

Technical Review of Published Research on Applied Behaviour Analysis Interventions for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Final Report for New Zealand Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health

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Prepared for:

Joanna Curzon Team Leader: Research Professional Practice Ministry of Education, Special Education 45 - 47 Pipitea Street PO Box 1666 Thorndon Wellington Prepared by:

Oliver Mudford, PhD, BCBA Senior Lecturer Department of Psychology Tamaki Campus The University of Auckland Private Bag 92019 Auckland 1142

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CONTENTS	Page
Acknowledgements	4
Personnel Involved	5
Confidentiality Statement	7
Executive Summary	8
Introduction	13
Review Method	14
Results: Organisation	24
Results 1. Social Development and Relating to Others	27
Results 2. Development of Cognitive Skills	28
Results 3. Development of Functional and Spontaneous Communication which is Used in Natural Environments	30
Results 4. Engagement and Flexibility in Developmentally Appropriate Tasks and Play and later Engagement in Vocational Activities	32
Results 5. Development of Independent Organisational Skills and other Behaviours	34
Results 6. Prevention of Challenging Behaviours and Substitution with More Appropriate and Conventional Behaviours	36
Results 7. Reducing Challenging Behaviours using Reductive Methods	38
Results 8. Comprehensive Programmes: Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention	39
Sources of Information for Evaluating Generalisation and Maintenance Effects in Sections 9 and 10	41
Results 9. Generalisation of Abilities across Multiple Natural Environments	42
Results 10. Review of Maintenance of Effects after Conclusion of Intervention	43

Results 11. Evidence for Effects of Behaviour Analytic Methods across Ministry of Education Classifications	
Discussion	
Summary of Strengths and Weaknesses of ABA for ASD	48
Comments on the quality of ABA research for the purposes of determining evidence-based practices	49
Limitations of review	49
The New Zealand Context	52
References	56
Appendix A: National Standards Project (NSP) Documents	
Table A1: Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS)	58
Table A2: Treatment Effects	63
Table A3: Strength of Evidence Classification System (SECS)	64
Appendix B: Detailed Search, Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for New Zealand Review	65
Appendix C: Evidence Table for New Zealand Unique Articles with SMRS score of 2 and Above	67
Appendix D: Original Research Articles Considered by NZ Reviewers	
Table D1: New Zealand Unique Final Reference List	71
Table D2: New Zealand-NSP Reference List	74
Table D3: New Zealand Exclusion Reference List	100
Tables	
Table 1. Interobserver agreement among New Zealand reviewers' codings of original research articles.	15
Table 2. NSP's categorisation of behavioural interventions	16

Table 3. NSP's categorisation of behaviours targeted for change (i.e., dependent variables) in research articles reporting on behaviour analytic interventions	19
Table 4. Sub-divisions of the NSP database as provided for this report	22
Table 5. Ministry of Education and corresponding NSP categories of behaviours targeted for intervention.	24
Table 6. Examples of behaviour analytically evaluated strategies that have contributed to "strong" evidence of efficacy from the NZ reviews	45

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST: STATEMENT

All the authors of this report are to some degree involved in the practice of behaviour analysis, teaching behaviour analysis, or research in behaviour analysis. No authors who contributed significantly to the review have any proprietary or pecuniary interest in any service or product involving behaviour analysis and autism spectrum disorders, other than as employees of public tertiary education institutions engaged in teaching, research, and community service.

Oliver Mudford PhD BCBA	Department of Psychology (Tamaki Campus)
Senior Lecturer Director of ABA Programme	Private Bag 02010 Auckland
The University of Auckland	o mudford@auckland ac nz
Katrina Phillips MSc PGDinAppPsych BCBA	Department of Psychology (Tamaki Campus)
Senior Tutor ABA Programme The University	Private Bag 92019 Auckland
of Auckland	ki philling@quakland.go.nz
Kulia Jaffray MSa BGDinAnnBauch	KJ.phillips@duckland.dc.nz Essdee Behaviour Specialists Limited
Brychologist (Bohaviour A polyst)	PO Box 836 Hamilton
r sychologist (Benaviour Analyst)	kylie@essdee.co.nz
Angela Arnold-Saritene PhD BCBA	Department of Psychology (Tamaki Campus)
Senior Lecturer, ABA Programme, The	Private Bag 92019 Auckland
University of Auckland	a arnold saritona@augkland as nz
Dennis Rose DhD	Eaculty of Education (Ensom Campus)
Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Education, The	Private Bag 92019 Auckland
University of Auckland	a mail: d raza@augkland aa nz
Prof T. Mary Foster, PhD. DipClipBoych	
Director of A PA Programma	Private Bag 3105, Hamilton 3240
University of Wajkato	m.foster@waikato.ac.nz
Eric Messick PhD BCBA	Private Bag 3105 Hamilton 3240
Lecturer in ABA Programme. University of	ariam@waikata aa nz
Waikato	enem@waikato.ac.liz
Catherine Sumpter, D.Phil	Private Bag 3105, Hamilton 3240
Lecturer in ABA Programme, University of	cathandpaulellice@xtra.co.nz
Waikato	
James McEwan, D.Phil	Private Bag 3105, Hamilton 3240
Lecturer, Psychology, Waikato University	jmcewan@waikato.ac.nz
Assoc Prof Neville Blampied, MSc	Private Bag 4800 Christchurch
Head of School of Psychology, University of	neville.blampied@canterbury.ac.nz
John Church PhD	Private Bag 4800 Christchurch
Senior Lecturer. Acting Head. School of	ichn church@conterbury.co.nz
Educational Studies and Human Development,	John.enuren@eanterbury.ac.nz
University of Canterbury	
Jane Prochnow, EdD	Manawatu Campus
Massey University	Private Bag 11 222, Palmerston North
Manage Hurst, D. Dh.il	J.E.Procnnow@massey.ac.nz
Senior Lecturer School of Psychology	Wellington 6140
Victoria University of Wellington	
Aggaginta Professor Dave Homor DhD	DO Dov 600
Hand of School of David Halper, Mistoria	Wellington 6140
University of Wellington	
onvoisity of tronington	dave.narper@vuw.ac.nz

PERSONNEL INVOLVED

Celia Lie, PhD	PO Box 600
Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Psychology,	Wellington 6140
Victoria University of Wellington	Celia.lie@vuw.ac.nz
Heather Peters, PhD	Private Bag 31914,
Senior Lecturer in Psychology, School of	Lower Hutt 5040
Information and Social Sciences, Open Polytechnic	heather.peters@openpolytechnic.ac.nz
Susan Wilczynski, PhD, BCBA	41 Pacella Park Drive
Executive Director, National Autism Center	Randolph, MA 02368, USA
	swilczynski@nationalautismcenter.org
Andrew Palairet	Auckland UniServices Limited
Replaced S. Em, and K. Robinson	University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019
	Auckland 1142
	a.palairet@auckland.ac.nz

ROLES IN REVIEW

	Conduct	Wrote	Wrote	Edited	Other
	reviews	section	summary,		
			etc.		
Mudford	✓	✓	✓	✓	Technical Manager,
					PsycINFO search, trainer
Phillips	✓	✓			Databases, trainer
Jeffrey	\checkmark	\checkmark			Organised reviews
Arnold-Saritepe	✓	✓			
Rose	✓	✓			
Foster	✓	✓	✓		
McEwan	✓				
Messick	✓	✓			
Sumpter	\checkmark				
Blampied			✓	\checkmark	
Church				\checkmark	
Prochnow	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Hunt	\checkmark	\checkmark	✓		WoS search
Harper			✓	\checkmark	
Lie	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Peters	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Wilczynski	~			~	NSP Liaison, review
Palairet				1	Contract Manager

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

All National Standards Project (NSP) methods that have not otherwise been published in Wilczynski and Christian (2008) are copyright protected by NSP and are copied in this report with the permission of NSP, provided that this version of the report is not circulated or distributed beyond those directly involved in the reviews sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health. No NSP data have been published at this time and, again, the authors have NSP's consent to report on their findings provided that this draft review is kept confidential to the New Zealand review team and Ministry personnel directly involved. NSP predict that their final report will be released by June 2009.

The NSP's principal researcher (Dr Susan Wilczynski) has asked that we note that the NSP has made modifications to their procedures since the Wilczynski and Christian (2008) chapter was written for publication. The New Zealand authors have included updated definitions from NSP where they have changed from the Wilczynski and Christian (2008) chapter. Since NSP provided us with data from their preliminary analysis, and following review of their findings by their Expert and Consumers' Review Panels, the final report from NSP will differ from our report with changes to the categorisation of interventions (Table 2, p. 16 et ff) and the Strength of Evidence Classification System [SECS] (p. 63). NSP's amendments will result in fewer categories in both Tables. The changes to the SECS have been made in the NSP to add clarity to the results for the general public. Nevertheless, the findings we report for ABA interventions are likely to be a close approximation to those that will be reported by NSP.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Preamble

Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) is defined as a scientific approach for discovering environmental variables that reliably influence socially significant behavior and for developing a technology of behavior change that takes practical advantage of those discoveries (Cooper et al., 2007, p. 3). As a means to produce meaningful changes to behaviour ABA has demonstrated its effectiveness at the level of the individual, group or community. This effectiveness has been highlighted by the large number of publications, spanning back five decades, illustrating significant behavioural change that can be maintained after the intervention has ceased across a range of settings and behaviours (including educational, health, animal welfare, sporting performance, and psychological well being).

As outlined in the 'New Zealand Context' section, New Zealand has access to high quality training programmes that carry international recognition in the areas of ABA and the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour. As such, we are fortunate in this country to have people with the sufficient depth of skill required to successfully develop ABA interventions as well as conduct the comprehensive and internationally-credible review reported in this document.

Purpose and Scope of the Review

The attached report consists of a comprehensive review of the evidence concerning the effectiveness of applied behaviour analytic intervention methods for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The review was in response to a call by the New Zealand Ministries of Health and Education for an assessment of the effectiveness of behaviourally-based interventions as determined by studies published between 1998 and 2007. The data used for this review was gained from two main sources:

- from existing analyses of peer-reviewed publications previously collected by the National Autism Center National Standards Project (NSP) based in the USA; and
- from additional publications that met the appropriate criteria laid out by the Ministries of Health and Education that had not been included in the NSP.

Method

Studies included for analysis (irrespective of whether they were sourced from the NSP or by NZ-based reviewers) had to meet a range of criteria (as outlined in the 'Review Method' section). In addition to restricting articles to those published between 1998 and 2007, studies were only included if they met, or exceeded a score of 2.0 on the Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS). In total 463 items¹ were retained from the NSP database along with 45 New Zealand unique items (that met inclusion criteria but had not formed part of the NSP database).

Articles were also analysed to determine the specific components of the behavioural intervention package (see Table 2), the type of behaviours assessed (as per Ministry of Education

¹ Many articles reviewed reported more than one independent variable and/or dependent variable and/or two or more studies within the article. Every variation can be viewed as a discrete study, or research "item", where the simplest case (or item) is one study with one dependent variable and one independent variable. Each article was scored as many times as there were variations within it. Hence, in reporting findings, numbers of items rather than numbers of articles are counted.

supplied classifications identified on Table 5), as well as the impact of the interventions utilised (using the Strength of Evidence Classification System – SECS). Note that the 13 New Zealand based reviewers underwent extensive training in the coding schemes (as did their NSP counterparts) and national and international checks of inter-rater reliability were determined to be generally high.

Main Findings

Overall, there is strong evidence that behavioural interventions result in beneficial outcomes for individuals with ASD. Figure 1 shows the percentage of outcome type ('beneficial', 'ineffective', harmful', or 'unknown') averaged across the range of specific behaviours assessed (ranging across a variety of social and cognitive domains). Although the efficacy of approximately one quarter of the items examined was unable to be clearly determined, the vast majority of outcomes were beneficial in the remaining cases, and thus a meaningful and desirable change in behaviour occurred as a specific result of that intervention. Only 2% of 508 items that contributed to our results were rated to show that a behavioural intervention was ineffective in a particular case. However, no behavioural interventions were rated overall as ineffective. In no case was harm reported as a result of behavioural intervention.²



Figure 1. Overall efficacy of behavioural treatment across all behavioural categories assessed

In addition to the overall findings it should be noted that this same overall pattern of beneficial effects was also observed across specific individual behavioural categories. Figures 2 to 9 illustrate this for each of the relevant behavioural categories identified in Table 5 (refer to Results sections 1 to 9 for details). Specifically, the overall evidence for beneficial outcomes was rated as 'strong' in the areas of social development, cognitive development, communication, play / vocational engagement, development of organisational skills, and prevention and replacement of challenging behaviours. There was strong evidence for the benefits of comprehensive early intervention programmes for some areas of development.

 $^{^{2}}$ Although the vast majority of articles reviewed reported on the results of 'intervention packages' (i.e. where more than one specific behaviourally-based intervention was applied within the study) a range of specific features can be identified in those packages. Those features are illustrated in Tables 2 and 6.





Fig 4. Communication (Results 3)



Fig 6. Independent Organisation (Results 5)



Fig 8. Reducing challenging behaviours (Results 7)



Fig 3. Cognitive Development (Results 2)



Fig 5. Play / Vocation Engagement (Results 4)



Fig 7. Prevention of Challenging Behaviours (Results 6)



Fig 9. Comprehensive Interventions (Results 8)

Comments on generalisation and maintenance

Greater utility of an intervention (irrespective of how effective it is in changing a specific behaviour in a specific setting) often depends on whether desirable changes go beyond initial settings and can be maintained beyond the initial intervention period. 'Generalisation' is concerned with the spreading of an intervention's effects beyond initial settings to novel naturalistic ones; whereas 'maintenance' is concerned with ongoing intervention effectiveness after formal intervention has ceased to be applied.

Because the relevant data was not able to be obtained from the NSP study, generalisation and maintenance were only assessed for 169 research items reviewed by New Zealand reviewers. This analysis (outlined in Results 9) revealed that close to two thirds of ABA interventions displayed strong evidence that main intervention effects generalised beyond their initial training environments. There did not appear to be any particular relationship between type of intervention, level of intervention efficacy, and the behaviours targeted and whether generalisation was displayed or not. Similarly, maintenance of main effects was demonstrated in 75% of studies that reported the appropriate data. Maintenance, also, was observed irrespective of intervention type and behavioural category. Therefore, there is convincing evidence that ABA treatments generalised beyond their initial settings and their effectiveness could be maintained for the majority of ASD participants beyond the initial intervention period.

Scope of Current Research and Future Opportunities

One of the strengths of the current review was the utilisation of a large number of independent reviewers and the incorporation of a large international data base. Despite the number of individuals involved there was generally high inter-observer agreement and the pattern of findings was remarkably consistent across reviewers charged with analysing separate behavioural categories (compare Figs 2 to 9). However, lower levels of inter-observer reliability were observed for the analyses of generalisation and maintenance effect sections; so these results may need to be treated with caution until a larger database is obtained or further work can be conducted.

Several other observations to emerge during the review also indicate the need for further research in the area of ABA treatments of ASD, specifically:

- A number of items had to be excluded from further analysis because they failed to meet an adequate level of scientific rigour (defined as an SMRS score of less than 2.0). A number of reasons for this are identified in Results 12. One important factor is the common use of single-participant research designs. However, the implication is that researchers in this area need to take in to account various design features if their studies are to be included in reviews such as the NSP and the current one.
- The extent of evidence concerning beneficial outcomes is lacking (that is, either emerging or unknown) for persons with an Asperger Syndrome diagnosis. Strong evidence exists for benefits for children up to the age of 15 years. However, across the ASD spectrum, there is, to date, insufficient evidence to provide strong support for ABA interventions for participants aged 15-21 years, and in the target categories of academic skills, learning readiness, and problem behaviours of all types. The New Zealand review data (see Appendix C) may be seen as providing emerging evidence for benefits for adults > 21 years in some target areas, but clearly there is more scope for research in these specific areas.

Final Comment

The current review demonstrated that ABA interventions can produce meaningful and desirable behavioural change in individuals with ASD, and taken as a whole, there is strong support for the effectiveness of ABA interventions in the treatment of ASD. Significant benefit was also consistently illustrated at the level of specific behavioural categories; with evidence at this level either meeting the criterion of 'emerging evidence' or 'strong support' for the conclusion of intervention effectiveness. It is important that agencies charged with providing resources for the treatment and education of people with ASD take notice of these findings. Fortunately, New Zealand has two internationally-recognised ABA training programs that lead to qualifications recognised by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board that can potentially produce skilled practitioners able to implement the types of skilled interventions outlined in the current review.

INTRODUCTION

New Zealand Ministries of Education and of Health requested a technical review of the evidence base on the effectiveness of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). All data presented in this report were from review of original research articles using the methods developed by the National Autism Center National Standards Project (NSP; see Wilczynski & Christian, 2008³). The New Zealand ABA Review Group operated within an affiliation agreement between NSP and Auckland UniServices Ltd enabling cooperation between the review team and NSP. NSP recruited approximately 80 reviewers across the US and internationally to conduct their reviews. The New Zealand review team included 13 reviewers, of whom approximately half had been trained and provided reviews for NSP before the New Zealand review project commenced.

