

Access to Technology Consultative Service

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Many people use technology (phones, computers, TVs, lights, and more) every day. An injury or a change in your health may affect your ability to use your technology.

How can the Access to Technology team help me?

- The Access to Technology team will work with you to find a new or easier way to use your technology.
- Assistive technology is not covered by provincial government health insurance (MSI). The team can work with you to find and apply for funding to help with the cost.

Examples of how the Service may help you:

- › Use your call bell to talk with your health care team (if you are in the hospital)
- › Turn on lights in your home using your voice
- › Improve the way you use your phone or computer
- › Play video games

What can I expect?

- Your first appointment will be virtual (online) or by phone. You will then have 2 to 3 in-person visits at the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and Arthritis Centre.
- **If you cannot travel to Halifax for appointments**, the team may be able to meet with you and a health care provider in your community virtually.

Who can come with me to my appointments?

You can bring a support person (like a caregiver or a loved one).

What should I bring to my appointments?

- Bring any portable devices (devices that you can carry) that you want the team to help you use, like:
 - › Cell phone
 - › Tablet
 - › Laptop
- Bring any aids that you use, like:
 - › Glasses
 - › Hearing aid(s)
 - › Manual or power wheelchair

What will happen at my first appointment?

- Your first appointment will take about 60 minutes (one hour).
- We will talk with you about:
 - › the challenges you are having with accessing technology because of an injury or a change in your health.
 - › what technology you use.
 - › your goals (what you want to use technology for).
 - › your comfort level and experience with technology.

Follow-up appointments

- Each follow-up appointment will take about 90 minutes (one and a half hours).
- The occupational therapist will assess your abilities and strengths related to your goals. This will help us find the best way for you to use your technology.
- You will try equipment or software that may help you reach your goals. Together, we will make a plan for follow-up services, as needed. This may include trying more equipment and training sessions.

Questions?

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Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and Arthritis Centre

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- › Fax: 902-473-1321

What are your questions?

Please ask. We are here to help you.

This pamphlet is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice or professional judgment of a health care provider. The information may not apply to all situations. If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here:
<https://library.nshealth.ca/Patients-Guides>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time:
Call 811 or visit: <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Prepared by: Assistive Technology Program,
Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and Arthritis Centre
Designed by: Nova Scotia Health Library Services

WB85-2346 © July 2023 Nova Scotia Health Authority
The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.