

Functional Behavior Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans

A Functional Behavioral Analysis (FBA) should take place prior to the initiation of treatment interventions and must include reviewing situational variables, including environmental circumstances, individual caretaker management practices, physical health considerations, and academic and social demands.

WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED?

Functional Behavioral Analysis (FBA)

An FBA is used to inform the design of a behavior program for maximum effectiveness and should include:

- Informed consent by individual or caregiver as appropriate
- Rationale for need of intervention and potential risks if not assessed/intervened
- Utilization of assessment methods (direct vs. indirect, etc.) and data collection procedures
- Operational definition of target behavior(s)
- Hypothesized function(s) of problem behavior(s) that include antecedents that predict the behaviors and consequences that maintain the behaviors
- Functionally equivalent replacement behaviors to be targeted for acquisition

Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)

The BIP is developed to outline a function-based intervention plan that addresses the undesirable behavior and should include:

- Informed consent by individual or caregiver as appropriate
- Date of initiation as well as date of revisions/review
- Individualized plan tailored to member, implementer, and setting (e.g., family, siblings, staff, other service providers)
 - Antecedent and consequence-based interventions
 - Justification for restrictive interventions, if applicable
- Safety and/or Crisis Plan for behaviors that may cause harm to member, others, or environment
- Specific plan for generalization
- Information for how contingencies will fade to more natural contingencies to promote independence across all environments
- Visual representation of data to include:
 - Graph for each target behavior
 - Narrative summary indicating response to treatment (trends) for each behavior targeted
- Documentation of setting events that may impact behavior data (e.g., medication changes, divorce, modification to BIP) and how these are being addressed
- Outline for how often the behavior plan will be updated and how stakeholders will be trained
- Information regarding treatment fidelity checks

CONSIDERATIONS

- Each part of the FBA must be completed by a fully licensed clinician acting within his/her scope of practice who is enrolled with the Nebraska Division of Medicaid and Long-Term care as a provider of mental health services. • Licensed and/or provisionally licensed Psychologists • Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioners (LIMHP) with BCBA credentials. • Doctoral and Masters Level Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA), under the supervision of a licensed supervising practitioner, unless the BCBA is also a licensed mental health practitioner.
- The FBA should be conducted within the environment where the behavior occurs; therefore, if a maladaptive behavior is occurring within the home setting, evaluation and treatment should also occur within that setting.
 - If services are not able to be provided within settings that are specific to member and family's needs, rationale should be submitted regarding a plan for how this will be address.

- The BIP should be developed with caregiver preferences and abilities taken into consideration.
- The BIP should reflect stakeholders' ability to implement the interventions.
- Appropriate alternative behaviors identified should be specifically targeted for increase within skill acquisition section.
- Throughout the treatment period frequently reassess and update intervention plans to address changes of behavior accordingly.

References: [The Council of Autism Service Providers \(CASP\) Applied Behavior Analysis Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Practice Guidelines for Healthcare Funders and Managers, Ver 2.0](#)