**Activity 3: Clinical Value and Research Validity**

Goal: Evaluate the clinical value and research validity of the treatment you are considering to adopt within your agency.

There are a many treatments available for individuals with ASD. Treatments may vary in terms of their clinical value and/or research validity. To make the most informed choices about a new treatment, it is important to assess these factors before making a decision about adopting the treatment. The scores obtained from the clinical value and validity can be summed up to provide guidance for adopting a research-based treatment at your agency.

**Clinical Value:** How meaningful and important the benefits and outcomes achieved by the treatment are to your agency, service providers, and clients served.

**Research Validity:** The evidence-base supporting the use of the research-based treatment.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Evaluating the Clinical Value of the Treatment*** | | **Yes**  **1** | **No**  **0** | | **DK**  **-** |
| 1. | Are the **outcomes** potentially achieved by the treatment meaningful and important to your **agency overall**? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 2. | Are the **outcomes** potentially achieved by the treatment meaningful and important to the **service providers** at your agency? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 3. | Are the **outcomes** potentially achieved by the treatment meaningful and important to the **clients and families** at your agency? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 4. | Do the **benefits** of the treatment **outweigh any potential risks** to your clients, service providers, and agency? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 5. | Has the treatment been **evaluated in** **community agencies** (e.g., such as your agency) and demonstrate **positive results**? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
|  | ***Clinical Value Total Score =*** |  | **4-5**  **2-3**  **0-1** | **High**  **Medium**  **Low** | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Evaluating the Research Validity of the Treatment*** | | **Yes**  **1** | **No**  **0** | | **DK**  **-** |
| 1. | Was the treatment study published in a **scientific journal** (i.e., a peer-reviewed academic journal)? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 2. | Did the treatment study use a **comparison group** to test whether their treatment achieved **better results** compared to another group? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 3. | Did the treatment study take into consideration how **other factors** (e.g., age, IQ, ASD severity, etc.) may have influenced the results? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 4. | Were the researchers **critical of their own study** (e.g., address study limitations, offer alternative explanations, consider areas for improvement, etc.)? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
| 5. | Has **more than 1 research team** tested this treatment and obtain positive results? | 🗆 | 🗆 | | 🗆 |
|  | ***Research Validity Total Score =*** |  | **4-5**  **2-3**  **0-1\*** | **High**  **Medium**  **Low\*** | |

**\*If you are still considering adopting this treatment for use at your agency, we recommend that you please:**

1. Evaluate more resources about the validity of the treatment
2. monitor client outcomes closely