

SPHSC 500 - Autumn 2009
Clinical Methodology for Documenting Change
Prof. Lesley B. Olswang

Assignment #3
Summary Planning Treatment, Implementing Treatment and Monitoring Progress

Assignment Objective: This assignment is designed to review concepts and data collection tools that assist a clinician in making decisions in regards to planning treatment, implementing treatment and monitoring progress.

Task: We will be discussing treatment for two adult women with moderate hearing loss who are experiencing difficulty with communication breakdowns. The overall goal for these women is to help them better communicate in their work environments. This will be accomplished in two ways. One goal for these individuals will be to modify their use of specific repair strategies following communication breakdowns. A second goal for these individuals will be to alter their work environment so that they might have better success in communicating. You will be writing short term objectives for each goal, plus indicate additional probe measures for use in monitoring progress. Diagnostic information and material regarding communication breakdowns and repair strategies will be provided in class. Specific details for the assignment follow:

Repair Strategy Objective:

1) Write a short term (i.e., quarterly) treatment objective for a specific treatment target behavior to increase your client's repertoire of repair strategies. For this objective the direct consumer/client will be one of the women. The objective should be written operationally – remember this means, define the behavior that you will be treating, the conditions for observing the behavior and the criteria for judging success. This should be a **quantitatively** measured objective.

2) Describe one generalization behavior that you would like to measure **quantitatively** for documenting change. Define the behavior that you will be measuring. Indicate if it is a stimulus or response generalization behavior and give your rationale for selecting it. . What are the conditions for data collection for sampling this behavior? Be specific – manner, setting/setting, participants, and obtrusiveness.

3) Describe one control behavior that you would like to measure **quantitatively** for documenting change. Define the behavior that you will be measuring. Indicate why this is a good control behavior. What are the conditions for data collection for sampling this behavior? Be specific – manner, setting/setting, participants, and obtrusiveness.

Environmental Support Objective:

1) Write a short term (i.e., quarterly) treatment objective to modify the environment so that your client is more successful in communicating. For this objective, some person in the environment is the direct consumer. The objective should be written operationally – remember this means, define the behavior that you will be treating, the conditions for observing the behavior and the criteria for judging success. This should be a **quantitatively** measured objective.

2) Describe one qualitative measure that you could use to show ultimate change (social comparison or subjective evaluation) in your client. These data can be about either the repair strategy use or the environmental support. The only stipulation is that it should be focused on your client. You might use an interview or behavioral observation as your data collection tool. Describe the data collection procedure specifically. If you select an interview, then provide the questions that you would ask, in the order you would ask them. If you select a behavioral observation, provide the question that would focus your observation (i.e., what are you looking for), and how you would set up the observation to ensure you sample the behaviors of interest. Why would these be good measures of ultimate change?

BE SPECIFIC in all of your answers!

Audience: Instructors and fellow students

Submission: Write out answers as described above.

Length: Not more than 3 pages.

Format: Typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins, stapled

Grading: 30 points—This assignment is primarily intended to get you to think through the issues and to be able to participate fully in our class discussion. I will be allowing you to edit/improve your paper during the class discussion by writing on your typed paper. With this in mind, grades will be assigned as follows:

26-30 points – clear, relevant, thoughtful, accurate, complete, logical and well organized – few, if any written edits

20-25 points – mostly clear, relevant, thoughtful, accurate, complete, logical and well organized – some written edits

15-19 points – lacking clarity, relevancy, thoughtfulness, accuracy, completeness, problems with organization – considerable edits

<15 points – concerns about content – but effort seen.

Due Date: December 8 for discussion and submission.

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