



## **Effects of Behaviour Support Plans based on the MCCSS Quality Assurance Measures and Support and Living Arrangement Variables on the Challenging Behaviour of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities**

### **Current Gaps in Existing Literature**

- Need for more controlled experimental community research
- Further examination of the impact of MCCSS QAM BSPs on: challenging behaviour in the community, and on the use of intrusive procedures
- Impact of QAM BSPs on adaptive skills, quality of life and support costs over time.
- Studies examining the influence of various support models and living arrangements found in community residential settings.

### **Goals of the Study**

1. To evaluate the effects of implementing QAM-compliant BSPs for challenging behaviour on client behavioural outcomes and related cost across several agencies in the Durham Region, using an experimental design.
2. Explore relationships between different support models and living environments, and BSP outcomes across several outcome measures (e.g., client behaviour, number of police calls) and process measures (e.g., staff adherence to BSP, positive staff-client interaction, use of intrusive procedures).

### **Research Design: A Concurrent Multiple Baseline Design**

Goal: 15 participants, divided into squads, two-year time frame

Completed: 6 participants across 2 squads, 2 participants single case studies, 1 participant withdrew

### **Research Measures**

- Frequency of Challenging Behaviour & Replacement Skills
- Support Living Arrangements Scan, Behaviour Severity Scale, Behaviour Impact Questionnaire, Quality of Life Impact Scale, Treatment Implementation Checklist, Consumer Satisfaction, Staff Client Interaction Scale

### **Clinical Outcomes to Date**

- 9 individuals had comprehensive Functional Assessment completed.
- 9 Individuals had QAM compliant Behaviour Support Plans developed
- 9 Staff teams were trained on the implementation of the Behaviour Support Strategies
- 8 study participants, as 1 withdrew from the study but still received clinical supports
- 2 participants are currently still in the QAM BSP treatment phase
- 6 participants were discharged from active services after meeting their goals

### **Barriers & Limitations**

- Delays starting recruitment due to Research Ethics Board approval, and unexpected challenges finding individuals meeting criteria for inclusion
- Delays completing Functional Behaviour Assessments due to: significant medical issues, hospitalizations, challenges obtaining needed information from community residential teams, delays acquiring consent

### **Study Strengths**

- Built capacity and positive behaviour support skills at 8 different residential group homes site, across two community living agencies, in the Durham Region
- Study embarked on conducting experimental community research in a context that offered many expected challenges beyond researcher control



### **Conclusions**

- Positive increases were found in staff client interactions following QAM BSP implementation
- Residential Homes with limited staff turnover, more community involvement and consistent oversight from the Program Manager lead to a better managed team which resulted in consistent treatment for the participant.
- BSP implementation increased with more staff training
- The Supportive Living Arrangement Scale (SLAS) is a tool that offers very useable information and would be a valuable planning tool for residential moves, to match individual environmental and support needs with residential availabilities, and to profile available placements in the community for any new person entering MCCSS funded group home services.