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DMH, Division of DD Waivers Manual Page 23

Behavior Analysis Service

Available in: Comprehensive, Community Support, Autism, and PfH Waivers.

This service is designed to help individuals demonstrating significant deficits (challenges) in the areas of behavior, social, and communication skills acquire functional skills in their homes and communities and/or to prevent hospitalizations or out-of-home placements. Behavior Analysis services may be provided to assist a person or persons to learn new behavior directly related to existing challenging behaviors or functionally equivalent replacement behaviors for identified challenging behaviors. Services may also be provided to increase existing behavior, to reduce existing behavior, and to emit behavior under precise environmental conditions. Behavior analysis includes the design, implementation and evaluation of systematic environmental modifications for the purposes of producing socially significant improvements in and understanding of human behavior based on the principles of behavior identified through the experimental analysis of behavior.

An individual's Behavior Analysis Services are based on the Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) which identifies functional relationships between behavior and the environment including contextual factors, establishing operations, antecedent stimuli, contributing and controlling consequences, and possible physiological or medical variables related to the challenging behavior or situations;

The plan should describe strategies and procedures to generalize and maintain the effects of the behavior support plan and to collect data to assess the effectiveness of the plan and fidelity of implementation of the plan;

The specific skills and behaviors targeted for each individual should be clearly defined in observable terms and measured carefully by direct observation each session;

The service shall include monitoring of data from continuous assessment of the individual's skills in learning, communication, social competence, and self-care guide to the scope of the individual support plan, which must include separate, measurable goals and objectives with clear definitions of what constitutes mastery;

Data should be displayed in graphic format with relevant environmental variables that might affect the target behaviors indicated on the graph. The graph should provide indication of analysis via inclusion of environmental variables including medications and changes in medications, baseline or pre- intervention levels of behavior, and strategy changes;

Performance based training for parents, caregivers and significant others in the person's life are also part of the behavior analysis services if these people are integral to the implementation or monitoring of the plan.

Senior Behavior Consultant and Behavior Intervention Specialist may be authorized in conjunction with a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA), which are a separate service, cost and code. The purpose of the FBA is to gather information in the form of data from descriptive assessment, observation and/or systematic manipulation of environmental variables, written and oral history of the individual. The information from the FBA should lead to identification of possible controlling and contributing variables, and possible proactive, preventative and reactive strategies for the identified challenges of the individual referred for Behavior Analysis Services.

NOTE: The Behavior Analysis Service is not intended to be an ongoing service. The following guidance shall be used when submitting authorizations to the UR Committee: Initial authorization for Behavior Analysis Service may not exceed 180 days, One subsequent authorization for Behavior Analysis Service may be approved, not to exceed an additional 90 days; Additional authorizations for Behavior Analysis Service must be approved by the Division Deputy Director or Assistant Director; Behavior Analysis Service may be authorized concurrent with Person Centered Strategies Consultation if working in conjunction with this service to support improved quality of life as foundation for behavioral services.

Senior Behavior Consultant

The service consists of design, monitoring, revision and/or brief implementation of 1:1 behavioral interventions described in the individual's behavior support plan.

The service is designed to be utilized for situations involving complex behavioral issues such as severe aggression or self injury or when multiple behavioral challenges have been identified, many interventions have been unsuccessful or the challenges have a long history of occurrence. The Behavior Analysis service provides advanced expertise and consultation at critical points in the service delivery to achieve specific ends in the service delivery process such as assess a complex problem behavior, problem solve the lack of progress, or regression in the intervention. Ongoing management of behavior analysis services might generally be provided by the Behavior Intervention Specialist. Evaluation of these data is used to revise the individual's support plan and accompanying services to ensure the best outcome for the individual. Implementation of the behavior support plan may occur with all levels of this service, i.e., with the Behavior Intervention Specialist, with personal assistants, and/or with the family members.

Behavior Intervention Specialist

Provides ongoing management of behavior analysis services. In more complex or involved situations the Behavior Intervention Specialist is responsible for managing the direct implementation of the recommendations and strategies of a Behavior Analysis service, participating in the development of the behavior support plan and document as a team individual. In these more complex cases the Behavior Intervention Specialist serves as a "bridge" between the Senior Behavior Consultant and the other service providers and family and supports of the individual receiving services. In cases which do not require the advanced services of a Senior Behavior Consultant the Behavior Intervention Specialist may provide the Functional Behavioral Assessment and Behavioral Services without the oversight of a Senior Behavior Consultant except as required by licensure law and professional standards (Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst [BCABA] practice standards require supervision by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst [BCBA]). At a minimum, the Behavior Intervention Specialist will provide face-to-face in-home training on the behavior support plan to families and/or primary caregivers who have responsibility for implementing the behavior support plan in the home or community setting. This shall include training for meals, hygiene, school and/or community activities, and evenings and weekends noted in the behavior support plan as particularly challenging. Ongoing management of a behavior support plan is a key role for a Behavior Intervention Specialist. Ongoing management involves collecting and analyzing data for the effectiveness of the behavior support plan, fidelity of implementation of the behavior support plan and reliability of the data, adjustment or revision of the strategies identified in the behavior support plan, training caregivers and family members on the implementation of the behavior support plan, and on occasion implementation of the behavior support plan when complicated techniques are