The NSP review covers peer-reviewed scientific publications investigating the effects of interventions for children and young people (ages 0-21 years). The interventions include all those that could realistically be replicated in educational and/or clinical settings. The New Zealand Ministries of Health and of Education called for behaviour analytic intervention studies, published from 1998-2007, to be reviewed without any participant age limits. The New Zealand review scope is, for the most part, a subset of the NSP review's scope. The NSP did not include studies in which all the participants were >21 years old, nor participants' data if they had medical complications or psychotic disorders.

The aim of the NSP was to determine the interventions that are best supported by the scientific evidence concerning their benefits. The basic process adopted by NSP was to identify likely relevant articles from the scientific literature, measure the scientific merit and treatment benefits from each article, group research articles by categories, and calculate the overall strength of evidence from consideration of all articles in each category. Strength of evidence for benefits was rated by NSP as (A) strongest, (B) strong, (E) emerging, (U) unestablished, (I) ineffective, and (H) harmful. Two points relevant to the present report arise. First, the New Zealand reviewers are reviewing only behavioural interventions and therefore no direct comparison is possible with the strength of evidence concerning other approaches (e.g., "developmental-pragmatic"). Readers will need to consult the NSP's report to enable that. Wilczynski and Christian (2008) predicted that the NSP report would be published in the (northern) Spring of 2008. The most recent estimate is "by June 2009" (Susan Wilczynski, personal communication, 10th February, 2009). Second, it is not obvious how the NSP's A, B, E, etc. ratings map onto those employed by the Ministries in the New Zealand Autism Spectrum Disorder Guideline (2008, p. 14). Wilczynski and Christian (2008) concluded that "Those interventions that hold strong or the strongest levels of research support after the completion of the National Standards Project should be given greatest consideration when selecting treatments". As of January 2009, NSP have now eliminated the distinction between Strong and Strongest levels of support to avoid confusion for their readers. We acknowledge that this may create confusion for readers of both our reports. NSP findings contained in our report that are rated as providing Strong evidence will be categorised by NSP as indicating "Established Treatments" in line with the wider evidence-based practice movement in human services. Further discussion in New Zealand concerning these issues in the light of the reviews' findings is to be encouraged.

³ References to sources other than articles included or excluded in the Review are given in a Reference list below.

NSP provided the New Zealand team with coding manuals; coding forms; algorithms for determining the scientific merit of research articles, treatment effects, and strength of evidence; and evidence tables containing their data from behavioural intervention studies. In the NSP, scientific merit was assessed by the Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS), a copy of which is appended (Table 1, Appendix A). The factors rated 0-5 for scientific merit were: Research design (.30), measurement of the dependent variable (.25), measurement of the independent variable (.15), quality of diagnosis (.20), and the extent to which generalization and maintenance effects could be determined (.10). The scores were multiplied by the number in brackets and added to obtain a "composite SMRS" score from 0 - 5.

The NSP's method for rating of "treatment effects", i.e., whether a particular study demonstrated beneficial, unknown, ineffective, or adverse effects for the participants with ASD, is copied as Table 2, Appendix A. The NSP method for summarising the strength of evidence across groups of studies that reported similar independent variables (e.g., ABA methods) and similar dependent variables (e.g., communication skills, problem behaviours), the Strength of Evidence Classification System (SECS) is copied in Table 3, Appendix A.

REVIEW METHOD

Literature search procedure

A detailed description of search and article inclusion and exclusion criteria is included in Appendix B. Briefly:

- 1. A comprehensive search for the ASD treatment literature was conducted;
- 2. Titles of articles were examined to apply exclusion criteria;
- 3. Abstracts were scrutinised and exclusion criteria applied;
- 4. Articles excluded from this point are noted in Appendix D3, along with the reason for exclusion;
- 4. References remaining were compared with NSP's lists of included and excluded articles;
- 5. Three references were retained from a list provided by the Ministry of Education;
- 6. A New Zealand-unique list of references was retained that appeared to report research on ABA for ASD;
- 7. One hundred and twenty-nine references were sent to NSP that had been neither included nor excluded by them at that time;
- 8. Original articles from that list were examined and further exclusions were made;
- 9. One hundred and twelve articles were reviewed by members of our review team.

New Zealand reviewers' methods

NZ-unique articles that reported on comprehensive early intensive behavioural intervention programmes (N=8) were coded partially in NZ, and completed by NSP reviewers with expertise with reviewing this type of research report using NSP criteria. NZ-unique articles that reported on focussed interventions (N = 112) were coded using NSP methods by New Zealand reviewers. It can be noted here that nine further articles were excluded because, on closer examination by New Zealand or NSP reviewers, they were found not to have met inclusion criteria.

Reviewer training had been conducted for six of the 13 New Zealand reviewers early in 2008 by NSP. This involved using the National Autism Center's *Coding Manual for Focussed*

Interventions for the NSP (2007) to code one or more training articles onto an interactive standard coding form which, when complete, was electronically transmitted to the NSP's dataanalysis team in the US. Reviewers were considered trained provided their coding exceeded 80% agreement with a pre-established criterion

Despite this initial training, feedback from reviewers to the technical manager of the New Zealand team indicated that reviewers found the NSP coding forms difficult to use and prone to creating errors. All the New Zealand reviewers were then retrained to enter their data directly into locally designed evidence tables (customised Excel spreadsheets), which were later merged. Retraining was conducted in Auckland, Hamilton and Dunedin one-on-one by two University of Auckland team members. Each reviewer and trainer spent two hours working together, coding three or four articles from the reviewer's allocation according to the NSP coding manual and applying the Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS) scoring criteria.

The 112 articles were distributed quasi-randomly but equally among NZ reviewers. Fourteen duplicates were also distributed for the purpose of establishing reliability (assessed as inter-observer agreement, explained below) among the New Zealand review team. In most cases articles were distributed as .pdf versions of the original article, although some articles that were available only from paper journals were distributed among University of Auckland reviewers. When each reviewer had completed their allocated reviews, their evidence tables were checked for obvious errors before being collated into a single evidence table.

Inter-observer agreement

Every reviewer had coded a randomly allocated article also reviewed by another reviewer, so all reviewers' coding was subjected to at least two reliability checks. Interobserver agreement was calculated for every variable using procedures common in ABA research. Exact agreement percentage was used for some variables, and mean smaller/larger calculations for others. See Table 1 for variables, calculation methods, and results concerning interobserver agreement.

	Variable	Method	% Agreement
Participant	N with ASD	Exact agreement	95
demographics	Diagnostic categories		91
	Sex		100
	Race		95
	Co-morbidities		100
	Ages		95
Dependent variable	NSP category		86
Scientific merit	SMRS score	Mean S/L	89
Effects of treatment	Main benefits	Exact agreement	86
	Generalisation effects		68
	Maintenance effects		64

Table 1. Interobserver agreement among New Zealand reviewers' codings of original research articles.

Interobserver agreement exceeded the conventional 80% criterion for "acceptable" for 10 of the 12 variables in Table 1. The problematic variables concerned whether generalisation and maintenance effects had been demonstrated with agreement values of 68% and 64% respectively.

Databases (evidence files) from NSP and New Zealand reviewers' codings

Many articles reviewed reported more than one independent variable and/or dependent variable and/or two or more studies within the article. Every variation can be viewed as a discrete study, or research "item", where the simplest case (or item) is one study with one dependent variable and one independent variable. Each article was scored as many times as there were variations within it; therefore, the Excel evidence files from both the New Zealand database and the NSP database have more rows (items) than articles. Henceforth, numbers of items rather than numbers of articles will be reported.

The vast majority of behavioural intervention studies reported using a range of behavioural procedures that have been found individually to be empirically-supported in previous more experimental research. Interventions employing multiple strategies can be called "treatment packages", "multi-component behavioural interventions" or "behavioural intervention packages". For brevity, NSP use the term "package" and their reviewers noted the predominant features of the package as identified by the authors of the relevant research articles. NSP's description of the packages is copied in Table 2. It can be noted here that NSP did not consider "Social Stories" packages as being in the realm of ABA. Consequently they did not provide review data for us to include review of that intervention approach.

Package	NSP description
Antecedent	These interventions involve the modification of situational events prior to the occurrence of a target behavior as a means of reducing the likelihood an individual will face difficulties in the future. Examples include but are not restricted to: habit reversal, noncontingent access, incorporating echolalia or ritualistic/obsessional activities into tasks, prompting procedures, Power Card strategy, presence/absence of others, maintenance interspersal, choice, behavioral momentum, and varied task difficulty.
Behavioural	These interventions are designed to reduce problem behavior and teach functional alternative behaviors or skills through the application of basic principles of behavior change. Treatments falling into this category emanate from the fields of applied behavior analysis and positive behavior supports. Examples include but are not restricted to: environmental arrangement, shaping, chaining, task analysis, discrete trial teaching, and reinforcement.

Table 2. NSP's categorisation of behavioural interventions (© Copyright National Autism Center, 2008.)

Early IBI [intensive behavioural intervention]	This treatment reflects research from comprehensive treatment programs that involve a combination of applied behavior analytic procedures (e.g., discrete trial, incidental teaching, etc.) which is delivered to young children (generally under the age of 8). These treatments may be delivered in a variety of settings (e.g., home, self- contained classroom, inclusive classroom, community), involve a low student-to-teacher ratio (e.g., 1:1). All of the studies falling into this category met the strict criteria of: (a) targeting the defining symptoms of ASD, (b) have treatment manuals, (c) providing treatment with a high degree of intensity, and (d) measuring the overall effectiveness of the program [i.e., studies that measure subcomponents of the program are listed elsewhere in this report]. These treatment programs may also be referred to as ABA programs or behavioral inclusive classrooms.
Exposure	These interventions require that the individual with ASD increasingly face anxiety-provoking situations while preventing the use of maladaptive strategies used in the past under these conditions.
FCT [functional communication training]	These interventions involve substituting an appropriate method of communicating in lieu of a maladaptive strategy used in the past.
Joint attention (e.g., behavioural definitions from Rocha et al., 2007)	"Coordinated joint attention was defined as the child is actively involved with a person and object and alternates gaze between the adult and an object. Joint attention responding occurred when the child responded appropriately and without prompting to the joint attention bid of another person within 3 sec (i.e. engages with object). Joint attention initiation occurred when an adult initiated with the child to communicate about an object (i.e., initiated towards the child with an object by placing the child's hand on the object, tapping the object, showing the object, or gaze shifting towards an object with or without a point)."
Modelling	These interventions rely on demonstrations of the target behavior that should result in an imitation of the target behavior by the individual with ASD. Examples include live and video modeling.
Naturalistic teaching	These interventions involve using primarily child-directed interactions to teach functional skills in the natural environment. Examples of this type of approach include but are not limited to, focused stimulation, incidental teaching, milieu teaching, embedded teaching, and responsive education and prelinguistic milieu teaching.

Peer training	These interventions involve teaching children without disabilities strategies for facilitating their play and interactions with children on the autism spectrum.
PECS [picture exchange communication system]	This treatment involves the application of a specific augmentative and alternative communication system based on behavioral principles that is designed to teach functional communication to children with limited verbal and/or communication skills.
PRT [pivotal response training]	Pivotal Response Training focuses on targeting 'pivotal' behavioral areas—such as motivation to engage in social communication, self- initiation, self-management, and responsiveness to multiple cues, with the development of these areas having the goal of very widespread and fluently integrated collateral improvements. Key aspects of PRT intervention delivery also focus on parent involvement in the intervention delivery, and on intervention in the natural environment such as homes and schools with the goal of producing naturalized behavioral improvements. This treatment is an expansion of Natural Language Paradigm, one of the naturalistic teaching strategies.
Reductive	These interventions rely on strategies designed to reduce problem behaviors in the absence of increasing alternate appropriate behaviors. Examples include but are not restricted to: water mist, behavior chain interruption, protective equipment, ammonia.
Schedules	These interventions involve the presentation of a task list that communicates a series of activities or the steps required to complete a specific activity. Schedules can take several forms including written words, pictures, or photographs.
Scripting	These interventions involve developing a verbal and/or written script about a specific skill or situation which serves as a model for the child with ASD. Scripts are usually practised repeatedly before the skill is used in the actual situation.
Self-management	These interventions involve promoting independence by teaching individuals with ASD to regulate their behavior by recording the occurrence/nonoccurrence of the target behavior and securing reinforcement for doing so.
Social skills	These interventions seek to build social interaction skills in children with ASD by targeting basic (e.g., eye contact, name response) to complex (e.g., how to initiate or maintain a conversation) social skills.

Verbal behaviour	These interventions are based on Skinner's book 'Verbal Behavior' and the principles of applied behavior analysis to guide teaching interactions. Interventions included here are much broader than the single approach sometimes referred to as 'Verbal Behavior Analysis' or 'Analysis of Verbal Behavior.' Examples include but are not restricted to use of multiple discriminative stimuli, intraverbal training, mand training, mand-model training, matrix training, and tact training.
	taet training.

The reviewers' codings of research articles was further categorised in the NSP database according to the behavioural skill deficits or behavioural excesses targeted for amelioration. Table 3 provides an abbreviated description of the categories.

Table 3. *NSP's categorisation of behaviours targeted for change (i.e., dependent variables) in research articles reporting on behaviour analytic interventions.* © Copyright National Autism Center, 2008

Target category	Abbreviated Description
Skills increased Academic	This category represents tasks that are precursors to or required in order to succeed with school activities. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to preschool activities (e.g., sequencing, color, letter, number identification, etc.), fluency, latency, reading, writing, mathematics, science, history or skills required to study or perform well on exams.
Communication	The communication tasks involve verbal or nonverbal signaling to a social partner regarding content of sharing of experiences, emotions, information, or affecting the partner's behavior and behaviors that involve understanding a partner's intentional signals for the same purposes. This systematic means of communication involves the use of sounds or symbols. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to requesting, labeling, receptive, conversation, greetings, nonverbal, expressive, syntax, speech, articulation, discourse, vocabulary, and pragmatics.
Higher Cognitive Functions	These tasks require complex problem-solving skills outside the social domain. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to critical thinking, IQ, problem-solving, working memory, executive functions, organizational skills, and theory of mind tasks.

Interpersonal	The tasks comprising this category require social interaction with one or more individuals. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not limited to joint attention, friendship, social and pretend play, social skills, social engagement, social problem-solving, and appropriate participation in group activities. The area of pragmatics is not included in this list because it is addressed in the communication section.
Learning readiness	Learning readiness tasks serve as the foundation for successful mastery of complex skills in other domains identified. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to imitation, following instructions, sitting skills, or attending to environmental sounds.
Personal responsibility	This category targets tasks that involve activities which are embedded in everyday routines. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to feeding, sleeping, dressing, toileting, motor skills, cleaning, family and/or community activities, health and fitness, phone skills, time and money management, and self advocacy.
Placement	The dependent measure involves level of placement in school, home, or community settings. Examples include but are not restricted to: (a) placement in general education classroom, (b) placement back into the home setting.
Play	Tasks that involve non-academic and non-work related activities that do not involve self-stimulatory behavior or require interaction with other persons. Dependent measures associated with these tasks may include but are not restricted to: functional independent play (i.e., manipulation of toys to determine how they 'work' or appropriate use of toys, games). Whenever social play is targeted (independently or in conjunction with make believe play), it is best to provide the 'interpersonal' code. Each of these descriptors may be further broken down into subcomponents, which may serve as the dependent variable.
Self-regulation	Tasks that involve the management of one's own behaviors in order to meet a goal. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not limited to: persistence, effort, task fluency, transfer of attention, being 'on schedule,' self-management, self- monitoring, self-advocacy, remaining in seat (or its opposite of 'out of seat'), time management, or adapting to changes in the environment.

Vocational (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008)	The tasks in this category are those required to execute semi- independent or independent work. Dependent measures associated with these tasks may include but are not restricted to using a timecard, computer skills, monitoring work quality, accepting feedback, safety in the workplace, securing assistance or requesting a break in the workplace (do not code in communication), adhering to dress code.
Behaviours decreased	
Problems	These behaviors can harm the individual or others OR result in damage to objects OR interfere with the expected routines in the community. Problem behaviors may include but are not restricted to: self-injury, aggression, disruption, destruction of property, hazardous, or sexually inappropriate behaviors.
Restrictive/repetitive	This category is reserved for limited, frequently repeated, maladaptive patterns of motor, speech, and thoughts. The following is a list of representative behaviors: stereotypic and compulsive behaviors, inappropriate speech, or restricted interest.
Sensory/emotional	Sensory and emotional regulation involves the extent to which an individual can flexibly modify his or her level of arousal or response to function effectively in the environment. Examples of behaviors that fall into this category include: stimulus refusal, sleep disturbance, anxiety, and depression.

The New Zealand reviewers' evidence table contained 169 items. NSP had expanded its own review following receipt of our original NZ-unique list to include 81 of the items we had reviewed already. The references for all articles that were identified by our literature searches and that had already been, or were subsequently, reviewed by NSP are contained in Appendix D2. The other 88 items, from 57 original research articles, remained as unique to the New Zealand database.

