



# Community Diagnostic Assessment Team Training

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# Multidisciplinary diagnostic assessment

- ▶ “. . . it is recommended that assessments of ASD are multidisciplinary whenever possible, including professionals from psychology, psychiatry, other medical specialties as needed (e.g., pediatrics, neurology) and speech and language.”

Ozonoff, Goodlin-Jones, & Solomon (2005)

# Goal of Assessment Team Training

To prepare an interdisciplinary team to provide comprehensive diagnostic assessments in a health care context. Such assessments will:

- Provide a complete and accurate conceptualization of the child's strengths and challenges with respect to features of autism
- Reflect best-practice team functioning
- Engage parents as active partners in the process
- Serve as the basis for effective intervention

# Anticipated Outcomes

- ▶ Improved child behavior and functioning
- ▶ Increased professional satisfaction with the assessment process
- ▶ Increased family satisfaction with the assessment process and the resulting intervention program

# Guiding Principles

- ▶ Transdisciplinary team functioning
- ▶ Evidence-based assessment tools and procedure
- ▶ Family-centered practice

# Team Functioning

- ▶ Team composition
- ▶ Transdisciplinary practice
  - ▶ Engaging related service providers
  - ▶ Facilitating effective team deliberation
- ▶ Integration into the intervention process
  - ▶ Integrating assessment data / report writing
  - ▶ Using assessment results in the IEP

# Assessment Instruments

- ▶ Preliminary assessment data
- ▶ Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule – 2 (ADOS-2)
- ▶ Autism Diagnostic Interview – Revised (ADI-R)

# Training Components

- ▶ ADOS-2 Clinical Training: Administration and Coding
- ▶ ADI-R Clinical Training: Administration and Coding
- ▶ Additional modules:
  - Team functioning
  - Role of Related Service Providers
  - Family Centered Practice
  - Report Writing
  - From Assessment to IEP
  - Evidence-based Intervention Practices
- ▶ ADOS-2 follow-up
  - ▶ Supporting reliable ADOS-2 administration and coding



# Training Outcomes and Challenges

- ▶ Assessment teams trained in three sites
  - ▶ 8-12 individuals at each site participated in the training (28 total)
- ▶ Challenges
  - ▶ Supporting the team model: Billing
  - ▶ Need for ongoing support in the use of the instruments

# References

Ozonoff, S., Goodlin-Jones, B.L., & Solomon, M. (2005). Evidence-based assessment of autism spectrum disorders in children and adolescents. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 34, 523–540. DOI: 10.1207/s15374424jccp3403\_8