

Zhen Lin

PSYC 532

Ethical Review

3093843780

Related ethics code:

- 1.01 Reliance on Scientific Knowledge;
- 1.02 Boundaries of Competence (b);
- 2.04 Third-Party Involvement in Services (b) (d);
- 2.09 Treatment/Intervention Efficacy (a);
- 2.12 Contracts, Fees, and Financial Arrangements.

According to 1.01 and 2.09, behavior analysts provide services after professional assessment, such as descriptive and experimental analysis. The treatment plan that our agency provides for every client should be derived from the principal of behaviors with strong scientific supports (1.01). In this case, we can not start the service from Wednesday without intake meetings and preliminary school observation. The *agency* will violate the ethics codes of Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) if further treatment is permitted. Without a customized treatment plan, the therapy session will turn out to be a simple “babysitting” rather than an effective language and social skill acquisition session. The student has a right to receive effective treatment based on the previous research literature and careful assessment (2.09.a). We noticed that the agency did not sign the ISA, which means the ISA was not approved yet. According to

the ethics code 2.12 (a), before providing any services, we should have a signed agreement outlining the responsibility of all parties. It is essential to protect the right of both of our *clients* and also the *agency*. Only funded for 1:1 RBT session without supervision violates the codes that the behavioral therapy session only can provide under supervision and continuing training. This will hurt the *client's* right to effective treatment, and the agency can not manage the case in a normal system. And this also affects the right of a BCBA to get deserved compensation. It is irresponsible for the *agency* to place the children to start immediately. RBT can not start the session without a BCBA's supervision (1.02). When we run into a case that involves a third party, *the district team*, we should still follow the direction of ethics code (2.04).

Resources a BCBA may find:

Agency, the district management team, parents, BACB

Plan A:

To the BCBA's supervisor:

1. Address my concern of the current status,
2. Persuade the supervisor to confirm the ISA with the caregivers,
3. Persuade the supervisor to communicate with the parents about the importance of a complete evaluation of assessment,
4. Persuade the supervisor to communicate with the district management team about the importance of a complete evaluation of assessment and the supervision hour,
5. Tell the truth of the result without supervision hours.

If the supervisor did not count this as a serious problem:

Plan B:

To the parents:

1. Address the situation to the parents,
2. Raise their awareness of the importance of assessment
3. Talks about the result if the 1:1 treatment implement without a supervision

To the district management team:

1. Address the situation to the team member,
2. Raise their awareness of the importance of assessment
3. Talks about the result if the 1:1 treatment implement without a supervision

Plan C:

If both parents, supervisor and district team can not realize the inadequate situation, the BCBA has to take the further action that reports the case to BCBA and stop the service to the family.

Document:

Date: 2019/09/22 BCBA Name: Zhen Lin Supervisor: XXX Client name: XXX

Situation:

BCBA was informed of the situation that the student is diagnosed with ASD and the case had been authorized by the agency. Supervisor of the agency assigned this client to the BCBA. After gathering the information of the client and reviewing the ISA, the BCBA was confident that the case is under her scope of competency and will accept the case under my supervision.

However, the current situation violates the ethical codes of the BACB and our agency can not start the case immediately.

The agency did not sign and approve the ISA;

Without an intake assessment and direct observation assessment with the client;

Without funding for supervision hours.

Actions need to be taken:

1. Communicate with the supervisor:
 1. reevaluate the ISA,
 2. communicate with the parents and the district team.
2. Communicate with the parents and district management team:
 1. Address the situation
 2. Raise their awareness of result without supervision and assessment

Updates: (After action above)

xxxxx

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