NSP provided us with sections of their draft database that included their pre-publication results⁴. The extent of data to which we had access is shown in Table 4. The overall strength of evidence, as rated by the Strength of Evidence Classification System (SECS), for the intervention packages was provided to us. The packages were defined in Table 2. The number of items related to each package is shown in Table 4, with the number of items with a Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS) composite score of ≥ 2.0 shown in brackets. Also, NSP provided the Strength of Evidence (SECS) rating concerning research on each of the intervention packages for every target category (Table 3). As well, we had SECS ratings for intervention packages for three diagnostic categories (Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, and Pervasive Developmental Disorder) and for the following age ranges (0-3, 4-5, 6-9, 10-14, 15-18, 19-21 years). For example, we had access to the SECS rating for antecedent packages overall,

⁴ We have permission from NSP to *review* their pre-publication results. We did not seek NSP's consent to pre-empt their publication by presenting every detail of their results.

antecedent packages for academic skills, antecedent packages for children aged 0-3, and antecedent packages for research participants with an AD diagnosis.

Table 4. Sub-divisions of the NSP database as provided for this report [SMRS = Scientific Merit Rating Scale].

Intervention Package	Number of items (SMRS \geq 2.0)
Antecedent	221 (85)
Behavioural	398 (162)
Early IBI	154 (133)
Exposure	8 (7)
FCT	65 (26)
Joint attention	22 (22)
Modelling	80 (62)
Naturalistic teaching	62 (45)
Peer training	71 (44)
PECS	45 (27)
PRT	20 (18)
Reductive	56 (18)
Schedules	14 (9)
Scripting	14 (13)
Self-management	28 (18)
Social skills	48 (23)
Verbal behaviour	26 (15)
Total	1332 (727)

Database of completed reviews

It should be noted that 1332 items were located by NSP reviewers whose literature search was not constrained to the same 10-year block as ours (1998-2007): 823 of the NSP items (i.e., 62%) were published in those years. With the 88 NZ-unique items, the total number of items in the databases which we review in the results sections sub-headed "Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007" was 911.

Final item exclusion criterion introduced. The SECS does not take account of articles (or items) with a SMRS score of < 2.0. Consequently, we report only on reviews of items which scored 2.0 or greater on the SMRS. Applying this last inclusion criterion, 45 items from the original NZ-unique list were retained and the rest moved to our exclusion list. For the same reason, we report on the findings from only 463 items from the NSP database. Hence the database for items from 1998-2007 with SMRS≥2.0 was 508.

See Figure 10 (next page) for flow chart showing origin of numbers of items in the final database.

NSP/NZ inter-site agreement between reviewers

We used the data from duplicated reviews to calculate interobserver agreement between NSP and New Zealand reviewers. The duplications occurred because NSP chose to review independently 55 articles (81 items) from our original NZ-unique list. Agreement on composite

SMRS score between NSP and New Zealand reviewers was calculated for the first 70 items for which we had both datasets. Allowing 0.5 variation in SMRS scores between reviewers, intersite agreement was 84%. NSP SMRS scores were higher on 59% of items where there was a difference in scores between sites. For only three items (4% of items) there was a difference >1 SMRS score. Hence, agreement between sites was satisfactory and not notably biased by either site's particular methods of scoring. This is an encouraging finding since New Zealand reviewers' SMRS data were scored directly into evidence tables whereas NSP review data was scored to electronic forms and then converted into their evidence tables.

Agreement on rating of main effect, i.e., whether the item showed beneficial, unknown, ineffective, or adverse effects for participants with ASD, was calculated between sites for the same 70 items that had been reviewed independently by both teams. Agreement on category (e.g., both teams reported "beneficial") was 74%. All cases of disagreement were between the categories of beneficial and unknown. For all but one of the items with disagreement, the NSP reviewers were more conservative in their ratings. It is for this reason that we decided to report NSP findings for items that both teams of reviewers rated.



Figure 10. Flow chart showing origins of ABA research items in databases

RESULTS

Reporting on results of our review by Ministry of Education target categories

Table 5 shows the required organisation of the review as specified by the Ministry of Education and the equivalent (or best fit) National Standards Project (NSP) classifications of the evidence divided by targeted areas for intervention. The extent to which NSP and Ministry categories match is discussed at the start of each section of the results and in the Discussion section.

Table 5. *Ministry of Education and corresponding NSP categories of behaviours targeted for intervention.*

Section	Ministry of Education categories	Equivalent NSP categories
		(from Table 3)
1	Social development and relating to others	Interpersonal
2	Development of cognitive (thinking) skills	Learning readiness Academic Higher cognitive functions
3	Development of functional and spontaneous communication which is used in natural environments	Communication
4	Engagement and flexibility in developmentally appropriate tasks and play and later engagement in vocational activities	Independent play/leisure Vocational
5	Development of independent organisational skills and other behaviours	Personal responsibility Self-regulation
6	Prevention of challenging behaviours and substitution with more appropriate and conventional behaviours	Includes all problem behaviours that have been changed using antecedent manipulations, and those changed using methods that increase incompatible or alternative behaviours
7	Reducing challenging behaviours Replaces "Improvement in behaviours considered non-core ASD behaviours, such as sleep disturbance, self mutilation, aggression, attention and concentration problems."	Includes all problem behaviours changed by behavioural methods other than those defined for the "prevention" category
8	Comprehensive behavioural programmes	Early intensive behavioural intervention

9	Generalisation of abilities across multiple natural environments outside the treatment setting	Included in SMRS coding, and can be extracted therefrom
10	Maintenance of effects after conclusion of intervention	Included in SMRS coding, and can be extracted therefrom
	Development of fine and gross motor skills (not addressed in this review – see below for explanation)	

The writers of Result Sections 1 to 8 (Table 5) were supplied with the NSP Strength of Evidence Classification System (SECS) tables (described in Table 4) and Excel spreadsheets containing evidence tables with NSP and NZ-unique data for their particular category. These evidence tables contained data only on items published from 1998-2007 with Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS) scores ≥ 2.0 . Each produced a succinct report using the standardised headings and methods, as follows.

1. *Introduction*: Explained how the Ministry of Education category was addressed by one or more NSP categories.

2. *Evidence from NSP review*: Described evidence from SECS ratings across different behavioural intervention categories (Table 2) relevant to the section.

3. *Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers*: Included description of additional data provided from New Zealand-unique items, i.e., the extent to which additional data may have changed NSP's findings. (See Appendix C for data and Appendix D1 for references)

4. Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007: Data contained in section writers' spreadsheets were reviewed and indications given for strength of evidence concerning the use of behavioural methods to alleviate behavioural deficits (sections 1-5) or reduce behavioural excesses (sections 6 & 7) or both excesses and deficits (section 8) when only 1998 - 2007 articles were included.

5. Brief summary of section.

The writers of Results Sections 9 and 10 took a different approach since the data they reviewed derived from all of the items in the NSP and NZ-unique evidence tables, across all categories of intervention type and intervention targets. They were instructed to report on the extent to which generalisation (or maintenance) had been addressed by experimental design and method and to review generalisation and maintenance effects for the items recorded in the original NZ-unique database of 91 items with SMRS >2.0. This represents 18% (91/508) of the SMRS composite > 2.0 of NSP and NZ databases combined. The reason for non-inclusion of review of generalization and maintenance effects from the NSP database is explained at the beginning of these sections.

Motor skills were assessed in only four items with SMRS > 2.0 published in 1998-2007. In no case were motor skills specifically targeted for change, but were assessed routinely as part of comprehensive Vineland assessments. Since the vast majority of behaviours (the subject matter of ABA) involve fine and/or gross physical movement, most categories of behaviour targeted for improvement could be viewed as motor behaviours. We believe that interventions that aim to target these skills directly have not used ABA methods or, if they have, none of the research studies met our inclusion criteria. Possibly, since motor skills deficits are not defining features of ASD, there has been little research interest in addressing them. For these reasons, and with prior agreement from the Ministry of Education (7th October, 2008), we have not produced a review of ABA interventions targeting motor skills specifically.

Results 1. Social Development and Relating to Others

The classification of 'Social development and relating to others', as defined by the Ministry of Education, fits closely with the definition of 'Interpersonal skills' as given by Wilczynski and Christian (2008, p.52):

Interpersonal. The tasks comprising this category require social interaction with one or more individuals. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not limited to joint attention, perspective-taking, friendship, social and pretend play, social skills, social engagement, social problem-solving, and appropriate participation in group activities. The area of pragmatics is not included in this list because it will be addressed in the communication section.

Evidence from NSP review

There is strong evidence for the efficacy of behavioural interventions implemented to improve interpersonal skills. There were 78 items with composite $SMRS \ge 2.0$ reviewed by the NSP that pertained to the acquisition of interpersonal skills. These items show that the specific behavioural intervention methods that met the criteria for 'strong evidence' are: Behavioural package, joint attention, modelling, naturalistic teaching strategies and peer training package. Behavioural intervention methods that met the criteria for 'emerging evidence' for improving social development are: Antecedent package, pivotal response treatment, scripting, self-management and social skills package.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

Seven additional items were reviewed in New Zealand. Five items showed beneficial effects among the nine participants. One item obtained an SMRS score of 4.0, another scored 3.0, and the remaining three scored 2.0. These data support the overall NSP SECS outcome that behavioural intervention methods are beneficial for improving interpersonal skills.

Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007

Of the 85 reviewed items, seven obtained SMRS scores \geq 4.0. Three of these show beneficial effects and the efficacy of the remaining four are unknown. Thirty-one items obtained SMRS scores between 3 and 3.9, and 26 of these show beneficial effects while the remaining five are unknown. Forty-seven items obtained SMRS scores between 2 and 2.9. Thirty-nine of these show beneficial effects and the remaining eight are unknown. None of the 85 items showed ineffective or harmful effects. Considering this decade of research alone, there is still strong evidence for the benefits of behavioural interventions for improving social skills.

Summary of this section

Overall, there is strong evidence that behavioural intervention methods are beneficial for improving interpersonal skills. There were twice as many articles published from 2005 to 2007 than there are from 1998 to 2004. This shows a considerable increase in research in this area. A wide range of different behavioural intervention methods was used.

Results 2. Development of Cognitive Skills

The Ministry of Education classification of the development of cognitive skills is best represented in this review by the NSP classifications of learning readiness, academic, and higher cognitive functions skills. The NSP has defined learning readiness as tasks which "serve as the foundation for successful mastery of complex skills ..., dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to imitation, following instructions, sitting skills, attending to environmental sounds [and] attention to tasks" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 52). Academic tasks are defined by the NSP as "tasks that are precursors to or required in order to succeed with school activities. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include ... preschool activities (e.g., sequencing, color, letter number identification, etc.), fluency, latency, reading, writing, mathematics, science, history or skills required to study or perform well on exams" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 51). Higher cognitive functions have been defined as tasks which "require complex problem-solving outside the social domain... including ... critical thinking, IQ, problem-solving, working memory, executive functions, organizational skills, and theory of mind tasks" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 52). These NSP classifications and definitions seem to cover the Ministry of Education classification of development of cognitive skills quite well.

Evidence from the NSP review

There is emerging evidence that antecedent package interventions were useful for the development of academic skills. Behavioural packages demonstrated emerging evidence for the development of both academic and learning readiness skills. Emerging evidence was demonstrated by modelling on higher cognitive function skills. Finally, there is emerging evidence that pivotal response treatment interventions were useful for the development of learning readiness.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

Three items published between 1998 and 2007 had not been included by NSP as they excluded people with ASD who were older than 21 years and/or had additional psychiatric or medical diagnoses A further seven studies were published in 2007 after the closing date for the NSP study. Of these 10 items, three items received SMRS scores of 3.0 showing beneficial effects among 8 participants. The other seven items received SMRS scores of 2.0 and showed beneficial effects for nine participants in six of the items. The final item with three adult participants was rated as ineffective.

Three studies looked at academic skills for 11 to 16 year olds for whom beneficial effects were found for behavioural interventions. Six studies looked at 13 children ages 2 to 8 for whom beneficial effects in the area of learning readiness were demonstrated. Overall the additional evidence indicated further beneficial effects in the areas of learning readiness and academic skills from behavioural interventions.

Evidence from studies published from 1998 – 2007

Thirty items in the period from 1998 to 2007 received an SMRS coding above 2. Of these, two items looked at higher cognitive skills, 16 examined learning readiness, and 12 studies investigated academic skills. In these categories five items received an SMRS rating of 3 and one item was rated 4, all of which reported beneficial effects of behavioural interventions. The

remaining 24 items reviewed by NSP and/or NZ reviewers received a SMRS rating of 2. Of these items, seventeen indicated effective interventions, the results of six items were unknown or difficult to interpret, and one item was rated ineffective with learning readiness for adult participants.

Summary of this section

Overall, the 30 items reviewed in the cognitive skills area certainly meet the criterion of emerging evidence and could be classified as heading towards demonstrating strong evidence for the interventions. There were a relatively small number of studies in the area of cognitive skills. This would indicate that in the past academic and cognitive skills were not targeted for intervention with ASD participants. Nevertheless, this appears to be a growing research focus as noted by the fact that 13 of the 30 items in this area were published in 2007.

Results 3. Development of Functional and Spontaneous Communication which is Used in Natural Environments

Research reviewed in this section addressed communication skills as defined by Wilczynski and Christian (2008, p.52):

... verbal or nonverbal signaling to a social partner regarding content of sharing of experiences, emotions, information, or affecting the partner's behavior and behaviors that involve understanding a partner's intentional signals for the same purposes. This systematic means of communication involves the use of sounds or symbols. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to requesting, labeling, receptive, conversation, greetings, nonverbal, expressive, syntax, speech, articulation, discourse, vocabulary, and pragmatics. Behaviours measured in research reviewed included as examples labelling, use of syntax, conversation, requests, and pragmatics.

Communication as defined above may be viewed as prerequisite to the development of functional and spontaneous communication in natural environments.

Evidence from the NSP review

Based on the systematic evaluation of the evidence the NSP review reported that there was strong evidence that behavioural treatments using naturalistic teaching strategies were beneficial to developing communication skills with children. Additional behavioural treatments identified in the review as having emerging evidence of their success included treatments specifically developed to facilitate communication skills as well as more general treatments. Communication targeted programmes classified as having emerging evidence of a beneficial effect included: Verbal Behaviour interventions, Scripting, Picture Exchange Communication System, Peer Training Packages and Functional Communication Training packages. Evidence of the success of these treatments typically involved studies with children between the ages of three and nine years. More general behavioural techniques found to have emerging evidence of success in developing language included Behavioural Packages, Joint Attention and Modelling.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

Between 1998 and 2007 there were five items identified by NZ reviewers targeting communication skills that were not included in the NSP review. Except for one article scored at SMRS of 3, these articles received SMRS scores of 2. These additional items support conclusions that can be drawn from the data included in the NSP review.

Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007

Of the 123 items reviewed by the NSP and/or New Zealand reviewers that assessed communication skills, three were given an SMRS composite score of 4. Of these, two provided evidence of a beneficial effect with the remaining article providing insufficient evidence to confirm a beneficial effect. Twenty four items reviewed obtained a score of 3 and, of these, 17 provided evidence of a beneficial effect while the evidence from the remaining seven items was

insufficient to draw a conclusion. The majority of items examining communication obtained a SMRS score of 2. Of these 67 provided evidence of a positive effect, 25 do not provide sufficient evidence to draw a conclusion and two provided evidence that the intervention was ineffective. Considering all items obtaining a composite score of 2 or more on the SMRS, 70% showed evidence of a beneficial effect of a behavioural intervention for improving communication while 2% found a behavioural treatment ineffective.

Summary of this section

The review provides considerable evidence of a positive effect of a range of behavioural treatments on communication skills. The behavioural studies examined tended to address and measure specific aspects of communication that may be viewed as necessary prerequisites of spontaneous communication in naturalistic environments. However the behavioural interventions and the measurement of the effects of these of necessity lead to somewhat artificial environments. Thus the studies do not specifically address the use of language spontaneously in natural environments. The majority of the studies reviewed examined the effectiveness of communication programmes with preschool or primary school aged children. The effectiveness of behavioural programmes at facilitating communication in older children and young adults is unclear.

Results 4. Engagement and Flexibility in Developmentally Appropriate Tasks and Play and Later Engagement in Vocational Activities

This category includes articles that NSP had categorised as either Independent Play/Leisure or Vocational. Articles were coded as focusing on "Independent Play/Leisure" if they involved increasing skills in activities that were "non-academic and non-work related activities that [did not] involve self-stimulatory behavior or require interaction with other persons" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 53). Examples of dependent variables that may have been included in this category are "functional independent play (i.e., manipulation of toys to determine how they 'work' or appropriate use of toys that do not involve pretense) and use of media (e.g., television, computer, radio, games)" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 53). Articles were coded as Vocational if they involved increasing skills that allowed a person to "execute semi-independent or independent work" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 53). Examples of dependent variables that may have been included in this category include "using a timecard, computer skills, monitoring work quality, accepting feedback, safety in the workplace, securing assistance or requesting a break in the workplace (do not code in communication), and adhering to dress code" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 53).

These two NSP categories seem to correspond well with the Ministries' category, with three possible limitations. The first limitation is the Ministries' requirement for the focus of the interventions to be on teaching engagement *and* flexibility. Although a subset of articles will have focused on increasing variation in play skills, this information can not be directly accessed without reviewing every article. The second limitation is that the NSP definitions for the play/leisure and vocational tasks do not require that the targeted skill be developmentally appropriate. However, one of the key characteristics of ABA is the focus on socially significant behaviours. As such, one may reasonably assume that the behaviours that were targeted were of importance to the person and/or their significant others and, therefore, developmentally and/or socially appropriate. The final limitation is that it is unclear if the Ministries required the inclusion of social play in this category. As shown by the definition above, this type of interaction has not been coded in this category; rather articles of this nature are included in the interpersonal category and as such are included in the Ministries' category of "social development and relating to others".

