

**Division of Long Term Care
Treatment Intervention Advisory Committee (TIAC)
Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities**

January 30, 2015
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Department of Health Services (DHS)
1 W. Wilson Street, Room B155
Madison, WI 53707

MINUTES

Committee Members: Lana Collet-Klingenberg (Chairperson), Jennifer Asmus (via phone), Roger Bass, Julie LaBerge, Tia Schultz, Shannon Stuart, Jeffrey Tiger (via phone), Amy Van Hecke (via phone), Brooke Winchell

DHS Staff: Bill Murray

Members of the Public: Teri Black, Rene Burgoyne, Kathleen Kaufman, Mitchell Hagopian, Richard Pollex, Holly Vanderbusch

The meeting commenced at 10:05 AM.

1. Welcome

Lana C.-K., committee chairperson, welcomed everyone. All members and DHS staff introduced themselves.

2. Public Testimony

Teri Black of the Wisconsin Occupational Therapy Association spoke briefly and shared a handout requesting the Department take sensory integration therapy out of the TIAC review cycle.

Mitchell Hagopian, attorney at Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW), conveyed his appreciation for the work of the TIAC members, and stated that while not always agreeing with the determinations, he feels the contributions of the committee are valuable.

3. Operational

The committee reviewed minutes from the meeting held on October 31, 2014. Shannon S. noted an error on page 4 where it states “chelation” and it should have said “craniosacral.” Brooke W. made a motion to approve the October 31, 2014, meeting minutes with the aforementioned correction; Shannon S. seconded the motion; motion carries.

4. Invited Presentation: Wisconsin Art Therapy Association

The Wisconsin Art Therapy Association was invited to discuss the evidence relative to the efficacy of art therapy for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. The association had previously shared research to assist committee members with the next review of the efficacy of art therapy. Holly Vanderbusch delivered a brief Powerpoint presentation focusing on the experiences of two individuals engaged in art therapy. Other public members in attendance participated and shared stories related to their own experiences with art therapy.

5. Treatment Reviews

- **Aromatherapy**

- Amy V.H. and Jenny A. provided the committee with a review of the efficacy of aromatherapy, a therapy designed to “balance, harmonize and promote the health of

body, mind and spirit through the utilization of naturally extracted aromatic essences from plants.” Though a number of studies were reviewed, no single-subject or group design research exists specific to this therapy. There are a number of anecdotal reports from parents, some of which focus on sleep benefits.

- Insufficient evidence exists in the literature with respect to aromatherapy.
- Roger B. made a motion to accept aromatherapy as a Level 4 therapy; Jenny A. seconded the motion; motion carries.

- **Craniosacral Therapy**

- Julie L. and Shannon S. led the discussion related to craniosacral therapy, a form of bodywork focused primarily on the concept of primary respiration and regulating the flow of cerebrospinal fluid by using therapeutic touch to manipulate the synarthrodial joints of the cranium.
- There were no identified randomized controlled trial studies, and there was one published study from 1977 by the developer of the therapy.
- Julie L. made a motion to accept craniosacral therapy as a Level 4 therapy. Brooke W. seconded the motion and the motion carries.

- **Higher Brain Living Technique**

- Roger B. and Lana C.-K. shared an overview of Higher Brain Living, a “gentle-touch process where a Registered Higher Brain Living Facilitator activates specific points in your body in a specific sequence with specific timing, creating a surge of energy from your primal fear-based lower brain into your prefrontal cortex, the seat of the higher brain, where your potential lives.”
- A video demonstration of this technique was shown to committee members, this video is located at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7DEkPqk7v2s>
- There are no randomized controlled trial studies demonstrating the efficacy of Higher Brain Living.
- Roger B. made a motion to give Higher Brain Living a Level 5 efficacy rating. Tia S. seconded the motion; motion carries.

6. Treatment Updates

- **Brain Balance (Re-review)**

- Jeff T. and Julie L. gave an updated review of Brain Balance, noting that there are no new empirical articles published in the last year.
- Previous studies involved the creator of the therapy.
- Amy V.H. made a motion to retain a Level 4 efficacy rating for Brain Balance. Roger B. seconded the motion; motion carries.

- **Hippotherapy (Re-review)**

- Amy V.H., Tia S., and Lana C.-K. shared an update of the review of hippotherapy, and noted the relationship in the literature of this therapy to equine-assisted psychotherapy and equine therapy.
- One new article was located since the last review in 2014, however there was no comparison group.
- Tia S. made a motion that hippotherapy remain a Level 4 therapy, Roger B. seconded the motion and the motion carried. The potential benefits in cerebral palsy were noted (as is true in previous reviews).

- **The PLAY Project (Re-review)**
 - Amy V.H. and Roger B. provided an update on new research specific to the PLAY Project since the last review. Since the last review in July 2014, one additional peer-reviewed, published study was found and reviewed (Solomon et al., 2014).
 - A lively discussion ensued with both reviewers taking a slightly different stance on the new research, though despite these differing views the reviewers both felt the previous determination of Level 4 remains appropriate.
 - Dr. Solomon is the developer of the PLAY Project. The peer-reviewed PLAY studies (2007 and 2014) were both done by Dr. Solomon. Though the National Professional Development Center lists Parent-Implemented Intervention (PII) as an evidence-based practice (EBP), the PLAY Project is not listed as one of the packages providing evidence for PII.
 - The PLAY Project is also not listed by the National Standards Project as an EBP, or on the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) ASD treatments site as an EBP. The PLAY Project has yet to attain recognition by other authoritative bodies as an evidence-based practice for ASD.
 - Based on a review of the available evidence, Roger B. made a motion to accept the PLAY Project as a level 4 therapy for children with autism. Julie L. seconded the motion; motion carried.

- **TEACCH (Re-review)**
 - Brooke W. and Roger B. gave an updated review of TEACCH.
 - TEACCH currently is a level 3 therapy and in some parts of the country it is widely employed, primarily as a comprehensive school-based model.
 - Amy V.H. had questions specific to the quality of the research, feeling some of the work moved TEACCH towards a Level 2 efficacy determination.
 - As DHS currently allows TEACCH to be funded, there is no impact on children or families by delaying a decision until additional conversations amongst reviewers and other committee members can occur.
 - Lana C.-K. made a motion to table a decision until the next meeting, Roger B. seconded the motion and the motion carried.

7. Proposed New Treatments

- **Connector Rx:** A request for the Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) waivers to fund a therapy called Connector Rx was received by DHS. Jeff T. and Julie L. will review this.
- **Dance/Movement Therapy:** A request was not received to review dance/movement therapy, but this therapy has no formal TIAC review and it came up in a conversation around other therapies that are used to promote skill acquisition with children with autism spectrum disorder. Shannon S. and Brooke W. will conduct the review.
- **Integrated Listening System** A request for the Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver to fund Integrated Listening System was received by DHS. Roger B. and Jenny A. will review this.
- **The National Association for Child Development Model:** There was discussion of whether or not this model from the NACD represents a therapy or not. Bill M. will contact the association to get additional information and share this with TIAC members, asking for their ten best research articles. He will also contact the county waiver agency requesting funding for this therapy to clarify the wishes of the family.

8. Updated Reviews Needed

- **Art Therapy:** Review will be conducted by Tia S. and Lana C.

- **Auditory Integration Therapy:** Jenny A. and Roger B. to conduct the review.
- **Listening Therapy:** Jenny A. and Roger B. to conduct the review.
- **Masgutova Neurosensorymotor Reflex Integration:** Lana C.-K. and Jeff T. will review this.
- **Rapid Prompting Method:** Review will be conducted by Amy V.H. and Shannon S.
- **SCERTS:** Review to be completed by Brooke W. and Amy V.H.
- **Vision Therapy:** Julie L. and Tia S. will conduct this review.

9. Meeting Adjournment

Shannon S. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Julie L. seconded the motion; motion carries. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.