involved or for short trial periods to determine if the plan is viable and as part of the training of the main implementers for the behavior support plan.

Functional Behavioral Assessment

FBA is a comprehensive and individualized strategy to identify the purpose or function of an individual's behavior, develop and implement a plan to modify variables that maintain the problem behavior, and teach appropriate replacement behaviors using positive interventions. The FBA which identifies functional relationships between behavior and the environment including contextual factors, establishing operations, antecedent stimuli, contributing and controlling consequences, and possible physiological or medical variables related to the challenging behavior or situations. The FBA provides information necessary to develop strategies and recommendations to proactively address the challenging behaviors through skill development, prevention of problem situations and contributing reactions and interactions with significant persons in the life of the individual. These recommendations and strategies are more thoroughly delineated in the person's behavior support plan.

The process of the FBA includes gathering a written and oral history of the individual including data, interview of significant individuals who have been involved with the person during times of challenging behaviors as well as times when the person does not have challenging behaviors, observation of the person in a variety of situations, data collection and review, and for the most complex behaviors and situations a systematic manipulation of possible controlling and contributing variables. This information gathering process should lead to identification of possible controlling and contributing variables, and possible proactive, preventative and reactive strategies for the identified challenges of the individual referred for Behavior Analysis Services.

There will be situations in which an assessment will be needed to determine if other services or if behavior services might be appropriate. Not every instance of assessment will lead to behavioral services. If changes in situations occur, a new assessment may be warranted.

The FBA is a diagnostic assessment. Behavior analysts (including both senior consultant and behavior intervention specialist) conducting the FBA must be licensed in the State of Missouri (20 CSR 2063-4.005; 20 CSR 2063-5.010).

While information included in the FBA may be used to inform the level of care (LOC) assessment, the FBA itself cannot substitute for the LOC assessment. Information included in the LOC assessment may also be reviewed and considered by the behavior analyst while conducting a FBA; however, an LOC assessment cannot substitute for the FBA assessment.

Service Limitations:

FBA are limited to every two years unless the individual's behavior support plan documents substantial changes: to the individual's circumstances (living arrangements, school, caretakers); in the individual's skill development; in the performance of previously established skills; or in frequency, intensity or types of challenging behaviors. A Behavior Intervention Specialist may under the direction of a Senior Behavior Consultant, conduct the data gathering for a functional assessment; however, the final interpretation and recommendations must be the work of the Senior Behavior Consultant.

This service is not restricted by the age of the individual; however, it may not replace educationally-related services provided to individuals when the service is available under IDEA or other sources covered under an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) through First Steps or otherwise available.

Provider Requirements:

An individual or an agency must have a DMH contract.

Senior Behavior Consultant-Doctorate: Can be provided by an agency or an individual who has a Missouri state license as a Behavior Analyst or a licensed professional in psychology, social work, or professional counseling with training specific to behavior analysis as according to RsMo Chapter 337 and 376 specifically 337.300; 337.305; 337.310; 337.315; 337.320; 337.325; 337.330; 337.335; 337.340; 337.345; 376.1224

Senior Behavior Consultant-Masters: Can be provided by an agency or an individual who has a Missouri state license as a Behavior Analyst or a licensed professional in psychology, social work, or professional counseling with training specific to behavior analysis as according to RsMo Chapter 337 and 376 specifically 337.300; 337.305; 337.310; 337.315; 337.320; 337.325; 337.330; 337.335; 337.340; 337.345; 376.1224

Behavior Intervention Specialist: Missouri State license as an Assistant Behavior Analyst or a licensed professional in psychology, social work or professional counseling with training specific to behavior analysis. RsMo Chapter 337 and 376 specifically 337.300; 337.305; 337.310; 337.315; 337.320; 337.325; 337.330; 337.335; 337.340; 337.345; 376.1224.

The BIS provider must have a bachelor's degree and be working on a master's degree in behavior analysis; or have a master's degree and be completing licensure requirements for the behavior analyst.