Evidence from NSP review

The evidence from the NSP review found that behavioural packages have strong evidence supporting their effectiveness in increasing independent play and leisure skills. ABA interventions that have emerging evidence that they are effective at increasing independent play and leisure skills are peer training packages, naturalistic teaching strategies, modelling, antecedent packages, and pivotal response training.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

Within this category, between 1998-2007, six research items were published that had been excluded by NSP as they included people with ASD who were older than 21 years, had additional psychiatric or medical diagnoses, and/or were published after their cut-off date. Five of these research items were coded by New Zealand reviewers as having beneficial effects. Of the five beneficial items, four had a SMRS score of 2 and one a SMRS score of 3. Thus these results support NSP findings. Of interest are the two studies that had participants over the age of 21. Both studies showed beneficial effects. One study, focusing on vocational skills, had a SMRS score of 3, while the second study, focusing on leisure skills, had a SMRS score of 2. These results suggest that there is some evidence that ABA interventions are effective for this older age group, however, there is insufficient research to allow for a SECS classification above *unestablished*.

Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007

Forty research items reviewed by NSP and/or New Zealand reviewers were published during this period and coded for this category. Examination of the SMRS scores for the articles that were shown to have beneficial effects, found that 16 had a SMRS score of 2, and 12 had a SMRS score of 3. There were 12 articles that showed unknown effects, seven had a SMRS score of 2, four had a SMRS score of 3, and one had a SMRS score of 4. None of the articles reviewed for this time period were shown to be ineffective or harmful. It is likely that the strength of evidence for the effects of behavioural interventions for play based on evidence published during these years would be rated as strong.

Summary of this section

This review shows that behavioural packages have strong evidence and a number of other ABA interventions have emerging evidence to support their use in increasing play and leisure skills for children with autism. Even though there is considerable research focused on increasing play and leisure skills, there appears to be very limited research on the application of ABA interventions focused on increasing vocational skills.

Results 5. Development of Independent Organisational Skills and Other Behaviours

We defined this category by combining two separate categories from the NSP: personal responsibility and self regulation. Personal responsibility was defined by Wilcynzski and Christian (2008, p. 52) as "tasks that involve activities which are embedded in everyday routines. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not restricted to feeding, sleeping, dressing, toileting, motor skills, cleaning, family and/or community activities, health and fitness, phone skills, time and money management, and self advocacy". Self regulation was defined as "tasks that involve the management of one's own behaviors in order to meet a goal. Dependent measures associated with these tasks include but are not limited to: persistence, effort, task fluency, transfer of attention, being 'on schedule,' self-management, or adapting to changes in the environment" (Wilczynski, personal communication). The merged categories appear to fit well into the Ministry of Education's classification of "development of independent organisational skills and other behaviours."

Evidence from the NSP review

The NSP review found emerging support for antecedent package, behavioural package, modelling, and pivotal research treatment interventions for improving performance on tasks involving personal responsibility. Strong support was found for behavioural package interventions for improving self-regulation skills, while emerging support was also found for antecedent package, schedules, and self-management interventions for improving self-regulation skills.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

Only two items published between 1998 and 2007 were excluded by NSP as they included people with ASD who were older than 21. Both items received SMRS scores of 2 and showed beneficial effects of ABA interventions on personal responsibility for the nine participants. An additional study reviewed by NZ reviewers only had an SMRS score of 3, but effects were rated as unknown. When combined with the evidence from the NSP review, the two additional items concerning adults support NSP's finding on emerging evidence for the beneficial effects of ABA interventions on tasks involving personal responsibility.

Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007

Thirty-five items reviewed by NSP and/or NZ reviewers were published during the 1998 - 2007 period. An examination of the SMRS scores for this sub-sample found eight items with a SMRS score of 3, and 26 articles with a SMRS score of 2. Six of the eight items that scored 3 found beneficial effects of ABA interventions on personal responsibility and self-regulation, while the effects of two items were classified as "unknown". Of the remaining 26 items that obtained a SMRS score of 2, 19 found beneficial effects of ABA interventions, five found unknown effects, and the effects of only two were rated as "ineffective". Overall, the data from the 35 items reviewed here appear to fit into the "emerging support" category on the Strength of Evidence Classification System (SECS) scale.

Summary of this section

In summary, there appears to be strong support for behavioural interventions for the development of independent organisational skills and other behaviours (as defined as "personal responsibility" and "self regulation") for people with ASD. However, it may be worth noting that although around 71% (25/35) of the reviewed items found beneficial effects of different behavioural interventions on personal responsibility and self-regulation, some interventions were more studied than others. Further research on some of the lesser studied interventions (e.g., self-management, modelling, schedules) may yield stronger overall support for the beneficial effects of behavioural interventions on personal responsibility and self-regulation.

Results 6. Prevention of Challenging Behaviours and Substitution with More Appropriate and Conventional Behaviours

This category includes all problem behaviours (i.e., challenging behaviours) that have been changed using antecedent manipulations, and those changed using methods that increase incompatible or alternative behaviours. Antecedent manipulations are manipulations intended to prevent challenging behaviours. Incompatible and alternative behaviours are behaviours that are incompatible with or alternative to challenging behaviours and are thus more appropriate and conventional then challenging behaviours. The NSP's categories of behavioural intervention methods relevant to this section are: Antecedent, behavioural, functional communication training, joint attention training, modelling, and self-management packages. Challenging behaviours were subcategorised (based on Wilczynski and Christian, 2008) as follows: problem behaviours; restricted, repetitive, non-functional patterns of behaviour, interests, or activity; and sensory or emotional regulation (see Table 3).

Evidence from NSP review

There was strong evidence overall in the review for the benefits of antecedent and behavioural treatment packages. However, when items were divided among the three subcategories of challenging behaviour, emerging evidence was found for problem behaviours and sensory and emotional regulation. There was emerging evidence that Functional Communication Training (FCT) and self-management packages produced beneficial results for changing problem behaviours. Considered across NSP categories of challenging behaviour, there was emerging evidence for problem behaviours from antecedent, behavioural, functional communication training, modelling, and self-management packages. Restricted and repetitive behaviours responded to behavioural, joint attention, and peer training interventions at the emerging level of evidence. Likewise, behaviours categorised as difficulties with sensory and emotional regulation responded to antecedent, behavioural, and modelling interventions at the emerging level of evidence.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

The NZ review added 12 more items. Five of these items would have been excluded from the NSP due to participant ages of 22 years or over and two due to diagnoses of excluded comorbid conditions. There were 19 participants across these items and all had diagnoses of autism. All items received an SMRS score of 2 and all showed beneficial effects (i.e., they decreased challenging behaviour). The NZ data corroborate the NSP data for those under age 22. Additionally, NZ data for the eight participants aged 22 and over suggest that evidence for the effectiveness of these interventions for those aged > 21 is emerging.

Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007

A total of 75 items that were published between 1998 and 2007 were reviewed by NSP and NZ reviewers. Two items received a SMRS score of 4, seven items received a score of 3, and the remainder scored 2. Both of the items that scored 4 were beneficial. Five of the seven items that scored 3 were beneficial while two of these items involved data that did not allow a firm conclusion to be drawn regarding whether they were beneficial, effective, or adverse. Fifty-one of the items receiving a score of 2 were beneficial while 13 were inconclusive and two were
ineffective. Across all 75 items, then, 58 (77%) were beneficial, 15 (20%) were inconclusive, and two (3%) were ineffective. Taking account only of research published during this ten-year period, the evidence that behavioural interventions reviewed in this section are beneficial in reducing challenging behaviours, in general, appears to be strong.

Summary of this section

Overall, there is strong evidence for the benefits of ABA interventions in this section. More fine-grained analysis shows a mix of strong and emerging evidence depending on the type of treatment package reviewed and the ages and diagnostic classification of the research participants. For example, there is stronger evidence for children in the 3-9 years age range and the evidence concerning those diagnosed with autism is stronger than for PDD, with Asperger's Syndrome findings being weak through limitations in the number of studies. Nevertheless, the NSP review found at least emerging evidence for interventions targeting individuals up to age 21. The few studies reviewed for adults suggest similar (emerging) evidence.

Results 7. Reducing Challenging Behaviours using Reductive Methods

This category includes reductive interventions for challenging behaviours (i.e., those not included in Results 6). Challenging behaviours "can harm the individual or others OR result in damage to objects OR interfere with the expected routines in the community. Problem behaviours also may be associated with difficulties with emotional or sensory regulation" (Wilczynski & Christian, 2008, p. 56). Problem behaviours can be treated using exposure and reductive intervention packages. Exposure packages "require that the individual with ASD increasingly face anxiety-provoking situations while preventing the use of maladaptive strategies used in the past" (NSP definition). Reductive packages "rely on strategies designed to reduce problem behaviours in the absence of increasing alternate appropriate behaviours" (NSP definition).

Evidence from NSP review

The NSP review found emerging evidence that exposure packages are effective in 3 to 5 year-old autistic children. There is emerging evidence that reductive packages are effective at decreasing restricted, repetitive, non-functional patterns of behaviour (RRN) in 6 to 14 year-old autistic children.

Additional evidence from New Zealand review

The New Zealand review adds two studies to this category that were excluded from the NSP review, one because the participant was 43 years old and the other because the participant had a medical complication. Each study received an SMRS score of 2 and had beneficial effects for the participants. These data do not change the finding of emerging evidence that exposure and reductive interventions can be effective at improving problem behaviours.

Evidence from studies published from 1998 – 2007

Only eight research items from six studies were published during the 1998 - 2007 period. Seven items received an SMRS score of 2 and the other item received a score of 3. The evidence shows that the interventions were beneficial for five items and the outcome for the remaining three was unknown.

Summary of this section

This review suggests that there is emerging evidence for the effectiveness of reductive methods. The increased use of functional behavioural assessment to identify antecedents and consequences that maintain behaviour has led to new treatment methods. Current interventions seldom focus on only eliminating the problem behaviour. Thus, it is likely that these treatment packages are 'disappearing' rather than 'emerging'. It is notable that very few studies using this approach were published between 1998 and 2007.

Results 8. Comprehensive Programmes: Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention

Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention is defined as *comprehensive treatment* programs that involve a combination of applied behavior analytic procedures (e.g., discrete trial, incidental teaching, etc.) which is delivered to young children (generally under the age of 8). These treatments may be delivered in a variety of settings (e.g., home, self-contained classroom, inclusive classroom, community), involve a low student-to-teacher ratio (e.g., 1:1). All of the studies falling into this category met the strict criteria of: (a) targeting the defining symptoms of ASD, (b) have treatment manuals, (c) providing treatment with a high degree of intensity, and (d) measuring the overall effectiveness of the program [i.e., studies that measure subcomponents of the program are listed elsewhere in this report]. These treatment programs may also be referred to as ABA programs or behavioral inclusive classrooms." (NSP definition, Wilczynski, Personal Communication)

Studies in this category are comprehensive programmes that target behaviours that span the Ministry of Education and NSP categories of behaviours for intervention. Some programmes target general symptoms, others target many of the defining symptoms of ASD.

Evidence from NSP review

The scientific evidence reviewed by the NSP provides strong evidence for the effectiveness of these programmes. Across all years, 128 items received SMRS scores of \geq 2.0, and 42 of these items scored 3. The NSP review found strong evidence for increases in skills in the outcomes it categorized as communication, higher cognitive functions, interpersonal, personal responsibility, and more regular school placement, and that there was emerging evidence for increases in learning readiness. The review reports that there was no established scientific evidence of effects from EIBI programmes for the play, self-regulation and academic categories, but that there was emerging evidence for decreases in behaviours classified as behaviour problems and general symptoms of ASD. The NSP review found strong scientific evidence for the effects of EIBIs for children with diagnoses of Autistic Disorder (AD) and Pervasive Developmental disorder (PDD). There was also strong scientific evidence found for children in the 3-5 year age range, and emerging evidence for ages 0-3 and 6-9 years.

In summary, the NSP review found that there was strong scientific evidence or emerging scientific evidence for the use of EIBI to increase some skills and to decrease some problem behaviours with children with diagnoses of AD or PDD in the 0-9 year old range, with the strongest evidence for increasing higher cognitive, personal responsibility, and interpersonal skills and for improving school placement for those between 3 to 5 years old. All items were classified as demonstrating either beneficial or unknown effects.

Additional evidence from New Zealand reviewers

There was no additional evidence on the effectives of early intensive behavioural interventions from New Zealand reviewers.

Evidence from studies published from 1998-2007

Among all items reviewed by NSP, 76% were published during this time. Of the 112 items examined (from twelve studies), 33 (from three studies) received SMRS scores of 3 for all targeted categories. Nineteen of these items showed beneficial effects. All other items received

scientific merit rating scores of 2 for all targeted categories, including the four items from the one single-subject design study. Beneficial treatment effects were reported for 36 of the SMRS = 2 items in the NSP database and the rest were classified as having unknown treatment effects. No items were classified as showing ineffective treatments or adverse treatment effects. The majority of the studies resulted in some beneficial effects. Ten of the twelve studies had 50% or more of their effects classified as beneficial, the remaining two had all 36 of their items classified as having unknown effects (4 from one and 32 from the other study). The 1998-2207 findings can be interpreted as being similar to the 24% larger set that contributed data to the "Evidence from NSP review" summarised above.

Summary of EIBI

The effectiveness of comprehensive programmes such as EIBI is difficult to research. It is not easy to use the randomised control studies seen as desirable for such evaluations particularly not when participation is required over a number of years. It is hard to keep observers or those providing the intervention 'blind' as to which participant is getting which treatment. In addition the design of placebo treatments is difficult and, in fact, it may not be ethical or desirable to use a placebo once there is some evidence as to the positive effects of some aspects of the package. To carry out such studies is a very time consuming and expensive exercise. Given this, it is not surprising that there are not many studies in this area, and that none of those found received SMRS score of 4 or 5.

The research reviewed provides some strong scientific evidence for the use of EIBI in the development of some cognitive (thinking) skills, in social development and relating to others, in the development of some independent organisational skills and in increasing engagement and flexibility in some developmentally appropriate tasks and play and later engagement in some vocational activities. Strong evidence for the benefits of EIBI on the school placement variable was found. The research reviewed also provides emerging scientific evidence for increasing other skill areas. The studies show strong evidence of effectiveness with children with diagnoses of AD or PDD who are in the 0-9 year old range. Given this is <u>early</u> intervention, it is not surprising that the research focuses on the 0-9 year old range. The strongest evidence found of beneficial effects was for those between 3 to 5 years old in the development of cognitive (thinking) skills and in social development and relating to others. It is clear more research is needed, particularly with 0-3 and 6-9 year olds and with both these and other skills.

There appears to be enough evidence of beneficial effects of EIBI that it could be time for a study comparing EIBI with other early interventions that also have some strong evidence of effectiveness.

Sources of information for evaluating generalisation and maintenance effects in Sections 9 and 10

The degree to which generalisation (i.e., the transfer of treatment effects from target to non-target behaviours or to non-treatment settings) and maintenance (i.e., the durability of treatment effects over time, post-treatment) effects were reported by NSP reviewers was unavailable. The reason for this was that NSP did not compute generalisation and maintenance effects unless the type of behavioural intervention (Table 2) reached the "strongest evidence" criterion for multiple studies showing beneficial effects with SMRS scores of 4 or 5 (see Appendix A Table 3, left hand column). As can be determined from previous sections (1 to 8), there were no "Strongest evidence" ratings. Hence, NSP did not report on effects, except the main effects. Nevertheless, we reviewed the NSP database to determine the quality of experimental design and method for determining whether generalisation and/or maintenance had been assessed. That was achieved by examination of SMRS ratings for "Generalization of Tx (Treatment) Effect(s)" (see right hand column in Appendix A Table 1: SMRS).

Among the items in the NSP database (and original NZ-unique database), 12% (21%) objectively measured for both generalisation and maintenance, 31% (25%) objectively measured either generalisation or maintenance, 3% (6%) reported subjective generalisation and/or maintenance effects, and 53% (48%) did not have a sufficient experimental method to report on either generalisation or maintenance. A possible reason for the NZ database showing higher percentages of studies with designs enabling objective generalisation and maintenance effects to be reported was that studies published after 1997 were more likely to have assessed these effects than studies published before then.

We can report on the obtained generalisation and maintenance effects from the original NZ-unique database of 169 items. New Zealand reviewers had originally coded effects as "strong support" for generalisation or maintenance if \geq 67% of the research item showed positive effects in other settings, or with other people, or across materials (generalisation) or at follow up (maintenance). "Limited support" was noted if effects were noted for between 50% and 66% of items.

The summary of generalization and maintenance effects must be interpreted with caution since interobserver agreement for these categories of review was 68% and 64% respectively. Thus, these results should be considered indicative rather than accurate.

Results 9. Generalisation of Abilities across Multiple Natural Environments

Generalization of effects to natural environments is difficult to assess. Tracking individuals to a range of environments is expensive and may produce a reactive effect (as individuals in the environment become aware of the observations taking place), thus making the generalization setting "unnatural". Despite these limitations, a large number of studies provided an assessment of whether main effects were generalized.

