


Subject/Title: COVID-19 Supervision Policy
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Issued Date: 7/23/2020, Updated 8/16/2021 by Jennifer Ward-Kolka
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Distribution: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BCBAs (Program Supervisors) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QBHPs (Program Supervisors) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administrative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client Families <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

The purpose of this policy is to provide specific direction to Program Supervisors and all other employees with recommendations for supervision of ABA that may decrease the risk of the spread of COVID-19 when working at a Spectrum Autism Center or In-home.

Section 1. Phased supervision recommendations

1. Supervision of ABA therapy by a Program Supervisor is a service that can be provided remotely (telehealth) or in-person. The extent to which supervision is provided in-person should be determined by phase of the region in which the supervision will take place.
2. Flexibility - the phases may change depending on the spread of the virus. Once advancement to a less restrictive phase has occurred, you may need to go back to a more restrictive phase if the virus begins to spread in our region.
3. The phases of the pandemic include:
 - a. Phase 1: UNCONTROLLED GROWTH: The increasing number of new cases every day, overwhelming our health systems.
 - b. Phase2: PERSISTENT SPREAD: We continue to see high case levels with concern about health system capacity.

- c. Phase 3:FLATTENING: The epidemic is no longer increasing and the health-system's capacity is sufficient for current needs.
 - d. Phase 4: IMPROVING: Cases, hospitalizations and deaths are clearly declining.
 - e. Phase 5: CONTAINING: Continued case and death rate improvements, with outbreaks quickly contained.
 - f. Phase 6:POST-PANDEMIC: Community spread not expected to return.
4. Phases of supervision of ABA services:
- a. Phases 1 and 2 - Supervision may be provided remotely using HIPAA secure telehealth services if needed and approved
 - i. If the environment allows for the supervisor to remain at least 6+ feet apart and/or there is a clinical need supervision can remain in person
 - ii. If telehealth services are not approved the clinical director and program supervisor should work together to arrange the environment to ensure supervision can be conducted from 6+ feet away
 - iii. Behavior skills training may not be conducted with the child unless the supervisor can do so from a distance of 6 feet
 - b. Phase 3-5 - In-person supervision is preferred and telehealth supervision is still an option if needed and approved.
 - i. All safety protocols and distancing rules need to be followed when conducting in-person supervision.
 - c. Phase 6 - Resume normal operations

Section 2. Telehealth:

- 1. See [Tele-Health Policy](#) for specific requirements, details, and best practices
 - a. HIPAA - The two HIPAA secured methods for Telehealth you have access to are Google Meet and Doxy. Either is an acceptable method for conducted telehealth services.
 - b. iPads - the technician will need to connect to your preferred supervision method using their iPad. Extra iPads are available for supervision purposes.
 - c. When conducting supervision using telehealth, you must have a quiet, secured room in which other household members will not be able to hear the session.

Section 8. Associated Forms and Policies

- 1. [Tele-Health Policy](#)