prior to a SCAMP clinic is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information Required</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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| **Medical Information** | diagnosis and prognosis if relevant  
Any relevant current health needs |
| **Seating** | Current systems at school and home  
Description of sitting ability in and out of equipment  
Access to a powerchair |
| **Access** | Current switches used and activities  
Method of accessing powerchair – e.g. switches / joystick |
| **Physical Abilities** | Active movement patterns  
Vision/ hearing |
| **Functional Abilities** | Play skills, computer access |
| **Cognitive Ability** | Understanding of cause and effect  
What activities they enjoy and are motivated by Concentration/attention |
| **Communication** | Current methods of communication and level of receptive language  
Current communication equipment books, VOCA |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Things to bring with you to SCAMP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair/s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Method of access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favourite music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Favourite toys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favourite computer games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication book or communication aid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other equipment e.g. lap tray, laptop, mounting system and etc...</td>
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Powered mobility
Do you know someone who you think could use a powered wheelchair but are unsure how they could operate it and learn to drive it?

Access to computers
Do you need support identifying how to help a child or young person undertake an activity more independently?

Communication
Do you know someone who is not currently able to communicate to their full potential?

We can help you find solutions for all of these areas