

## ABSTRACT

### USING PARENT RECORDING AND GRAPHIC FEEDBACK TO ENHANCE TREATMENT INTEGRITY AND ADHERENCE IN IN-HOME PROGRAMS

Although there are numerous research articles addressing methods for improving treatment integrity of behavioral interventions, this literature often does not differentiate between integrity (proper implementation of procedures) and adherence (treatment integrity across time). Adherence to the treatment recommendations is essential to producing and maintaining behavior change. In behavioral research and practice with children with autism, parents often are called upon to be treatment providers. Although several studies have examined parents' abilities to implement treatments, most of these investigations have been conducted in the presence of a researcher. This study examined treatment adherence in the absence of the researcher or consultant to provide a more naturalistic investigation of parents' adherence to treatment protocols. In addition, the effects of parent-implemented data collection and graphed consultant feedback were examined using a nonconcurrent multiple baseline design. Although there were no treatment effects with adherence to in-home programs, the study shows good treatment integrity when programs were implemented. Although there were no treatment effects with adherence to in-home programs, data revealed high levels of treatment integrity when programs were implemented.

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