**Picture Exchange Communication System**

**Fact Sheet**

**Brief Description**

The Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) is used to teach learners to communicate in a social context. Using PECS, learners are initially taught to give a picture of a desired item to a communicative partner in exchange for the item. There are six phases of PECS instruction: (1) “how” to communicate, (2) distance and persistence, (3) picture discrimination, (4) sentence structure, (5) responsive requesting, and (6) commenting.

**Qualifying Evidence**

PECS meets evidence-based criteria with 2 group design and 4 single case design studies.

**Ages**

According to the evidence-based studies, this intervention has been effective for preschoolers (3-5 years) to middle school-age learners (12-14 years) with ASD.

**Outcomes**

PECS can be used effectively to address social, communication, and joint attention skills.

**Research Studies Providing Evidence**


**PICTURE EXCHANGE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FACT SHEET——SUGGESTED CITATION**


Adapted from: