

**Division of Long Term Care  
Treatment Intervention Advisory Committee (TIAC)**

October 30, 2015  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Department of Health Services (DHS)  
1 W. Wilson Street, Room B155  
Madison, WI 53707

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Committee Members:** Lana Collet-Klingenberg (Chairperson), Jennifer Asmus (via telephone), Roger Bass, Julie LaBerge, Tia Schultz (via telephone), Shannon Stuart, Amy Van Hecke (via telephone at 10:49), Brooke Winchell (via telephone)

**DHS Staff:** Bill Murray

**Members of the Public:** Terri Black, Pam Lano (DHS observer), Mitchell Hagopian, Lori Schultz (DHS observer)

The meeting commenced at 10:03 AM.

**1. Welcome**

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

**2. Public Testimony**

Mitchell Hagopian with Disability Rights Wisconsin commented on the TIAC review of GemInn Systems at the last meeting of the TIAC in July. While it has been determined to be a Level 1 treatment, he believes without DHS looking at a therapist's involvement with the family and the system together, it does not necessarily constitute a "treatment." Bill Murray spoke regarding DHS guidance to county waiver agencies specific to GemInn being a Level 1 treatment when used with a qualified licensed provider who is working with a family. Mitchell also commented on the removal of the TIAC web site from the A-Z directory at the top of the DHS web page, and would like it to be put back.

**3. Operational**

The committee reviewed minutes from the meeting held on July 31, 2015. Roger B. made a motion to approve the July 31, 2015 meeting minutes; Julie L. seconded the motion; all approved and the motion carries.

**4. Treatment Reviews**

• **Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy**

- Roger B. and Jeff T. reviewed the research specific to cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT).
- According to the National Association of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapists, CBT is a form of psychotherapy that emphasizes the important role of thinking in how we feel and what we do.
- There exists an abundance of literature speaking to the efficacy of CBT with a variety of populations.
- Verbal performance is a predictor of treatment improvement, and the reviewers noted it would be interesting to look at the efficacy of CBT with individuals with lower verbal skills.

- Shannon S. made a motion to accept cognitive-behavioral therapy as a Level 1 (strong evidence) therapy; Julie L. seconded the motion; motion carries.

## 5. Treatment Updates

### ● Chelation (Re-review)

- Jenny A. and Roger B. provided the committee with an updated review of chelation, including a description of the chelation process. Chelation is a chemical removal procedure that typically involves patients receiving Succimer to reduce the presence of heavy metals (e.g., lead, copper, cadmium, and mercury).
- No new research has been identified specific to chelation and any improvement in children with autism and/or other developmental disabilities. When used there have been extreme concerns, and clinical trials have been stopped.
- Lana C.-K. made a motion that chelation retain a Level 5 (untested and/or potential for harm) efficacy rating, including the potential for harm. Jenny A. seconded and the motion carried.

### ● Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy (Re-review)

- Brooke W. and Amy V.H. shared an update of the review of equine-assisted psychotherapy (EAP).
- The reviewers commented on the overlap in some literature related to EAP, therapeutic horseback riding and hippotherapy.
- After combing the literature, there have been no new peer-reviewed studies in the past year, and thus there remains limited but emerging evidence to support EAP and it is recommended it remain a Level 3 therapy.
- Roger B. made a motion that EAP remain a Level 3 (emerging evidence) therapy, Shannon S. seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### ● Feldenkrais Method (Re-review)

- Jeff T. and Brooke W. completed a re-review of the Feldenkrais Method, which is reported to improve movement patterns, reduce physical pain, and improve wellbeing through awareness and functional integration.
- The reviewers did not identify any new research published in the last year and a Level 4 efficacy rating remains the recommendation.
- Lana C.-K. made a motion to retain a level 4 (insufficient evidence) rating for Feldenkrais. Julie L. seconded the motion; motion carried.

### ● Massage Therapy (Re-review)

- Shannon S. and Amy V.H. reviewed massage therapy, including Qigong Massage.
- A new study by Silva was found published within the past year, reporting improvements in ratings on the Childhood Autism Rating Scale (CARS) specific to Qigong Massage and individuals with autism and sensory concerns.
- With an emerging body of evidence relative to Qigong therapy, the reviewers recommend the rating from last year remain in place, with Qigong a Level 3 therapy and other forms of massage therapy as Level 4 therapies.
- Julie L. made a motion to maintain a Level 3 (emerging evidence) rating for Qigong Massage therapy and a Level 4 (insufficient evidence) rating for other forms of massage therapy, Roger B. seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### ● Mendability (Re-review)

- Jenny A. and Lana C.-K. reviewed Mendability, which is defined on the Mendability website as a form of sensory-enrichment therapy.

- A new study was identified by Loo et al, however a number of concerns related to this article and therapy were expressed.
    - The researchers failed to account for a number of threats to external validity, and there are limited data to support the therapy.
    - Concerns over the validity of parent-reported data also were expressed.
  - Much of the data that is reported specific to Mendability pertains to animal studies.
  - Jenny A. made a motion to maintain a level 4 (insufficient evidence) rating for Mendability, Roger B. seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Sensory Integration Therapy (Re-review)**
    - Julie L. and Lana C.-K. shared their review of sensory integration therapy (SIT), designed to organize responses in children with autism and/or other developmental concerns.
    - Three new articles were identified since the last review, including a well-designed but inconclusive study and another which combined SIT with craniosacral therapy.
    - The reviewers recommended a Level 4 efficacy rating be retained.
    - Lana C.-K. made a motion to maintain a level 4 (insufficient evidence) rating for sensory integration therapy, Roger B. seconded the motion and the motion carried.
  - **Tomatis Method (Re-review)**
    - Shannon S. and Julie L. gave an updated review of the Tomatis Method, which involves the presentation of musical recordings through a device that electronically modulates the acoustical signals.
    - The theory behind the Tomatis Method is that by listening to modulated auditory input, children gradually are able to focus their listening on language frequencies.
    - The reviewers were unable to identify any new articles published within the last year.
    - Julie L. made a motion to maintain a level 4 (insufficient evidence) efficacy rating for the Tomatis Method, Lana C.-K. seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## 6. Proposed New Treatments for next meeting

- No new treatments have been requested for review by the committee.

## 7. Updated Reviews for next meeting

- Aromatherapy will be reviewed by Roger B and Lana C.-K.
- Brain Balance will be reviewed by Jeff T. and Shannon S.
- Hippotherapy will be reviewed by Shannon S. and Amy V.H.
- TEACCH will be reviewed by Jenny A. and Tia S.
- Higher Brain Living will be reviewed by Amy V.H. and Julie L.
- Craniosacral therapy will be reviewed by Lana C.-K. and Jeff T.
- The P.L.A.Y. Project will be reviewed by Tia S. and Roger B.

## 8. Meeting Adjournment

Roger B. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Amy V.H. seconded the motion; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM.