

CFCS

Communication Function
Classification System

The Communication Functional Classification System (CFCS) is a tool used to classify the everyday communication of an individual with Cerebral palsy (CP).

The CFCS consists of 5 description levels for everyday communication performance and estimates the degree to which people with CP are able to participate in communicative interactions.

CFCS LEVELS

1.

Effective sender and Receiver with unfamiliar and familiar partners

- The person independently alternates between sender and receiver roles with most people in most environments.
- The communication occurs easily and at a comfortable pace with both unfamiliar and familiar conversational partners.
- Communication misunderstandings are quickly repaired and do not interfere with the overall effectiveness of the person's communication

Effective but slower paced sender and/or receiver with unfamiliar and/or familiar partners

- The person independently alternates between sender and receiver roles with most people in most environments, but the conversational pace is slow and may make the communication interaction more difficult.
- The person may need extra time to understand messages, compose messages, and/or repair misunderstandings.
- Communication misunderstanding are often repaired and do not interfere with the eventual effectiveness of the person's communication with both unfamiliar and familiar partners.

2.

Effective sender and receiver with familiar partners

- The person alternates between sender and receiver roles with familiar (but not unfamiliar) conversational partners in most environments.
- Communication is not consistently effective with most unfamiliar partners, but is usually effective with familiar partners.

3.

Inconsistent sender and/or receiver with familiar partners

- The person does not consistently alternate sender and receiver roles.
- This type of inconsistency might be seen in different types of communicators including: a) an occasionally effective sender and receiver; b) an effective sender but limited receiver; c) a limited sender but effective receiver
- Communication is sometimes effective with familiar partners.

4.

Seldom effective sender and receiver even with familiar partners

- The person is limited as both a sender and a receiver
- The person's communication is difficult for most people to understand.
- the person appears to have limited understanding of messages from most people.
- Communication is seldom effective even with familiar partners.

5.

REFERENCES

- <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1048395020949087c>
- <https://cparf.org/what-is-cerebral-palsy/severity-of-cerebral-palsy/manual-ability-classification-system-macs/>