

Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst

1. When presenting extinction as a possible treatment option to a client and his or her family, it is MOST important for a behavior analyst to?

- A. assure them that extinction is supported in the literature as an effective procedure.
- B. present it along with other interventions, including reinforcement based alternatives.
- C. discuss the risks and benefits of using extinction and assure them that it is the best option.
- D. explain his or her experience using extinction with similar cases.

Answer(s): B

2. A behavior analyst is asked to provide direct services requiring daily 1:1 interaction with a teen-aged client. The client does not speak but can communicate fluently using sign language. The behavior analyst knows some sign language but is not fluent. The BEST approach to this situation would be to?

- A. explain his level of competence in sign language to the family before beginning service.
- B. hire a sign language interpreter to attend the sessions.
- C. attend a workshop in sign language prior to beginning service.
- D. refer the family to a behavior analyst fluent in sign language.

Answer(s): D

3. Fara has identified two procedures that have an equal probability of being effective. In order to select the better procedure, she should?

A. choose the procedure that falls within the staff's level of competence.

B. determine which procedure is most clinically popular based on the rate of use by professionals.

C. select the procedure that best utilizes the existing funding stream.

D. use a random number table to rule out bias.

Answer(s): A

4. Which of the following would BEST contribute to a behavior analyst's professional development?

A. attending a workshop that provides videotaped examples and practice activities for innovative interventions

B. reading articles from a peer-reviewed applied behavior analysis journal that describe techniques that are applicable to her client population

C. becoming a member of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, which is a rich resource for behavior analysts

D. contributing an article to the newsletter of the local Association for Behavior Analysis chapter

Answer(s): B

5. Before recruitment of participants for a research study begins, a behavior analyst needs to:

A. obtain consent from participant(s) or legal guardian(s) if necessary.

B. obtain institutional review board approval or equivalent (e.g., an ethics committee).

C. inform participants of their ability to withdraw from the study.

D. inform participants about ethical requirements and experimental procedures.

Answer(s): B

6. Billy, a 20-year-old male, has the capacity to give consent for treatment. The behavior analyst has developed a program and explained it to Billy. Procedures, benefits, rights, and other information also were shown to him. The one element still needed for informed consent is approval from?

A. Billy.

B. clinical review committee.

C. human rights committee.

D. Billy's parents.

Answer(s): A

7. From an ethical standpoint, target behaviors and program goals should be selected?

A. by service providers and staff members who are knowledgeable of the consumer's needs.

B. by the consumer or their representative in consultation with an interdisciplinary team.

C. so that they ultimately facilitate transition to independent living.

D. that most closely adhere to the standards of the community.

Answer(s): B

8. Fred does not follow some of the directives imposed by the direct care staff. A behavior analyst has been asked to put a program in place that will get Fred to comply with all directives. The behavior analyst should FIRST?

A. differentiate between compliance rates across different directives.

B. request that staff provide a ratio of compliant behaviors to noncompliant ones.

C. determine a list of potential reinforcers for the behavior program.

D. consider the ethical implications of training Fred to comply with all directives.

Answer(s): D

9. A behavior analyst specializing in developmental disabilities is informed by a cousin at a family gathering that their 2-year-old child has just received a diagnosis of autism and severe intellectual disability. The cousin asks the behavior analyst for advice. Which statement BEST conforms to the ethical and professional standards for behavior analysts?

A. It would be unprofessional and unethical for the behavior analyst to advise a relative.

B. The behavior analyst can consult with their cousin, but only on an informal basis once the cousin hires their own behavior analyst.

C. Early intensive behavioral intervention may suit the child and family. The behavior analyst should suggest some people for the cousin to contact.

D. Tell the cousin that the child will benefit from behavioral intervention with the impact of the intervention depending on the specific treatment that is implemented.

Answer(s): C

10. From an ethical standpoint, which source provides the MOST appropriate information for justifying implementation of a program to change a person's behavior?

