How to use FOCAS



Section 2

(i) Client Selection

- •In the client section, the client's challenges are explored, including any emotional impact.
- •Then the client is asked how they feel their family member(s) may be impacted.

(ii) Family Member section

- •The family member is then given dedicated time to report on the impact they feel the client's hearing loss is having on their life, including emotional impact.
- •The family member is then asked how they feel hearing loss is impacting on the client.

Section 3

Column 1

•This provides a place to capture individual as well as shared family goals

Column 2 Near/Far field

- For identifying if a speficic hearing goal is 'near/far field', and where additional technology may be required to achieve this.
- •HCPs should discuss this with clients to ensure realistic expectations of hearing aids are maintained.

Column 3 Importance

- captures the importance of the goal for the client.
- •As discussed earlier, it is not to prioritise one goal over another, but to establish importance for the client and family of the situation itself.
- •The drop-down scale offers the choices 'Critical 9-10, Significant 7-8, Moderate 5-6 and Occasional <5', but any such scale that the HCP is comfortable with would be fine. The numbers reflect a 'on a 1-10 scale' which is a commonly accepted rating for thos who prefer to use a number scale.

Column 4
Solutions

- •This serves as a place to capture what type of solution would be optimal for addressing the goal.
- •This could range from counselling to tactics, a device, a particular program of feature or accessory; or a combination of these.
- •The FOCAS aims to provide the basis of a rehabilitation plan in this way, rather than just capturing goals.

Column 5
Outcomes

- •The outcomes column provides a place to capture final outcomes.
- •In this way the FOCAS maintains the outcomes measures aspect of the COSI.

Visualisation

- Graph for visually plotting the goals of the client into near/far field and the level of noise expected. In the digital version, drag the red square corresponding with the communication goal onto the spot in the graph representing the noise/distance aspects.
- •This provides a visual representation for clients and families that is designed to better represent the diverse situations and challenges in which communication can take place, and the different types of interventions that are likely to best address each situation.
- •This way, families may have an easier task in deciding what type of intervention might suit them best.