Ninety one (53.8%) of the 169 items were selected for further analysis because they gained SMRS scores of 2.0. Forty-five of these (49.4%) assessed whether the main effects had generalized. These studies were of high quality with 31 of them achieving an SMRS rating of 3 or higher for design and 42 receiving a rating of 3 or higher for measurement of the dependent variable. Almost all of the studies receiving lower scores for design did so because of a small sample size rather than any design flaw.

- 1. Three of the 45 items (6.7%) did not find evidence of generalized main effects. Two of them addressed interpersonal skills while the third concerned problem behaviour. The interventions used traditional generalization tactics such as thinning schedules of reinforcement and programming common stimuli. Two of these studies also reported limited support for the main effects.
- Fourteen items (31.1%) reported limited support for generalized effects and all but one of them also reported strong support for the main effect. The skills studied included communication and interpersonal skills, and reduction of problem behaviour was also studied. The interventions employed were prompt-based procedures (5), video modelling (4), and functional communication training (2). Social stories were components of two of the prompt studies.
- 3. Twenty eight items (62.2%) reported strong support for generalized main effects. All but two of them reported strong support for the main effect. The skills that generalized included academic and communication skills, interpersonal skills and personal responsibility, and reductions in problem behaviour. The majority of interventions were composite strategies with various forms of prompting and/or reinforcement strategies being used along with a range of other ABA methods (e.g., fading, scripts, task analysis, self-management, extinction, imitation).

In conclusion, almost two thirds of the 45 analyses reported strong support for generalized main effects. Studies reporting limited support for main effects were less likely to report generalization of those effects. No single intervention strategy stood out as superior in producing generalized effects across a range of targeted behaviours. All of the strategies used appeared to be successful, although composite strategies show the greatest promise. Note that these were composites of ABA approaches; none of the composite strategies combined ABA strategies with non-ABA strategies (e.g., prompts and facilitated communication). There does not appear to be a relationship between the level of support reported (i.e., none, limited, or strong), the strategies used, and the skills being generalized.

Results 10. Review of Maintenance of Effects after Conclusion of Intervention

Data on the maintenance of effects after the conclusion of the intervention was collected in 71 of the 169 (42%) items in the New Zealand database. Of these, 23 (32%) were excluded from the following review as they obtained composite SMRS scores of < 2.0. The maintenance of effect from 48 items is, therefore, reviewed in this section.

Maintenance was reported to be strong for 75% (36/48) of main effects, i.e., more than two thirds of the treatment effects detected were maintained over time. Interventions demonstrating maintenance addressed the full range of the eleven NSP behaviour target categories, with 25% (9/36) addressing problem behaviours. Communication was the target category for 17% (6/36) of items with strong support of maintenance, and 14% (5/36) in academic and interpersonal categories. A wide range of interventions were utilised including, though not limited to, various prompting strategies, non-contingent reinforcement, task analyses, video modelling and multi-component packages.

Limited support for maintenance of treatment was recorded for 21% (10/48) of items. Limited support indicates that data indicating a skill had been maintained was reported for between half and two-thirds of the participants of the study. The NSP target category studied was limited to six areas (interpersonal, three studies; learning readiness, personal responsibility, two studies each; communication, restrictive and repetitive patterns of behaviour, independent play and leisure, one study each). The interventions used were video modelling, social stories, reciprocal imitation training and differential reinforcement.

No support for maintenance of treatment was observed in 4% (2/48) of the reviewed items. These studies targeted behaviours in the independent play and leisure, and problem behaviour categories, with the interventions being social stories and differential reinforcement respectively.

In summary, maintenance of treatment following conclusion of the intervention was reported in 42% of studies. Where maintenance data was collected and reported it was most often (on 75% of occasions) shown that the treatment effect was maintained and reported for the majority of participants. Maintenance of treatment effect occurred in all NSP behaviour categories with a wide range of intervention procedures. Problem behaviour, communication, academic skills and interpersonal skills were well represented in the targeted behaviours that demonstrated maintenance. Interventions with limited support of maintenance of effect included video modelling, social stories, reciprocal imitation training, and differential reinforcement.

Results 11. Evidence for Effects of Behaviour Analytic Methods across Ministry of Education Target Behaviour Classifications

This section summarises the evidence concerning behaviour analytic methods for changing behaviours and teaching new skills.

All of the various behaviour analytic intervention types were found to have some measure of scientific support for their effectiveness. The NSP review classifies these methods into 16 intervention types (Table 2) and reports strong scientific evidence for nine and emerging evidence for the remaining seven of these.

It should be noted that although Reductive Packages were classified as having emerging support it is becoming less and less frequent to find such strategies used alone. If they are used then other strategies that promote positive behaviour change would normally be used alongside them. Thus "emerging" might not be the appropriate term to use for these.

The intervention types included in the review cover a wide breadth of behaviour analytic methodology. To illustrate at least some of the behavioural methods a practitioner should know about and should be able to use in order to adopt evidence-based practice, the New Zealand data were examined in more detail.

Interventions with a score or of 2 or more on the SMRS were selected and sorted according to the degree of support for that intervention (*strong support for beneficial effects, limited support, unknown, does not support*). The reviewers' descriptions of the procedures involved for those with strong support for beneficial effects were used to summarise the interventions and these are given in Table 6 below. This table illustrates the range of procedures found to be supported in this sub-set of the reviewed studies.

Table 6 shows that a wide range of behaviour analytic procedures needs to be used for evidence-base practice. It should be noted that these summary descriptions do not include mention of every behavioural principle involved in the interventions. For example, reinforcers of some type (e.g., social, tangible, tokens, and/or access to activities) are an integral part of teaching new skills and helping behaviour change but are not always listed in the summary description of the procedure. Also motivating (or establishing) operations are an important aspect of using reinforcers effectively but are also not mentioned in the summary descriptions.

Table 6 shows that effective practice requires the use of appropriate combinations of procedures and that one "intervention" frequently involves the combination of several different procedures. For example, antecedent procedures, such as the use of physical or video prompts, often form only part of an intervention and so are combined with other maintenance procedures and, when they are used, they are also normally combined with some form of reinforcement and often with a fading procedure to be maximally effective.

Table 6. *Examples of behaviour analytically evaluated strategies that have contributed to "strong" evidence of efficacy from the NZ reviews.*

Interventions with a SMRS score of 2 and above from the subset of reviews carried out in NZ

Examples with Strong Support for beneficial effects

Communication training e.g.,

o Composite training (tact training, verbal praise, handshakes)

Differential reinforcement (DR), e.g.,

- Differential reinforcement of alternative behaviour (DRA) combined with extinction of escape behaviour
- o DRA plus sensory extinction
- DR in favour of playing with another rather than alone
- Differential reinforcement of other behaviour (DRO) with stimulus fading
- o DRO with response cost and with prompted relaxation and use of peers
- Differential observing responses to increase accuracy on Matching To Sample (MTS) task with words Direct Instruction

Extinction e.g.,

- o Extinction through non-contingent exposure to kinaesthetic stimuli
- o Extinction with stimulus fading
- Function based intervention package including replacement behaviour training (using picture communication), response modification and environment change with verbal and physical prompts Functional Communication Training using scripts and response cost Imitation, e.g.,
 - o Reciprocal Imitation Training (imitation plus reinforcement)
 - Imitation training (using modelling, prompting, differential reinforcement using tokens and error correction)
- Learn units plus multiple example instruction
- Naturalistic Teaching Strategies, e.g.,
 - Natural language paradigm
 - o Incidental teaching and social conditioning
 - Enhanced milieu teaching (EMT) plus voice output communication aid (VOCA)

Non-contingent reinforcement (NCR), e.g.,

- o NCR and prompts
- Staff training in NCR use with staff rapport building and prompts and feedback
- Non-contingent attention

Prompts, e.g.,

- Video prompting
- Prompting incompatible behaviour
- Prompts plus social stories plus praise
- o Social stories plus prompts
- o Prompts with praise and other reinforcers and extra opportunities to complete task
- o Prompts combined with social and/or other reinforcers
- o Prompts combined with social and/or other reinforcers with the prompts then faded
- Prompts with fading, and with social and/or other reinforcers plus a correction procedure
- o Simultaneous prompting
- Physical Prompts plus training of common mands (requests)

Reductive procedures, e.g.,

- Stopping behaviour occurring by interruption of the behaviour chain
- Reinforcement plus non-contingent access to preferred stimuli and with no consequences for target behaviour [followed by fading in interruptions (do requests)]

Schedules, e.g.,

• Photo activity schedule with prompts and tokens and reinforcers

Scripts, e.g.,

• Scripts and then script fading with embedded textual stimuli

Self management, e.g.,

- Self management through self reinforcement procedures
- o Self-Regulated Strategy Development
- Stop-Observe-Deliberate-Act (Social-behavioural learning strategy)

Social stories

Stimulus control, e.g.,

- o Stimulus superimposition and background fading
- o Cues with prompting, feedback, and positive consequences

Task analysis plus backward chaining plus prompting and prompt fading plus reinforcement

Teaching communication e.g.,

• Composite-spontaneous communication (discrete-trial teaching, prompts, error correction and natural consequences)

Teaching social-behaviour to replace problem behaviours

Using peers as an establishing (motivating) operation

Video modelling, e.g.,

- Video modelling plus prompting
- Video modelling combined with self management training
- o Video modelling plus praise and/or other reinforcers
- Video modelling plus prompts, praise and/or other reinforcers combined with short periods of timeout Video rehearsal, e.g.,
 - Video rehearsal of task combined with the use of video or photo prompts when doing task
 - o Video rehearsal plus praise and/or other reinforcers

Work systems

These examples of skills are, to a large extent, a subset of the general skills that behaviour analytic practitioners (e.g., teachers, carers) need for increasing or decreasing behaviours effectively if evidence-based practices are to be adopted. A fuller range of knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) would be expected of those training and supervising practitioners (see Behavior Analyst Certification Board Tasklist – 3rd ed. (2005) – <u>www.BACB.com</u>. Specialist extra KSAs recommended for behaviour analytic practitioners specialising with ASD populations can be found at http://www.bacb.com/Downloadfiles/AutismTaskList/708AutismTaskListF.pdf

DISCUSSION

Overall, there was strong evidence that behavioural interventions result in beneficial outcomes for individuals with ASD. Although the efficacy of approximately one quarter of the items examined was unable to be clearly determined, the vast majority of outcomes were beneficial in the remaining cases, and thus a meaningful and desirable change in behaviour occurred as a specific result of that intervention. Only 2% of 508 items that contributed to our results were rated to show that a behavioural intervention was ineffective in a particular case. However, no behavioural interventions were rated overall as ineffective. In no case was there harm reported as a result of behavioural intervention

Despite there being strong evidence overall for many of the categories of behavioural interventions reviewed, the strength of evidence is necessarily diluted as the unit of analysis of the evidence is reduced. To illustrate with one detailed example, in excess of 350 items were rated by National Standards Project (NSP) for the "behavioural package" category of interventions. Only 140 contributed to the results as others did not obtain a Scientific Merit Rating Scale (SMRS) composite score ≥ 2 . Possible reasons for this are discussed below. Although the overall evidence level (Strength of Evidence Classification System: SECS rating) for behavioural package category was strong, this was true only for (a) the autistic disorder diagnostic classification; (b) children between the ages of 3 and 6 years; and (c) for interpersonal, learning readiness, play, and self-regulation target behaviour categories. Effects for other diagnostic classes, age groups, and target behaviours were either emerging (12 sub-samples) or unknown (two sub-samples).

The following two paragraphs summarise evidence of the type presented in the illustration with "behavioural packages" across all categories of intervention. It is important to note at the outset that there were no conclusions that suggested the interventions included in this package were ineffective or harmful, and that applies to all categories of intervention (Table 2).

Strengths in the evidence

There is strong evidence that behavioural interventions can have beneficial effects for individuals with diagnoses of autistic disorder and pervasive developmental disorder. Strong evidence exists for benefits for children up to the age of 15 years. There is strong evidence for benefits in the areas of communication, higher cognitive functions, interpersonal skills, personal responsibility, play, and self-regulation (NSP categories), i.e., social development, cognitive development, communication, play / vocational engagement, and development of organisational skills (Ministry of Education categories). This is not to say that the evidence is strong for all age groups up to 15 in all areas targeted for change for both autism and PDD, but that there is at least one area of development for which there is strong evidence for the benefits of ABA.

Weaknesses in the evidence

Evidence is lacking (that is, either emerging or unknown) for persons with an Asperger Syndrome diagnosis. Across the ASD spectrum, there is, to date, insufficient evidence to provide strong support for ABA interventions for participants aged 15-21 years, and in the target categories of academic skills, learning readiness, and problem behaviours of all types. The New Zealand review data (see Appendix C) may be seen as providing emerging evidence for benefits for adults > 21 years in some target areas.

Comments on the quality of ABA research for the purposes of determining evidence-based practices that can be strongly recommended for widespread adoption.

We applied fairly stringent exclusion criteria to the literature before we started to examine research articles to rate with the SMRS (Appendix B). Nevertheless, we had to exclude 78/169 items (46%) following SMRS rating because their composite SMRS score was <2.0. The mean composite SMRS score was 2.17 out of a maximum of 5 across all the items we reviewed. Does this suggest that ABA research is generally of low quality?

Further examination of the SMRS scores that made up the composite score showed that the mean scores for design, measurement of the dependent variables, measurement of the independent variable, diagnosis, and generalisation/maintenance (all with a maximum of 5) were: 2.00, 3.81, 1.85, 0.69, and 1.77 respectively. Clearly, the quality of diagnosis was poorest. The extent to which studies were designed to assess generalisation and maintenance and treatment fidelity was, on average, low. Design appears barely acceptable, and only measurement of the behaviours of interest (target behaviours) was more than adequate. However, the studies were rated by NSP criteria, which are not the general scientific criteria employed by researchers, authors, editors and journal reviewers.

Reports of participants' diagnosis and classification according to DSM or similar criteria are vanishingly rare in the ABA literature. The likely reason for that is that behaviour analysts work with behaviours, not hypothesised underlying disorders (e.g., Autism), and apply functional analyses to these behaviours, rather than prescriptions based on diagnoses. Diagnosis is usually seen as irrelevant, however, it has more importance when a research study is being assessed for its potential for generalisation to other people with the same diagnosis, as is the case in the NSP and New Zealand reviews.

The extra resources required for direct observational measurement of the implementation of the intervention, and of behaviour change in other settings (generalization) and beyond the conclusion of the treatment (maintenance) may be a factor that prohibits the routine assessment of these variables. If behaviour analysts aim to have their research considered for its generality across individuals with, say ASD, we will need to find the resources to do that.

Regarding experimental design, by NSP criteria, no research study with one participant could score more than 1 out of 5 on the SMRS design factor. These true N=1 studies comprised 56% of the 169 items we reviewed.

The conclusion must be that ABA researchers who would prefer to design their research so that it has influence in quantitative reviews using methods like NSP should aim to score 5 in all factors in the SMRS. An implication of this is that ABA ASD research may become more expensive if research teams need to buy independent diagnostic services and extra observation time, and include larger numbers of participants. We can only hope that resources will be made available to cover the additional costs of producing high quality, generalisable research.

Literature search methods

Limitations of review

The initial literature searches were conducted using two databases (PsycINFO and Web of Science) using search terms that should have detected all research articles that included ASD or its diagnostic sub-groups provided that one of the search terms appeared in the title, abstract, or keyword fields for the article (see Appendix B). Despite considering more than 16000 titles located during these initial searches, it is likely that reliance on these search methods will have

missed relevant articles for two reasons. First, not all potentially relevant research journals are indexed on either PI or WoS. Second, although one or more participants in a study may have been reported to have an ASD in the Method section of an article, that may not have been mentioned in any of the fields searched. Hence, we believe that we will have underestimated the amount of ASD-relevant ABA research that has been conducted. A hand-search of ten volumes of *all* potentially relevant journals could have been conducted. We ruled this out for the present review when we stopped counting potentially relevant journals when the tally reached 70.

As a result of two factors, the limited literature search and the generally lax approach to reporting diagnostic methods by behaviour analytic researchers (mentioned above), the articles reviewed by NSP and our New Zealand reviewers can be seen as a sample of the relevant literature. Nevertheless, the sample was large enough to draw conclusions about the benefits and deficiencies shown by research on ABA for ASD.

Definition of ABA

Following identification of research articles on interventions for ASD and its subgroups, Appendix B described our methods for identifying research articles as being ABA-relevant. Scrutiny of titles, abstracts and method sections of publications sought to identify types of articles as specified in the Ministries' Request for Tender (RfT): "The relevant interventions are any interventions or combined approaches using the principles of applied behaviour analysis for the purpose of treating individuals with ASD" (RfT, p.21, in Appendix 2). The principles of ABA were defined by Baer, Wolf, and Risley (1968) and are still generally accepted by behaviour analysts. Briefly, Baer et al. (1968) listed the dimensions of ABA as: Applied, Behavioural, Analytic, Technological, Conceptually Systematic, Effective, and demonstrating Generality. One of the defining features of ABA is that procedures are described in a manner conceptually systematic with the Experimental Analysis of Behaviour (EAB), the basic science of behaviour. Hence, we searched for conceptually systematic terms and, if they appeared in the Method sections, we reviewed those articles as ABA-relevant, provided that no exclusionary criteria were met.