This service may be provided by individuals who have completed coursework for behavior analyst licensure and working under the supervision of a Licensed Behavior Analyst; Or completing the practicum work experience under the supervision of a Licensed Behavior Analyst.

No persons shall practice applied behavior analysis unless they are:

- (1) Licensed behavior analysts;
- (2) Licensed assistant behavior analysts working under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst;
- (3) An individual who has a bachelor's or graduate degree and completed course work for licensure as a behavior analyst and is obtaining supervised field experience under a licensed behavior analyst pursuant to required supervised work experience for licensure at the behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst level; or
- 4) Licensed psychologists practicing within the rules and standards of practice for psychologists in the state of Missouri and whose practice is commensurate with their level of training and experience.

A registered line therapist, under the direct supervision of a licensed behavior analyst, may:

- (a) Provide general supervision of an individual diagnosed with a pervasive developmental disorder diagnosis and other neurodevelopmental disorders, or serve as a line therapist under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst;
- (b) Provide protective oversight of the individual; and
- (c) Implement specific behavioral interventions, including applied behavior analysis, as outlined in the behavior plan; Any licensed healthcare professional may practice a component of applied behavior analysis, as defined in the Revised Statutes of Missouri, Chapter 337.300 or serves as a line therapist under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst, if he or she is acting within his or her applicable scope of practice and ethical guidelines.

Billing Information:

Behavior Analysis:

Medicaid procedure code(s):

Senior Behavior Consultant: H2019 HO

- Unit of Service: 15 minutes
- Maximum Units of Service: 32/ Day (8 hours)

Behavior Intervention Specialist: H2019

- Unit of Service: 15 minutes
- Maximum Units of Service: 48/ day (12 hours)

Functional Behavior Assessment: H0002

- Unit of Service: 1 assessment
- Maximum Units of Service: 1 assessment/2 years

Behavior Analysis Service Documentation:

Behavior Analysis providers must maintain service documentation as described in Section C of this manual, including detailed progress notes per date of service and monthly progress notes associated with objectives listed in the ISP. Written data shall be submitted to DMH authorizing staff as required.

Section C: Documentation Requirements

Adequate Documentation

All services provided must be adequately documented in the individual record. The Code of State Regulations, 13 CSR 70-3.030, Section (2) (A) defines —adequate documentation and —adequate medical records as follows: Adequate documentation means documentation from which services rendered and the amount of reimbursement received by a provider can be readily discerned and verified with reasonable certainty. Adequate medical records are records which are of the type and in a form from which symptoms, conditions, diagnoses, treatments, prognosis and the identity of the individual to which these things relate can be readily discerned and verified with reasonable certainty. All documentation must be made available at the same site at which the service was rendered, with the exception of in-home services such as personal care, home health, etc.

Documentation

Implementation of services must be documented by the provider and is monitored by the support coordinator at least monthly for individuals who receive group home or individualized support living (ISL) and at least quarterly for individuals who live in their natural home. As per 13 CSR 70 – 3.030 (Link: www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/13csr/13csr.asp), the provider is required to document the provision of Division of DD Waiver services by maintaining:

First name, and last name, and either middle initial or date of birth of the service individual;

An accurate, complete, and legible description of each service(s) provided. This information may be included in daily activity records that describe various covered activities (services) in which the individual participated;

Name, title, and signature of the Missouri Medicaid (otherwise known as Mo HealthNet) enrolled provider delivering the service. This may be included in attendance or census records documenting days of service, signed by the provider or designated staff; records indicating which staff provided each unit of service; and documentation of qualifications of staff to provide the service;

Identify referring entity, when applicable;

The date of service (month/day/year). This can be included in attendance or census records;

Start and stop time must be included in the documentation for MO Health Net programs and services that are reimbursed according to the amount of time spent in delivering the service, such as personal assistant. (e.g., 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.);

Services that do not have a time factor in completing the service does not require a start and stop time, but would need to have related documentation to verify the service was provided (e.g., invoices for equipment, trip reports for transportation, etc);

The setting in which service was rendered; ISP, evaluation(s), test(s), findings, results, and prescription(s) as necessary; Service delivery as identified in the ISP; Individual's progress toward the goals stated in the ISP (progress notes). Sources of documentation include progress notes by direct care staff regarding situations (whether good or bad) that arise affecting the individual; and monthly provider summaries noting progress on individual's goals and objectives in their ISP, and overall status of the individual; For applicable programs, include invoices, trip tickets/reports, activity log sheets, employee records (excluding health records), and staff training records;

Applicable documentation should be contained and available in the entirety of the medical record.

All providers must follow the above documentation requirements unless otherwise noted in Section F of this manual.