**Turning Point: The Impact Functional Analysis on Behavioural Treatment**

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**Objectives**: In residential settings, functional analyses are often overlooked due to resource restrictions (time, money, case load size). In this case study, an ISSCA was run with the objective of decreasing challenging behaviours, in the form of angry hand biting, by determining the function and completing a comprehensive review of all behavioural programming.

**Methods:** Kerry’s Place Autism Services supports adults diagnosed with autism in residential settings. Tommy is 23 year old verbal male residing in a home with 2 other adult males. Tommy exhibits self-injury in the form of hand biting and aggressing towards others. A functional analysis was completed and the “My Way” functional communication program was started. In addition, all of Tommy’s behavioural programs were revised in order to take the established behavioural function into account. Data collection is ongoing. Thus far, there has been a decrease in the use of intrusive measures (in the form environmental and chemical restraints) as well as challenging behaviours. All data is evaluated using visual analysis.

**Results:**

Changes to Programming:

* Restricted Access (environmental restraint)
  + Originally had a half door, full access to electronics and staff checking in every 5 minutes
  + Changed to:
    - Full door closed with staff monitoring via video
    - Power cut to computer and tv
* Token Protocol
  + Discontinued out after “My Way”
  + He completes more of the chores associated daily living semi-independently
* Anxiety PRN (chemical restraint)
  + Used to be administered at the onset of restricted access
  + Faded to after 45 minutes in restricted access
* Increased verbal communication required for mands

In addition, partial interval recording shows a decrease in hand biting, duration of restricted access and total restricted access occurrences.

**Discussion/Conclusion:** The poster will elaborate on these preliminary results using visual analysis of data, and will discuss how investing the resources in functional analysis made the difference in treatment success.

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