This approach may be questioned by those who are misinformed concerning the definition of Baer et al. (1968). For example, there is a common and incorrect belief in the ASDinterested community of families, carers, and non-behaviourally oriented professionals and paraprofessionals that ABA for ASD equates to discrete trial training (e.g., Lovaas, 1987). There is an erroneous implication in other descriptions of ABA that intervention procedures that can be studied in ABA, and therefore become part of the body of scientific evidence from applications of ABA, can include only discoveries from EAB. An interesting clarifying example was provided by Baer et al. (1968) when they considered "play therapy". Play therapy may have been justified by play therapists by resorting to the principles of psychodynamic theory, not EAB. However, if the behaviours of the play therapist under study are clearly described so they can be replicated by others and related conceptually to EAB principles, then the therapeutic behaviours studied can conform to the technological dimension of ABA and the study of the play therapist's behaviour can become part of the knowledge-base for ABA, provided all other dimensions of ABA are satisfied. This does not, however, mean that all activities of any "play therapist" can be justified as being part of the empirically-derived knowledge base of ABA. Another example that arose in our review concerned research publications on training joint attention. Some may be confused because joint attention is conceptually related to cognitive, social and developmental psychology, not EAB. However joint attention (like play) is widely acknowledged to be a

socially significant behaviour to improve for children with ASD, i.e., joint attention meets the criteria for "applied" in the sense of Baer et al.. Hence, if joint attention was trained using technologically described procedures conceptually related to EAB principles, we viewed the study as a relevant intervention.

Despite our review team sharing commitment to the Baer et al. (1968) definition of ABA, this did not always allow for complete agreement on whether a study could be included as ABA. For example, the NSP did not provide data from their review of some studies we had located that they considered non-behavioural. Social stories interventions and the use of alternative and augmentative communication devices were two categories that we had to exclude for that reason even if the research had been conducted by behaviour analysts according to the Baer et al. (1968) criteria.

Answering all RfT questions

Table 5 showed how we attempted to provide a best fit between the Ministry of Education's RfT classifications and the NSP classifications of intervention targets. Anonymous reviewers agreed that we had addressed the RfT questions, although one requested clarification concerning the most obvious mismatch which was between the Ministry's division of problem behaviours into two categories: (a) "prevention of challenging behaviours and substitution with more appropriate and conventional behaviours"; and (b) "improvement in behaviours considered non-core ASD behaviours, such as sleep disturbance, self mutilation, aggression, attention and concentration problems" (RfT, p. 4). We did not wish to question the Ministry about how to divide particular research articles among these two categories as this would have been laborious for all concerned: for one example, how to decide whether a report on repetitive self-injurious behaviour counted as (a) "challenging behaviour", or (b) "self mutilation"; and for another, what if aggression were treated functionally by (a) "substitution with more appropriate ...", or (b) "improved" by substitution. Hence we proposed the division between categories as shown in Table 5 between (a) "prevention and substitution", and (b) "reducing challenging behaviours" by other methods. This alteration of the RfT questions was accepted by the Ministry and the subsequent match with NSP categories can be considered as "close".

Assessing generalisation and maintenance

Results sections 9 and 10 reviewed our findings concerning generalisation and maintenance of the main effects of behaviour change interventions. Although we had concluded that the majority of studies reviewed for these outcome variables showed that generalisation and maintenance had been successfully demonstrated, the findings need to be viewed with some caution. First, agreement between reviewers on the presence and quality of generalisation and maintenance data was relatively low at 68% and 64% for generalisation and maintenance, respectively. From post hoc discussion with New Zealand reviewers and NSP it became clear that there were differences in interpretation of the NSP coding manual concerning generalisation and maintenance. The view of NSP and some of the New Zealand reviewers was that generalisation and/or maintenance could only be coded as being demonstrated if the specific words "generalisation" and/or "maintenance" were used as descriptors for observational sessions that reported on generalisation and maintenance. Other New Zealand reviewers did not apply that rule and noted generalisation as having been assessed in multiple baseline across settings experimental designs where generalisation effects could be detected from close examination of the data-paths for untreated settings. Similar confusion arose for maintenance in studies which

faded out treatment or reported "follow-up" data without specifying the term "maintenance". Incomplete reversion of levels of behaviour to baseline in ABAB withdrawal designs also was viewed as maintenance by some reviewers, but not others. All these views are legitimate, but prior failure to agree on criteria for assessing generalisation and maintenance by reviewers inevitably led to lack of agreement between them.

A second reason for treating generalisation and maintenance data with caution was that NSP did not provide data on generalisation and maintenance effects because, as stated earlier, they did not consider that warranted unless multiple studies were rated with SMRS scores of \geq 4. Consequently we were able to report on generalisation and maintenance for 169 of 911 1998-2007 items (18.6%). However, we can report that 45.4% of 616 NSP-reviewed ABA studies from which NSP provided any data on generalisation or maintenance assessed generalisation and/or maintenance.

The New Zealand Context

Behaviour analysis

The term *behaviour analysis* refers to a scientific discipline conventionally regarded as falling within the behavioural and psychological sciences, but also found in education and some other social sciences (Morris, 1992). Behaviour analysis is both a basic, experimental science (the experimental analysis of behaviour; EAB), and an applied science and technology (applied behaviour analysis; ABA). For behaviour analysis, *Science is a systematic approach to the understanding of natural phenomena* ... *that relies on determinism as its fundamental assumption, empiricism as its prime directive, experimentation as its basic strategy, replication as its necessary requirement for believability, parsimony as its conservative value, and philosophic doubt as its guiding conscience.* (Cooper, Heron, & Heward, 2007, p 7).

Consistent with this conception of science, EAB studies the behaviour of individuals (both human and non-human) using experimental functional analysis to understand the relationships between environment and behaviour (Delprato & Midgley, 1992; Skinner, 1966). ABA shares this commitment, but specifically is devoted to the understanding and improvement of human behaviour. ABA is defined as *a scientific approach for discovering environmental variables that reliably influence socially significant behavior and for developing a technology of behavior change that takes practical advantage of those discoveries.* (Cooper, et al., 2007, p 3.).

Behaviour Analysis in New Zealand

EAB began to be established in New Zealand universities in the late 1960's, with the setting up of laboratories at the University of Auckland and the University of Canterbury. By the late 1970's EAB research was being actively pursued at the Universities of Auckland, Waikato, Victoria, Canterbury, and Otago. New Zealand researchers have published extensively in the EAB field. For instance, in the period 1968 – 2008, authors with an affiliation in New Zealand have contributed 183 articles (an average rate of six per year) to the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, the leading international journal [from a PsycINFO database search, 28 October, 2008, using descriptors "Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior" (journal title) and "New Zealand" (affiliation)].

Given that there have been numbers of university academic staff with research expertise in the field for the past 30 years or more in all NZ universities (except AUT and Lincoln), there have been opportunities throughout that time for university students to take courses in behaviour analysis at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. This instruction has typically been incorporated as part of wider courses in learning and behaviour change, particularly at the undergraduate level.

From the 1970's onward there was also growing interest in ABA in New Zealand. Significant catalysts for this were the return of several New Zealanders who had studied ABA in the USA to academic positions in New Zealand (Blampied, 1978). These individuals were successful both in recruiting postgraduate students to do ABA research, many of whom later went on to academic appointments in New Zealand, and also in inspiring colleagues in EAB to collaborate in ABA research and teaching. By the 1980's there were academic staff in a majority of New Zealand universities teaching and researching in ABA (Blampied, 1999a; Singh & Blampied, 1983). These were found in both Departments/Schools of Psychology, and in Education. Two universities in New Zealand now have postgraduate courses in applied behaviour analysis approved by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. Graduates of these programmes become Registered Psychologists in New Zealand and may become certified as behaviour analysts, an internationally recognised qualification, but as yet there are only a few such graduates. Many either work or would like to work with ASD populations.

Informal conferences on behaviour analysis had been held in New Zealand from the 1970's onwards, but in 2004 the New Zealand Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (NZABA) was established. Current membership is approximately 70 (Leland, L, personal communication, 28 October, 2008), including a substantial number of students as well as individuals who have completed postgraduate training in behaviour analysis, a majority of whom are likely to be interested in EAB rather than ABA. In short, estimating the number of behaviour analysts, or individuals with sufficient knowledge of behaviour analysis, available in New Zealand to provide evidence-based support for services for persons with ASD is hard to do. As a guess, in addition to university staff, the number of behaviour analysis practitioners in New Zealand is probably less than 30, including a small number of New Zealand graduates working in various non-academic settings who have received additional training in New Zealand and overseas specifically in the treatment of ASD primarily using early intensive behavioural interventions (see Keenan, 2006, for more information about ABA and ASD in New Zealand).

There are, however, a much larger number of graduates in psychology and education who are not experts in ABA but have some familiarity with and understanding of applied behaviour analysis, at least at a basic level. Without postgraduate training in ABA, however, they would be unable to design, supervise, and evaluate intervention programmes such as those listed in Results section 11. In fact, it could be considered irresponsible and unethical to encourage people with some basic knowledge of ABA to develop and conduct behaviour reduction programmes based on functional assessment unless they first received additional ABA training. Given opportunities for such training, however, these individuals are a resource that might be deployed to meet the need for ABA treatment in New Zealand.

Research on Applied Behaviour Analysis in New Zealand

Reviews of ABA and related research in New Zealand from the 1970's onward may be found in Blampied (1978; 1999a) and Singh and Blampied (1983). There appears to have been a small, but reasonably steady rate of publication of ABA research by New-Zealand resident researchers over the past four decades, but much less than for EAB (see above). A feature of much of the published research has been its focus on infants and children. There has been relatively little research on adolescents and adults. How much of this research has been about ASD is somewhat hard to say, both because in many cases reliable diagnoses of participants have not been available (sometimes because privacy law has restricted researchers' access to diagnostic information) and sometimes because participants with ASD have been included in groups with other diagnostic conditions (e.g., intellectual disabilities).

Interrogation of the PsycINFO database using the descriptors "autism" and "autism spectrum disorder" (as keywords) and "New Zealand" or "NZ" (in author affiliation), and limited to the period 1997 – 2008 yielded 128 journal articles. Inspection of the titles and abstracts (with no attempt made to systematically check the New Zealand association of any authors) permitted 41 (22%) of the articles to be rejected as irrelevant to the search (e.g., they were articles considering general questions of developmental psychology, cognitive psychology, or psychopathology). Of the remainder (where the diagnosis or psychopathology was clearly stated), an almost even number (21 and 18 respectively) were concerned with ASD and Intellectual and/or Learning Disabilities (ID/LD). These were overshadowed by the 42 articles on attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and related conditions. Six articles were in the area of ABA (but not ASD, ADHD, or ID/LD), several featuring methodological issues such as functional analysis.

Behaviour Analysis and the New Zealand Autism Spectrum Disorder Guideline

The Zealand Autism Spectrum Disorder Guideline (NZASDG; Ministries of Health & Education, 2008) was produced for the purpose of *providing evidence-based information for health, disability, and education professionals and social service agencies for the provision of services for people with ASD, their families and whanau.* (NZASDG, p 12). The Guideline is divided into eight parts: Diagnosis and initial assessment of ASD; Support for individuals, families and carers; Education for learners with ASD; Treatment and management of ASD; Living in the community; Professional learning and development; Maori perspectives; and Pacific people's perspectives.

With respect to Part 1 of the *Guideline*, experts in ABA may be, but are unlikely, to be found in any of the settings where children, adolescents, or adults will receive diagnostic services leading to a diagnosis of ASD (or some alternative diagnosis). Experts in ABA, if they are found in such settings at all, are likely to be employed in tertiary health services serving children and families, or in specialist education services (e.g., Group Special Education). There are some private practitioners with ABA expertise who may provide diagnostic services, prior to providing behavioural therapies of one kind or another, generally supplied directly to the family/whanau.

ABA is, in principle, devoted to solving applied problems, and might well, therefore, be applied to problems experienced by any person (e.g., parents) affected by ASD (NZASDG, Part 2). Furthermore, since early intensive behavioural intervention for ASD was developed initially to be delivered in family settings (Lovaas, 1987) extensive practical experience has been developed within ABA for dealing with the manifold problems associated with working in family and community settings (e.g., Jacobson, 2000; Keenan, 2006; Maurice, Green, & Luce, 1996). Nevertheless, the focus of ABA research has been on the individual with the diagnosis of ASD, rather than on caregivers, teachers, or family members.

The science and practice of ABA has, therefore, both internationally and in New Zealand been focussed on those areas covered in Parts 3-6 of the NZASDG, especially on education, treatment, and management of ASD. While the majority of research in New Zealand (and probably elsewhere) has been focussed on children, ABA is in principle applicable throughout the lifespan, and might be applied to solve problems for any age group, with any class of

behaviour, and in any context or setting. It is potentially applicable to all the areas covered by the *Guideline*.

In several places the NZASDG identifies the need for research, and makes recommendations that research on various matters be carried out. A highly relevant contribution that ABA can make to help fulfil these recommendations is through the provision of single-case research designs that were developed within behaviour analysis (Church, 1996; Hersen & Barlow, 1976). ABA practitioners are uniquely qualified to design and conduct such research. Note that these research designs are not limited to evaluation of behavioural interventions. Any kind of intervention (including those without any pretensions of being based on scientific principles) may be evaluated, with the advantage that the evaluation is scientifically rigorous, and permits the drawing of causal inferences about the outcome of the interventions, but without requiring the recruitment of large numbers of participants, something that is often impractical or very difficult (Blampied, 1999b). Experts in ABA are a resource for professional learning and development in understanding and using single case designs. Further, it is in the context of providing research at the level of individuals and their whanau that ABA can probably make the greatest contribution to Maori and Pacific Peoples in the context of ASD.

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Appendix A: 7	Fable 1.	Scientific	Merit Rating	Scale (SMRS)
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	Design		Measurement of		Measurement of	Participant	Generalization of Tx Effect(s)
			Dependent Variable		Independent Variable	Ascertainment	
Rating	Group	Single-case ¹	Test, scale, checklist, etc.	Direct behavioral observation	(procedural integrity or treatment fidelity)		
5	Number of groups: 2 or more Design: Random assignment and/or no significant differences pre-Tx Participants: n ≥ 10 per group or sufficient power	A minimum of three comparisons of control and treatment conditions Number of data points per condition: ≥ 5	checklist, etc. Type of measurement: Observation- based Protocol: standardized Psychometric properties solid instrument	observation Type of measurement: continuous or discontinuous with calibration data showing low levels of error Reliability: IOA ≥90% or kappa ≥ .75 Percentage of sessions: Reliability collected in	treatment fidelity) Implementation accuracy measured at ≥80% Implementation accuracy measured in 25% of total sessions IOA for treatment fidelity ≥80%.	Diagnosed by a qualified professional Diagnosis confirmed by independent and blind evaluators for research purposes using at least one psychometrically solid instrument DSM or ICD criteria or	Focused interventions Objective data Maintenance data collected AND Generalization data collected across at least 2 of the following: setting, stimuli, persons
	for lower number of participants Data Loss: No data loss	Number of participants: ≥ 3 Data loss: no data loss possible	Evaluators: blind and independent	≥25% Type of conditions in which data were collected: all sessions		commonly accepted criteria during the identified time period reported to be met	Comprehensive programs Objective data Maintenance data collected ≥3 dependent variables representing different outcome targets

	Design		Measurement of Dependent Variabl	le	Measurement of Independent Variable	Participant Ascertainment	Generalization of Tx Effect(s)
Rating	Group	Single-case ¹	Test, scale, checklist, etc.	Direct behavioral observation	(procedural integrity or treatment fidelity)		
4	Number of groups: 2 or more Design: Matched groups; No significant differences pre-Tx; or better design Participants: n ≥ 10 per group or sufficient power for lower number of participants Data Loss: some data loss possible	A minimum of three comparisons of control and treatment conditions Number of data points per condition: ≥ 5 Number of participants: \geq 3 Data loss: some data loss possible	Type of measurement: Observation- based measurement Protocol: standardized Psychometric properties sufficient Evaluators: blind OR independent	Type of measurement: continuous or discontinuous with no calibration data Reliability: IOA ≥80% or kappa ≥ .75 Percentage of sessions: Reliability collected in ≥25% Type of conditions in which data were collected: all sessions	Implementation accuracy measured at ≥ 80% Implementation accuracy measured in 20% of total session for focused interventions only IOA for treatment fidelity: Not reported	Diagnosis provided/confirmed by independent and blind evaluators for research purposes using at least one psychometrically sufficient instrument	Focused interventions Objective data Maintenance data collected AND Generalization data collected across at least 1 of the following: setting, stimuli, persons <u>Comprehensive programs</u> Objective data Maintenance data collected for 2 dependent variables representing different outcome targets

	Design		Measurement of Dependent Variable		Measurement of Independent	Participant Ascertainment	Generalization of Tx Effect(s)
Rating	Group	Single-case ¹	Test, scale, checklist, etc.	Direct behavioral observation	(procedural integrity or treatment fidelity)		
3	Number of groups: 2 or more Design: Pre- treatment differences controlled statistically or better design Data loss: Some data loss possible	A minimum of two comparisons of control and treatment conditions Number of data points per condition: \geq 3 Number of participants: \geq 2 Data loss: some data loss possible	Type of measurement: Observation- based measurement Protocol: non- standardized or standardized Psychometric properties adequate Evaluators: Neither blind nor independent required	Type of measurement: continuous or discontinuous with no calibration data Reliability: IOA ≥80% or kappa ≥ .4 Percentage of sessions: Reliability collected in ≥20% Type of conditions in which data were collected: all or experimental sessions only	Implementation accuracy measured at ≥ 80% Implementation accuracy measured in 20% of partial session for focused interventions only IOA for treatment fidelity: Not reported	Diagnosis provided/confirmed by independent OR blind evaluator for research purposes using at least one psychometrically adequate instrument OR DSM criteria confirmed by a qualified diagnostician or independent and/or blind evaluator.	Focused interventions Objective data Maintenance data collected OR Generalization data collected across at least 1 of the following: setting, stimuli, persons Comprehensive programs Objective data Maintenance data collected for 1 dependent variable

	Design		Measurement of Dependent Variable		Measurement of Independent Variable	Participant Ascertainment	Generalization of Tx Effect(s)
Rating	Group	Single-case ¹	Test, scale, checklist, etc.	Direct behavioral observation	(procedural integrity or treatment fidelity)		
2	Number of groups and Design: If 2 groups, pre-Tx difference not controlled or better research design OR a 1 group repeated measures pre- test/post-test design Data Loss: significant data loss possible	A minimum of two comparisons of control and treatment conditions Number of data points per tx condition: ≥ 3 Number of participants: ≥ 2 Data loss: significant data loss possible	Type of measurement: Observation- based or subjective Protocol: non- standardized or standardized Psychometric properties modest Evaluators: Neither blind nor independent required	Type of measurement: continuous or discontinuous with no calibration data Reliability: IOA ≥80% or kappa ≥ .4 Percentage of sessions: Not reported Type of conditions in which data were collected: not necessarily reported Operational definitions are extensive or rudimentary	Control condition is operationally defined at an inadequate level or better Experimental (Tx) procedures are operationally defined at a rudimentary level or better Implementation accuracy measured at ≥ 80% Implementation accuracy regarding percentage of total or partial sessions: Not reported IOA for treatment fidelity: Not reported	Diagnosis with at least one psychometrically modest instrument OR diagnosis provided by a qualified diagnostician or blind and/or independent evaluator with no reference to psychometric properties of instrument.	Focused interventions Subjective data Maintenance data collected AND Generalization data collected across at least 1 of the following: setting, stimuli, persons Comprehensive programs Subjective data Maintenance data collected ≥2 dependent variables representing different outcome targets

	Design		Measurement of Dependent Variable		Measurement of Independent Variable	Participant Ascertainment	Generalization of Tx Effect(s)
Rating	Group	Single-case ¹	Test, scale, checklist, etc.	Direct behavioral observation	(procedural integrity or treatment fidelity)		
1	Number of groups and Design: 2 group, post-test only or better research design OR retrospective comparison of 1 or more matched groups Data Loss: significant data loss possible	A minimum of two comparisons of control and treatment conditions Number of participants: ≥ 1 Data loss: significant data loss possible	Type of measurement: Observation-based or subjective Protocol: non- standardized or standardized Psychometric properties weak Evaluators: Neither blind nor independent required	Type of measurement: continuous or discontinuous with no calibration data Type of conditions in which data were collected: not necessarily reported Operational definitions are extensive or rudimentary	Control condition is operationally defined at an inadequate level or better Experimental (Tx) procedures are operationally defined at a rudimentary level or better IOA and procedural fidelity data are unreported	Diagnosis provided by (a) review of records OR (b) instrument with weak psychometric support.	Focused interventions Subjective or subjective supplemented with objective data Maintenance data collected OR Generalization data collected across at least 1 of the following: setting, stimuli, persons Comprehensive programs Maintenance data collected for 1 dependent variable
0	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1	Does not meet criterion for a score of 1

¹For all designs except alternating treatments design (ATD). For an ATD, the following rules apply:

(5) Comparison of baseline and experimental condition; \geq 5 data points per experimental condition, follow-up data collected, carryover effects minimized through counterbalancing of key variables (e.g., time of day), and condition discriminability; $n \geq 3$; no data loss

(4) Comparison of baseline and experimental condition; \geq 5 data points per experimental condition;, carryover effects minimized through counterbalancing of key variables (e.g., time of day), OR condition discriminability; n \geq 3; some data loss possible

 $(3) \ge 5$ data points per condition, carryover effects minimized counterbalancing of key variables OR condition discriminability; $n \ge 2$; some data loss possible

(2) \geq 5 data points per condition; n \geq 2; significant data loss possible

(1) \geq 5 data points per condition; n \geq 1; significant data loss possible

(0) Does not meet criterion for 1.

Appendix A: Table 2. Treatment Effects

Beneficial Treatment Effects Reported	Unknown Treatment Effects Reported	Ineffective Treatment Effects Reported	Adverse Treatment Effects Reported
Single: A functional relation is established and is replicated at least 2 times Applies to at least one dependent variable	The nature of the data do not allow for firm conclusion about whether the treatment effects are beneficial, ineffective, or adverse.	Single: A functional relation was not established as a result of (a) inadequate design or (b) results were not replicated	Single: A functional relation is established and is replicated at least 2 times The magnitude of change is inconsistent or better or N/A The treatment resulted in greater deficit or harm on any of the dependent variables based on a comparison to baseline conditions
ATD: Moderate separation between at least 2 data series for most participants Applies to at least one dependent variables		ATD No separation was reported or separation was reported and, for one or more treatments, baseline data show a stable pattern of responding during treatment conditions	ATD Strong separation between at least 2 data series for most participants The treatment resulted in greater deficit or harm on any of the dependent variables based on a comparison of baseline and treatment conditions.
Group: statistically significant effects reported in favor of the treatment Applies to at least one multiple dependent variables		Group: No statistically significant effects were reported with sufficient evidence an effect would likely have been found*	Group: statistically significant finding reported indicating a treatment resulted in greater deficit or harm on any of the dependent variables.
		*The criterion includes: (a) there was sufficient power to detect a small effect (b) the type I error rate was liberal, (c) no efforts were made to control for experiment-wise Type I error rate, and (d) participants were engaged in treatment.	

	1	l	I		<u></u>
Strongest Evidence (A)	ngest Evidence (A) Strong Evidence (B)		Unestablished (U)	Ineffective (D)	Harmful (F)
 Multiple¹ published, peer- reviewed studies Scientific Merit Rating Scales scores of 4 or 5 Beneficial treatment effects for a specific target Must have evidence the treatment has been maintained and/or generalized. May be supplemented by studies with lower scores on the Scientific Merit Rating Scale. 	 Several² published, peer- reviewed studies Scientific Merit Rating Scales scores of 3 Beneficial treatment effects for a specific target May be supplemented by studies with lower scores on the Scientific Merit Rating Scale. 	 Few³ published, peer- reviewed studies Scientific Merit Rating Scale scores of 2 Beneficial treatment effects reported for one dependent measure for a specific target These may be supplemented by studies with higher or lower scores on the Scientific Merit Rating Scale. 	 May or may not be based on research: Beneficial treatment effects reported based on very poorly controlled studies (scores of 0 or 1 on the Scientific Merit Rating Scale) Claims based on testimonials, unverified clinical observations, or speculation Ineffective, mixed, or adverse treatment effects reported based on poorly controlled studies (scores of 0, 1, or 2 on the Scientific Merit Rating Scale) 	 Several² published, peer-reviewed studies Scientific Merit Rating Scales scores of 3 No beneficial treatment effects reported for one dependent measure for a specific target 	 Several² published, peer-reviewed studies Scientific Merit Rating Scale scores of 3 Adverse treatment effects reported for one dependent measure for a specific target
¹ Multiple is defined as 2 group or 9 single-case design studies combined (e.g., 1 group design ² Several is defined as 2 group- single-case design studies with combined. ³ Few is defined as a minimum single-case design methodolog	b-design or 6 single-case desi with a minimum of 27 partic a study and 3 single case desi design or 4 single-case desig a a minimum of 18 participar of 1 group-design study or 2 gies may be combined.	Ign studies with a minimum of 18 cipants with no more than 1 study ign studies with a minimum of 9 gn studies with a minimum of 12 hts with no more than 1 study report single-case design studies with a	participants for which no conflicting reporting conflicting results*. Gro participants for which no conflicting participants for which there are no contring conflicting results. Group and a minimum of 6 participants for which	ng results are reported* OR a up and single-case design mo g results are reported). conflicting results or at least a d single-case design methodo ich no conflicting results are	tt least 3 group design ethodologies may be 3 group design or 6 ologies may be reported*. Group and
treatment effects.	ca when a benef of equally c	onconed study that is assigned a	score of at least 5 reports effici (a)	no ochericiai treatment enec	

Appendix A: Table 3. Strength of Evidence Classification System (SECS)⁵

⁵ NSP's initial classification system is shown here. Since our report was written, NSP have reduced their SECS to include four (not six) categories to make the document more user-friendly for the general public. Categories A and B have been merged (to be labelled *Established*). Categories D and F have been coalesced also (Susan Wilczynski, personal communication, 11th February, 2009)

APPENDIX B: Detailed search, inclusion and exclusion criteria for NZ reviews

Two initial literature searches were conducted independently on June 30th 2008, with a PsycINFO search conducted at the University of Auckland, and a Web of Science (WoS) search at Victoria University, Wellington. Search results were saved to EndNote Library (.enl) files.

PsycINFO search terms were: autis* or asperger* or pervasive developmental disorder* or PDD* or ASD*, limited to publication years 1998-2007, English language, human subjects, peer reviewed journals. This yielded 6783 hits. WoS advanced search terms were: TS=(autis* or asperger* or pervasive developmental disorder* or pdd* or asd*) and PY=1998-2007. WoS search produced 9704 references.

Titles were searched, again independently. We erased records from .enl files if the title included: PDD when not an abbreviation for pervasive developmental disorders, "case study", cognitive concepts (e.g. executive functioning, theory of mind) unless training thereof was involved, Rett Syndrome, names of known alternative and clearly non-behavioral treatments; or, the title showed the article to concern biological variables (e.g., genetics, vaccines, neurophysiology, neuro-imaging, medical and dietary interventions), prevalence, comparison of behavioral phenotypes, screening, diagnosis or assessment study; or theoretical papers.

Abstracts were scrutinised and records erased from .enl files if the abstract included: any of the content outlined above, or the abstract showed the article as being: editorial or author's opinion, book review, conceptual frameworks, qualitative-only, comments, no mention of evaluation of any intervention, service provision (except if potentially ABA service provision, specifically). If the abstract was from a behavioural journal, e.g., Behavior Modification, Child & Family Behavior Therapy, Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, Analysis of Verbal Behavior, European Journal of Behavior Analysis, Journal of Positive Behavior Support, Behavioral Interventions, Behavior Therapy, Journal of Behavior Therapy & Experimental Psychiatry, Behavior Change, Behavior Research and Therapy, Journal of Behavioral Education, Behavioral Disorders, or if it contained terms conceptually systematic with behavior analysis, e.g., ABA behavioral interventions, modification, support, or treatment; or behavioral concepts, e.g., reinforcement, prompting, modelling, token economy, punishment, contingencies, stimulus control, fading, discrimination training, generalization, operant, functional assessment or analysis (or escape, avoidance attention, tangible, etc), establishing or motivation operation, verbal behavior, etc. then the article was examined further.

From this point on we moved articles that we excluded from further review by our team to an "exclusion" .enl file, along with the reason for exclusion. Exclusions were made where appropriate at all further stages of the review process.

After applying exclusion criteria on titles and abstracts, we merged the WoS and PsycINFO .enl files of articles not excluded by the processes above. We excluded all references that were on the NSP exclusion list for reasons other than age >21 or dual psychiatric/medical diagnoses. We set aside 249 articles that had been reviewed already by NSP, and 78 review articles. Reviews were not examined further for two reasons: (a) We were permitted by Ministry of Education (7th October, 2008) to include the findings of the NSP comprehensive review so that evidence from before 1998 could be included, therefore other reviews were redundant, and,

(b) A parallel review team (New Zealand Guidelines Group) had been awarded a contract that included reviewing reviews.

Next, we examined an .enl file of 151 references provided by responders to the consultative process on the draft ASD Guidelines which had been compiled and edited by the Ministry of Education. After taking out those that we had identified already or were on NSP's list, three further references were included for the next phase of the review.

The remaining original articles were obtained and examined. More papers were excluded if the method and/or results sections showed that: participants did not have a diagnosis of ASD, or its sub-types, or were described as having 'autistic characteristics' or similar descriptor; it included participants with multiple disorders and the effects for individuals on the autism spectrum were not analysed separately; or the study was of parent, educator, or caregiver training in which data were not collected on individuals with ASD; or did not focus on educational or behavioural targets; or study was an experimental demonstration, i.e., not functional for participants; or if no research design was evident; or, for small-N design studies, the individual participant data were not presented as linear graphs.

By this stage, we had identified 378 articles that could be included in a comprehensive review of peer-reviewed journal articles on ABA for ASD from 1998-2007. Two hundred and forty-nine of the identified empirical treatment research articles had been reviewed already by the National Standards Project (NSP), and 129 we described as "NZ-unique", in that they had not already been reviewed by NSP. The NZ-unique list was sent to NSP for their perusal because the CEO of that project (Dr Susan Wilczynski) is a member of our review team.

Appendix C: Table 1. Evidence Table for New Zealand Unique Articles SMRS 2 and Above

	Do	mographics								
Article reference	N	population	sex	co-morbidity	ages of ASD S's	NSP category	SMRS Total	Main Effect	Generalisation Effect	Maintenance Effect
Bock_2007b	4	AS	М		9, 9, 9, 10	Interpersonal	4	Beneficial	n/a	strong support
Crozier_2007	1	ASD	М		3	Interpersonal	3	Beneficial	n/a	limited support
Vismara_2001 DV1	3	Autism	М		2	Interpersonal	3	Unknown	n/a	n/a
Bock_2007a	1	AS	М		12	Interpersonal	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Jones_2007	2	PDD	М	expressive language delay	3,3	Interpersonal	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support
Petursdottir_2007	1	ASD	М	developmental delay	5	Interpersonal	2	Beneficial	No support	n/a
Vismara_2001 DV2	3	Autism	Μ		2	Interpersonal	2	Unknown	n/a	n/a

Social development and relating to others

Development of cognitive skills

	De	mographics								
Article reference	N	population	sex	co-morbidity	ages of ASD S's	NSP category	SMRS Total	Main Effect	Generalisation Effect	Maintenance Effect
Ingersoll_2007	5	Autism	М		3, 4, 3, 3, 2	Learning readiness	3	Beneficial	Strong support	limited support
Flores_2007	2	Autism	both		14, 11	Academic	3	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Crozier_2007	1	ASD	М		3	Learning readiness	3	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Watanabe_2003	3	Autism	М		22, 40, 30	Learning readiness	2	Ineffective	n/a	Strong support
Wallace_2007	1	Autism	F	MR	16	Academic	2	Beneficial	Strong support	n/a
				MR, Seizure						
Reed_2005	1	Autism	М	Disorder	8	Learning readiness	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a
DeQuinzio_2007	3	Autism	М		3 to 6	Learning readiness	2	Beneficial	Limited support	n/a
Delano_2007	1	AS	М		12	Academic	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Blair_2007	1	Autism	М	MR	6	Learning readiness	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Barry_2004	2	Autism	both		7, 8	Learning readiness	2	Beneficial	Limited support	limited support

Berelepinent er rand		ai ana opona		e communication			r			
	Der	nographics								
					ages of ASD		SMRS	Main	Generalisation	Maintenance
Article reference	Ν	population	sex	co-morbidity	S's	NSP category	Total	Effect	Effect	Effect
Ingersoll_2007	5	Autism	М		3, 4, 3, 3, 2	Communication	3	Beneficial	Strong support	limited support
Blair_2007	1	Autism	М	MR	6	Communication	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Foxx_2004	2	Autism	М		5, 6	Communication	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support
Stahmer_2001	11	ASD			1 to 4	Communication	2	Ineffective	n/a	n/a
Tada_2005	1	ASD	М	MR	4	Communication	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support

Development of functional and spontaneous communication which is used in natural environments

Engagement and flexibility in developmentally appropriate tasks and play and later engagement in vocational activities

	De	mographics								
Article reference	N	population	sex	co-morbidity	ages of ASD S's	NSP category	SMRS Total	Main Effect	Generalisation Effect	Maintenance Effect
Barry_2004	2	Autism	both		7, 8	play/leisure	2	Beneficial	limited support	limited support
Crozier_2007	1	Autism	Μ		5	play/leisure	2	Beneficial	n/a	no
Jerome_2007	2	Autism	Μ	MR	24, 32	play/leisure	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support
Paterson_2007	2	Autism	Μ		6, 7	play/leisure	2	Beneficial	limited support	Strong support
Ward_2006	2	Autism, ASD	М		8,8	play/leisure	2	Unknown	n/a	n/a
Lattimore 2006	4	Autism	М	MR, Fragile X, severe hearing loss	29 30 32 40	Vocational	3	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support

Development of independent organisational skills and other behaviours

Development of independent organisational skills and other behaviours									A		
	De	mographics									A A
Article reference	NI	nonulation	0.01	aa marhiditu	ages of ASD	NSP cotogony	SMRS	Main	Generalisation	Maintenance	for /
Article reference	IN	population	sex	co-morbially	22	NSP category	TOLAI	Ellect	Ellect	Ellect	- 5
						Personal					Ð
Taylor_2004	3	Autism	both		13, 14, 17	responsibility	3	Unknown	Strong support	n/a	rev
Cannela-		Multiple		MR, mood		Personal					/iev
Malone_2006	6	populations	both	disorder	27 to 41	responsibility	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a	×
						Personal					68
McLaughlin_2005	3	Autism	both	MR	28, 36, 39	responsibility	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a	

