**EXAMINATION OF PYRAMIDAL BEHAVIOUR SKILLS TRAINING WITH FRONTLINE SUPERVSIORS, THEIR TEAM OF DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS AND THE IMPACTS ON THOSE ACCESSING SERVICES**

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**Objectives:** Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) develop unique interdependent relationships with those accessing their services that sets the stage for collaboration and influence over opportunity to achieve goals, access treatment, and build meaningful skills. DSPs need learning critical skills to positively influence those domains. Training available to DSPs often varies in integrity and quality depending on the environment. Most research in the field has limited focus on empirical evidence for training programs for DSPs working with adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities (IDD), the long-term effectiveness of these training programs, and the impacts on the experiences of those accessing service. This study aims to evaluate the use of Pyramidal Behaviour Skills Training mediated by Frontline Supervisors and their team of DSPs on training and implementing skills in the domains of quality of life, or experience improvements for adults with IDD.

**Methods:** This study is part of a multi-phase, ongoing research project examining the effects of Behaviour Skills Training with DSPs working in the developmental sector. Participants include 5-7 Frontline Supervisors, 8-10 DSPs, and adults with IDD accessing their services. A Multiple Probe Design across multiple skills and multiple DSPs will be used and be replicated across participants and across various skills. Frontline Supervisors will be trained to demonstrate target skills, then taught how to train these using BST. Once criterion has been met, supervisors will use BST to teach DSPs the target skill. Once the DSP has met criterion, supervisors will conduct integrity checks at various points to assess the need for re-training and conduct BST if needed. In the follow-up phase, supervisors will be asked to perform BST with a known skill and a previously untrained DSP to determine if the skill-maintained overtime and then conduct BST with a new skill and a new DSP to test for generalization. Pre and post intervention questionnaires will be delivered to supervisors, DSPs, and those accessing their services with questions related to the meaningfulness of the intervention and methods and the overall impact on their lives.

**Results:** At this stage, data collection is still ongoing. However, the team plans to present the data visually by graphing the data following a Multiple Probe Design across skills and DSPs. It is hypothesized, based on the literature review and completed steps of this research project, that Pyramidal Behaviour Skills Training will be an effective training modality to teach socially significant skills to a team of DSPs.

**Discussion/Conclusion:** This Data Blitz will highlight the data collected during the study and potentially demonstrate the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of P-BST as an empirical training model for DSPs and areas for future research.

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