A. daily reports from the direct care staff who work with the person routinely

B. graphed data from the program staff who observe the person regularly

C. written recommendations from the medical staff who treat the person on a regular basis

D. written requests from the administrative staff who are ultimately responsible for the person's care

Answer(s): B

11. A behavior analyst develops a program that decreases a baby's crying when her diaper is soiled.

This is an example of

A. development of a procedure to decrease maladaptive behaviors.

B. differential reinforcement of alternative responses.

C. extinction.

D. misuse of a practitioner's ability to control behavior.

Answer(s): D

12. A behavior analyst is asked to review a point system to be used in an elementary school. According to the program, participation in extracurricular activities such as sports or choir is contingent upon earning "good citizen" points. "Good citizen" behaviors are clearly defined. Ethical standards should lead the behavior analyst to recommend which of the following with regard to earning extracurricular activities?

A. Implement the contingency as designed.

B. Modify the contingency to include points earned for academic performance.

C. Obtain the consent of the students' parents.

D. Require points to be earned outside the classroom.

Answer(s): C

13. Mitch, a 17-year-old with intellectual disabilities, has made great progress on toileting and hand-washing skills at school. Ethically, which procedure would be the MOST appropriate?

A. Every time Mitch uses the washroom, an aide stands at the door, records the task analysis steps successfully completed, and posts the results on the bathroom door.

B. If all steps to toileting and hand-washing are completed successfully, the teacher gives Mitch a smile and notes the frequency on a chart at her desk.

C. If Mitch makes errors on toileting and hand-washing tasks, a positive practice procedure is implemented.

D. Upon successful completion of toileting and hand-washing, the teacher announces, "Good toileting, Mitch," and marks the success on a wall chart.

Answer(s): B

14. A colleague who is friends with one of a behavior analyst's clients asks the behavior analyst during a break at a local peer review meeting how the case is going. The behavior analyst should

A. ask the colleague if the client has given permission to discuss the case.

B. inform the colleague that he can't discuss this and change the subject.

C. discuss the case in hypothetical terms without using the client's name.

D. provide a minimum amount of information so that the colleague can assist him.

Answer(s): B

15. The Smiths' daughter, who has autism, has been receiving ABA services for one-and-a-half years from Andrew, a behavior analyst. Andrew's experience and training is in special education. Recently, the Smiths' other child has been behaving differently and they suspect that he may be clinically depressed. The Smiths would like their son to receive services from Andrew because their family is familiar with him and he has provided effective interventions for their daughter. The Smiths ask Andrew to confirm their suspicions about their son. What should Andrew do?

A. Remind the family that his area of expertise is special education and AB

B. Conduct a descriptive assessment and collect baseline data in order to develop an intervention.

C. Consult with colleagues who have expertise in treating mood disorders in order to design an effective intervention.

D. Refer the family to a colleague who has expertise in diagnosing mood disorders.

Answer(s): D

16. From an ethical standpoint, evaluation of treatment outcomes should occur through

A. direct measurement of the individual's behavior.

B. discussion with the interdisciplinary team.

C. continuous evaluation of program integrity.

D. a system based on randomly monitoring program outcomes.

Answer(s): A

17. Scott, a behavior analyst, has been accepted into a doctoral program and will be leaving the in-home treatment program where he has been working. Scott has informed the family about when he will be leaving. What is the MOST important action for Scott to take?

A. Make copies of his data and case files for his records.

B. Ask the family whether they would like to continue treatment.

C. Make arrangements for transfer of services to another qualified behavior analyst.

D. Assess caregiver's skills in order to determine competence to maintain program integrity.

Answer(s): C

18. After collecting baseline data and verifying the hypothesis, which of the following is the BEST approach to use when selecting behavior change procedures?

A. Ask professionals in the individual's environment to list procedures to address the unique circumstances involved.

B. Use a procedure that has previously been found to be socially valid based on staff evaluations.

C. Limit selection to behavior change procedures that are consistent with those documented in the behavioral literature.

D. Review all journals containing procedures that may apply to the behavior targeted for change.

Answer(s): C

19. Which statement is an example of "philosophic doubt"?

A. Attention is the most powerful reinforcer for most clients so it will probably work with Freddie.

B. I have many reservations about using the principles of behavior in designing treatment programs.

C. I really do not think that food functions as a reinforcer for Linda since she often misses meals.

D. Past research has shown that verbal behavior training is effective but this could change when new research is conducted.

Answer(s): D

20. Which is NOT true of determinism?

A. Science is based on determinism.

B. Determinism is in contrast to empiricism.

C. All science is predicated on determinism.

D. The universe is orderly and follows universal laws.

Answer(s): B

