NAME- YINUSA ABIDEMI ALIU

PLACE OF WORK- PATRICK SPEECH AND LANGUAGES CENTRE

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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS/INFORMATION- CERTIFIED AUTISM SPECIALIST

AREA OF THERAPY SPECIALIZATION? SPEECH, BEHAVIOUR AND SOCIAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

WHAT KIND OF PATIENTS DO YOU TRAIN? CHILDREN AND ADULT LIVING WITH AUTISM

WITH EMPHASIS ON AUTISTIC CHILDREN, WHAT IS THE AGE RANGE OF PATIENTS THAT YOU TRAIN? 2 -40 YEARS

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF THERAPY THAT COULD HELP DEVELOP AN AUTISTIC CHILD? it depends on the child’s needs. Speech and language therapy is use to develop and build child’s communication and understanding of language. It is also use to improve child’ articulation challenges and production of sounds. Behavior modification therapy is used to address behavioral challenges of a child living with autism. The interventions in this domain is used to modified some inappropriate behaviours such as attention seeking, task avoidance, transfer of aggression, self-injurious, flapping, rocking, stimming with objects and others. Some children find it challenging to interact or engage other peers therefore, social skill therapy will be introduced to address such challenges.

WHAT ARE THE FACTORS (ACTIONS/BEHAVIORS) MONITORED/OBSERVED WHEN ASSESSING A POTENTIAL PATIENT? The behaviors observed while assessing a child were stated above.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF CONCLUSIONS THAT COULD INFLUENCE COMMENCEMENT OF THERAPY FOR A POTENTIAL PATIENT AFTER COMPLETION OF ASSESSMENT? 1. If a child exhibited challenging behavior that prevent him/her from learning 2. Limited words or speech delay to express his needs. 3. Inability to play or interact with his peers. 4. If the child academic performance is not age-appropriate. 5. Inability to do age –appropriate activities of daily skills and others.

WHAT ARE THE BEGINNER GENERAL EXERCISES TO CARRY OUT ON THERAPY COMMENCEMENT? The question is not clear.

HOW DO YOU TRACK THE PROGRESS/EFFECTS OF THE THERAPY TRAINING ON A PATIENT? By keeping record of their progress and through review of their performance.

ARE FAMILIES/RELATIVES OF THE PATIENT REQUIRED TO BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE THERAPY? Yes

IF YES, IN WHAT AREAS ARE CRUCIAL FOR ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT? Communication, interaction, redirecting their inappropriate behavior, watching their diet and enlighten the people around them about the challenges of the child.

PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL COURSE OF ACTIONS IN A TYPICAL THERAPY SESSION? To keep a child that is hyperactive to do a given task, firstly, such child need to do light exercises like jumping on the trampoline, walking round the compound, picking of balls form one place to another and others. Thereafter, such child should stay on a task for not more than 20 minutes before changing the task. Reward such as praises and other things he/she likes should be used to motivate his involvement in the task given.

WHAT ARE THE DETAILS INCLUDED/REQUIRED IN THE MONTHLY REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF THE PATIENT? The activities that the child did, level of performance, Challenges facing if there any, involvement in group work and behavior.

WHAT OTHER FEATURES WOULD YOU ADVICE/REQUIRE TO BE ADDED TO THE PLATFORM? Family session.

ANY REMARKS OR COMMENT? Working with children living with autism is unique because of the passion or interest the therapist must have first before any other thing.