FL Tech ABA Professional Development Program

BEH 1054
Distinguished Behavior Analysts Series

Study Guide 1 - Version 1

Coordinating Behavior Analysis and Psychiatric Services

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CONTENT OUTLINE

Section I: History, Current Status, and Research Findings (primarily relating to use of psychotropic medication with individuals diagnosed with developmental delays and challenging behaviors)

Section II: Cross-discipline and Social Influences on Treatment Selection


Learning Objectives

Section I: History, Current Status, and Research Findings

1. Examine recent findings regarding the scope of use of psychotropic medication with individuals diagnosed with developmental delays
2. Describe the early history of the use of ABA and psychotropic medication in psychiatric institutional settings
3. Review research literature standards for psychopharmacological studies in both research and non-research settings
4. Describe the problems with the identification of target behaviors for reduction and acquisition, and related measurement methods, in psychopharmacology studies
5. Examine experimental findings regarding efficacy of medication in treating problem behaviors.
6. Discuss placebo effect, and define “placebo washout”
Section II: Cross-Discipline and Social Influences on Treatment Selection

1. Describe the difference between the biological versus the environmental explanation of behavior
2. Review and discuss recent peer-reviewed literature regarding social, political, corporate and economic influences on treatment selection (between ABA and Psychopharmacology)
3. Examine some immediate contingencies most often involved in treatment selection decisions where medication is an option
4. Review medication efficacy in reducing specific problem behaviors and discuss cross-discipline treatment implications

Section III: Coordinating and Integrating ABA services with Psychiatric and Medication Management Services

1. Delineate the difference between ABA and Psychiatric evaluative processes.
2. Identify and list the “typical skills” of ABA professionals which are relevant to the evaluation of medication effectiveness.
3. Identify and list salient additional skills necessary for ABA clinicians to successfully participate in medication management processes
4. List some common side effects of psychotropic medications (particularly anti-psychotics)
5. Discuss the importance of identifying “secondary effects” versus “side effects” of medication as relating to behavior change
6. Outline effective techniques for communicating the results of ABA to psychiatric and other medical professionals, with the intent of becoming an effective and fully participating member of the medication management team
Some Suggested (Optional) Readings
(This is a partial list of references, which are fully listed at the end of the presentation)


- Pyles, D. A. M., Muniz, K., Cade, A., Silva, R. (1997) A behavioral diagnostic paradigm for integrating behavior analytic and psychopharmacological interventions for people with dual diagnosis. Research in Developmental Disabilities, Vol. 18, 3 (pp. 185-214). (This article is not fully discussed during the current presentation, but is very useful for behavior analysts in institutional settings on an interdisciplinary team)

- Wong, S. E., Martinez-Diaz, J. A., Massel, H. K., Edelstein, B. A., Wiegand, W., Bowen, L., & Liberman, R. P. (1993). Conversational skills training with schizophrenic inpatients: A study of generalization across settings and conversants. Behavior Therapy, 24 (pp. 285-304). (This article is briefly referenced, but since the second author is Dr. Jose Martinez-Diaz, students may find it interesting)