Challenging behaviour- Prevention

	Demographics									
Article reference	N	population	sex	co-morbidity	ages of ASD S's	NSP category	SMRS Total	Main Effect	Generalisation Effect	Maintenance Effect
Adelinis_1999	1	Autism	М	MR	27	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support
Blair_2007	1	Autism	М	MR	6	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Crozier_2007	1	Autism	М		5	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
McLaughlin_2005	3	Autism	both	MR	28, 36, 39	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a
				severe MR, Cornelia de Lange syndrome; ADHD, Moderate MR, severe						
Piazza_1998	2	Autism	both	esophagitis	17, 5	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a
Reed_2005	1	Autism	М	MR, Seizure Disorder	8	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a
Reese 1998	1	Autism	М	MR	26	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Richman_1998	1	Autism	F	MR	27	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Roberts-Gwinn_2001	1	Autism	М		11	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	n/a	Strong support
Britton_2002	1	Autism	F	MR	26	Restrictive, repetitive, patterns of behaviour, interest, or activity	2	Beneficial	n/a	n/a
Foxx_2004	2	Autism	м		5, 6	Restrictive, repetitive, patterns of behaviour, interest, or activity	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support
Paterson_2007	2	Autism	М		6, 7	Restrictive, repetitive, patterns of behaviour, interest, or activity	2	Beneficial	limited support	limited support

Challenging behaviour- Reduction

	De	mographics								
Article reference	N	population	sex	co-morbidity	ages of ASD S's	NSP category	SMRS Total	Main Effect	Generalisation Effect	Maintenance effect
				MR & Type 2		Sensory or				
Shabani_2006	1	Autism	М	Diabetes	18	emotional regulation	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support
McCord_2001	1	Autism	F	profound MR	43	Problem behaviour	2	Beneficial	Strong support	Strong support

Appendix D, Table 1. New Zealand Unique Final Reference List

REFE	RENCES
U1.	Adelinis, J. D., & Hagopian, L. P. (1999). The use of symmetrical "do" and "don't" requests to interrupt ongoing activities.
	Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 32(4), 519-523.
U2.	Barry, L. M., & Burlew, S. B. (2004). Using Social Stories to Teach Choice and Play Skills to Children with Autism. Focus on
	Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities, 19(1), 45-51.
U3.	Blair, KS. C., Umbreit, J., Dunlap, G., & Jung, G. (2007). Promoting inclusion and peer participation through assessment-based intervention. <i>Topics in Early Childhood Special Education</i> , 27(3), 134-147.
U4.	Bock, M. A. (2007a). The impact of social-behavioral learning strategy training on the social interaction skills of four students with Asperger syndrome. <i>Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities</i> , 22(2), 88-95.
U5.	Bock, M. A. (2007b). A social-behavioral learning strategy intervention for a child with Asperger syndrome: Brief report. <i>Remedial and Special Education</i> , 28(5), 258-265.
U6.	Britton, L. N., Carr, J. E., Landaburu, H. J., & Romick, K. S. (2002). The efficacy of non-contingent reinforcement as treatment for automatically reinforced stereotypy. <i>Behavioral Interventions</i> , <i>17</i> (2), 93-103.
U7.	Cannella-Malone, H., Sigafoos, J., O'Reilly, M., de la Cruz, B., Edrisinha, C., & Lancioni, G. E. (2006). Comparing video prompting to video modeling for teaching daily living skills to six adults with developmental disabilities. <i>Education and Training in Developmental Disabilities</i> 41(4) 344-356
U8.	Crozier, S., & Tincani, M. (2007). Effects of Social Stories on prosocial behavior of preschool children with autism spectrum disorders. <i>Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders</i> 37(9), 1803-1814
U9.	Delano, M. E. (2007). Use of strategy instruction to improve the story writing skills of a student with Asperger syndrome. <i>Focus</i> on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities, 22(4), 252-258.
U10.	DeQuinzio, J. A., Townsend, D. B., Sturmey, P., & Poulson, C. L. (2007). Generalized imitation of facial models by children with autism. <i>Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis</i> , 40(4), 755-759.
U11.	Flores, M. M., & Ganz, J. B. (2007). Effectiveness of direct instruction for teaching statement inference, use of facts, and analogies to students with developmental disabilities and reading delays. <i>Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities</i> , 22(4), 244-251.
U12.	Foxx, R. M., Schreck, K. A., Garito, J., Smith, A., & Weisenberger, S. (2004). Replacing the Echolalia of Children With Autism With Functional Use of Verbal Labeling. <i>Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities</i> , <i>16</i> (4), 307-320.
U13.	Ingersoll, B., Lewis, E., & Kroman, E. (2007). Teaching the imitation and spontaneous use of descriptive gestures in young children with autism using a naturalistic behavioral intervention. <i>Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders</i> , <i>37</i> (8), 1446-1456.
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- U14. Jerome, J., Frantino, E. P., & Sturmey, P. (2007). The effects of errorless learning and backward chaining on the acquisition of internet skills in adults with developmental disabilities. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 40*(1), 185-189.
- U15. Jones, E. A., Feeley, K. M., & Takacs, J. (2007). Teaching spontaneous responses to young children with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 40(3), 565-570.
- U16. Lattimore, L. P., Parsons, M. B., & Reid, D. H. (2006). Enhancing job-site training of supported workers with autism: A reemphasis on simulation. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 39(1), 91-102.
- U17. McCord, B. E., Iwata, B. A., Galensky, T. L., Ellingson, S. A., & Thomson, R. J. (2001). Functional analysis and treatment of problem behavior evoked by noise. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *34*(4), 447-462.
- U18. McLaughlin, D. M., & Carr, E. G. (2005). Quality of Rapport as a setting event for problem behavior: Assessment and intervention. *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions*, 7(2), 68-91.
- U19. Paterson, C. R., & Arco, L. (2007). Using video modeling for generalizing toy play in children with autism. *Behavior Modification*, *31*(5), 660-681.
- U20. Petursdottir, A. L., McComas, J., McMaster, K., & Horner, K. (2007). The effects of scripted peer tutoring and programming common stimuli on social interactions of a student with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 40(2), 353-357.
- U21. Piazza, C. C., Fisher, W. W., Hanley, G. P., LeBlanc, L. A., Worsdell, A. S., Lindauer, S. E., et al. (1998). Treatment of pica through multiple analyses of its reinforcing functions. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *31*(2), 165-189.
- U22. Reed, G. K., Ringdahl, J. E., Wacker, D. P., Barretto, A., & Andelman, M. S. (2005). The effects of fixed-time and contingent schedules of negative reinforcement on compliance and aberrant behavior. *Research in Developmental Disabilities*, 26(3), 281-295.
- U23. Reese, R. M., Sherman, J. A., & Sheldon, J. B. (1998). Reducing disruptive behavior of a group-home resident with autism and mental retardation. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 28(2), 159-165.
- U24. Richman, D. M., Wacker, D. P., Asmus, J. M., & Casey, S. D. (1998). Functional analysis and extinction of different behavior problems exhibited by the same individual. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *31*(3), 475-478.
- U25. Roberts-Gwinn, M. M., Luiten, L., Derby, K. M., Johnson, T. A., & Weber, K. (2001). Identification of competing reinforcers for behavior maintained by automatic reinforcement. *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions*, *3*(2), 83-87.
- U26. Shabani, D. B., & Fisher, W. W. (2006). Stimulus fading and differential reinforcement for the treatment of needle phobia in a youth with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *39*(4), 449-452.
- U27. Stahmer, A. C., & Gist, K. (2001). The effects of an accelerated parent education program on technique mastery and child outcome. *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions*, *3*(2), 75-82.
- U28. Tada, M. & M. Kato (2005). Acquisition of Mands Through a Behavior Chain Interruption Strategy: Task Preference and Occurrence of Verbal Requests by a Child With Autistic Spectrum Disorders. *Japanese Journal of Special Education* 42(6), 513-524.
| U29. | Taylor, B. A., Hughes, C. E., Richard, E., Hoch, H., & Coello, A. R. (2004). Teaching teenagers with autism to seek assistance |
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| | when lost. Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 37(1), 79-82. |

- U30. Vismara, L. A., & Lyons, G. L. (2007). Using perseverative interests to elicit joint attention behaviors in young children with autism: Theoretical and clinical implications for understanding motivation. *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions*, 9(4), 214-228.
- U31. Wallace, C., Roscoe, E. M., & Dube, W. V. (2007). Use of a differential observing response to expand restricted stimulus control. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 40(4), 707-712.
- U32. Watanabe, M., & Sturmey, P. (2003). The effect of choice-making opportunities during activity schedules on task engagement of adults with autism. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 33(5), 535-538.

Appendix D, Table 2. New Zealand-NSP Reference List

REF	ERENCE	Comr	nents
N1.	Adams, L., Gouvousis, A., VanLue, M., & Waldron, C. (2004). Social Story	N1.	SS data not provided by NSP
	Intervention: Improving Communication Skills in a Child with an Autism Spectrum		
210	Disorder. Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities, 19(2), 87-94.		
N2.	Adelinis, J. D., Piazza, C. C., & Goh, HL. (2001). Treatment of multiply controlled	N2.	Data received from NSP
	destructive behavior with food reinforcement. <i>Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis</i> ,		
N12	34(1), 97-100.	NI2	Data reasized from NSD
IN 3 .	Anearn, W. H. (2003). Using simultaneous presentation to increase vegetables	IN 3 .	Data received from NSP
	Analysis 36(2), 261, 265		
N/	Aharn W.H. Clark K.M. MacDonald R. P. F. & Chung B. I. (2007) Assessing	NA	Data received from NSP
114.	and treating vocal stereotypy in children with autism <i>Journal of Applied Rehavior</i>	114.	Data received from NSI
	Analysis 40(2) 263-275		
N5	Akmanoglu N & Batu S (2004) Teaching Pointing to Numerals to Individuals with	N5	Data from NSP (originally in
1.0.	Autism Using Simultaneous Prompting. Education and Training in Developmental	1.01	NZ list)
	Disabilities, 39(4), 326-336.		
N6.	Akmanoglu-Uludag, N., & Batu, S. (2005). Teaching naming relatives to individuals	N6.	Data from NSP (originally in
	with autism using simultaneous prompting. Education and Training in Developmental		NZ list)
	<i>Disabilities</i> , 40(4), 401-410.		
N7.	Anderson, C. M., & Long, E. S. (2002). Use of a structured descriptive assessment	N7.	Data from NSP (originally in
	methodology to identify variables affecting problem behavior. Journal of Applied		NZ list)
	Behavior Analysis, 35(2), 137-154.		
N8.	Anderson, C. M., & McMillan, K. (2001). Parental use of escape extinction and	N8.	Data received from NSP
	differential reinforcement to treat food selectivity. <i>Journal of Applied Behavior</i>		
10	Analysis, 34(4), 511-515.	10	
N9.	Apple, A. L., Billingsley, F., & Schwartz, I. S. (2005). Effects of Video Modeling Alone	N9.	Data from NSP (originally in
	and with Self-Management on Compliment-Giving Benaviors of Children with High-		NZ IISt)
N10	Functioning ASD. Journal of Positive Benavior Interventions, 7(1), 33-40.	N10	Data from NSD (originally in
1110.	Annizen, E., Onue, K., & Feuersen, E. (1996). Generalized schedule following in a youth with autism Scandingvian Journal of Bahaviour Tharapy 27(2), 125-141	1110.	NZ list)
	youn win autsii. Scanamavian Joarnai of Benaviour Therapy, 27(5), 155-141.		112 1151)

N11.	Bainbridge, N., & Myles, B. S. (1999). The use of priming to introduce toilet training to	N11.	Data received from NSP
	a child with autism. Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities, 14(2), 106-		
N12.	Baker, M. J. (2000). Incorporating the thematic ritualistic behaviors of children with	N12.	Data received from NSP
	autism into games: Increasing social play interactions with siblings. Journal of Positive		
	Behavior Interventions, 2(2), 66-84.		
N13.	Baker, M. J., Koegel, R. L., & Koegel, L. K. (1998). Increasing the social behavior of	N13.	Data received from NSP
	young children with autism using their obsessive behaviors. <i>Journal of the Association</i>		
N14	Banda D R & Kubina R M Ir (2006) The Effects of a High-Probability Request	N14	Data received from NSP
1,11,	Sequencing Technique in Enhancing Transition Behaviors. <i>Education & Treatment of</i>	1111.	
	<i>Children, 29</i> (3), 507-516.		
N15.	Barry, L. M., & Singer, G. H. S. (2001). A family in crisis: Replacing the aggressive	N15.	Data received from NSP
	behavior of a child with autism toward an infant sibling. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior</i>		
N16	Interventions, 3(1), 28-38. Parry T. D. Klinger, I. C. Lee, I. M. Belardy, N. Cilmere, T. & Bedin, S. D. (2002).	N16	Data received from NSD
IN 10.	Examining the effectiveness of an outnatient clinic-based social skills group for high-	IN10.	Data received from NSP
	functioning children with autism. <i>Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders</i> ,		
	33(6), 685-701.		
N17.	Beck, M. H., Cataldo, M., Slifer, K. J., Pulbrook, V., & Guhman, J. K. (2005). Teaching	N17.	Data received from NSP
	Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autistic Disorder		
N18	(AD) How to Swallow Pills. Clinical Pediatrics, 44(6), 515-526. Bellini S. Akullian I. & Honf A. (2007). Increasing social engagement in young	N18	Data received from NSP
1110.	children with autism spectrum disorders using video self-modeling. School Psychology	1110.	
	<i>Review, 36</i> (1), 80-90.		
N19.	Ben-Itzchak, E., & Zachor, D. A. (2007). The effects of intellectual functioning and	N19.	Data received from NSP
	autism severity on outcome of early behavioral intervention for children with autism.		
N20	Research in Developmental Disabilities, 28(3), 28/-303.	N20	Data received from NSP
1120.	solving in children with autism and normal children through computer-assisted	IN20.	Data received nom NSF
	instruction. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 31(4), 377-398.		

N21.	Birkan, B., McClannahan, L. E., & Krantz, P. J. (2007). Effects of superimposition and	N21.	Data from NSP(originally in
	<i>Spectrum Disorders</i> , 1(2), 117-125.		NZ list)
N22.	Bledsoe, R., Myles, B. S., & Simpson, R. (2003). Use of a Social Story intervention to	N22.	SS data not provided by NSP
	improve mealtime skills of an adolescent with Asperger syndrome. <i>Autism</i> , 7(3), 289-		
N23.	Bock, M. A. (1999). Sorting laundry: Categorization strategy application to an authentic	N23.	Data received from NSP
	learning activity by children with autism. Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities, 14(4), 220-230.		
N24.	Braithwaite, K. L., & Richdale, A. L. (2000). Functional communication training to	N24.	Data received from NSP
	replace challenging behaviors across two behavioral outcomes. <i>Behavioral</i>		
N25.	Britton, L. N., Carr, J. E., Kellum, K. K., Dozier, C. L., & Weil, T. M. (2000). A	N25.	Data received from NSP
	variation of noncontingent reinforcement in the treatment of aberrant behavior.		
N26	Research in Developmental Disabilities, 21(6), 425-435. Prown K. E. & Miranda, P. (2006). Contingency Manning: Use of a Novel Visual	N26	Data received from NSD
1120.	Support Strategy as an Adjunct to Functional Equivalence Training. <i>Journal of Positive</i>	1120.	Data received from NSI
	Behavior Interventions, 8(3), 155-164.		
N27.	Bryan, L. C., & Gast, D. L. (2000). Teaching on-task and on-schedule behaviors to high- functioning children with outigm via picture activity schedules. <i>Journal of Autism and</i>	N27.	Data received from NSP
	Developmental Disorders, 30(6), 553-567.		
N28.	Buckley, S. D., & Newchok, D. K. (2005). An evaluation of simultaneous presentation	N28.	Data received from NSP
	and differential reinforcement with response cost to reduce packing. <i>Journal of Applied</i>		
N29.	Buckley, S. D., & Newchok, D. K. (2006). Analysis and treatment of problem behavior	N29.	Data received from NSP
	evoked by music. Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 39(1), 141-144.		
N30.	Buffington, D. M., Krantz, P. J., McClannahan, L. E., & Poulson, C. L. (1998).	N30.	Data received from NSP
	autism. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 28(6), 535-545.		
N31.	Buggey, T. (2005). Video Self-Modeling Applications With Students With Autism	N31.	Data received from NSP
	Spectrum Disorder in a Small Private School Setting. Focus on Autism and Other		
	Developmental Disubulies, 20(1), 52-05.		

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	N32.	Buggey, T., Toombs, K., Gardener, P., & Cervetti, M. (1999). Training responding	N32.	Data received from NSP
		behaviors in students with autism: Using videotaped self-modeling. Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions $I(A)$ 205-214		
	N33	Callahan K & Rademacher I A (1999) Using self-management strategies to increase	N33	Data received from NSP
	1,00.	the on-task behavior of a student with autism. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior</i>	1055.	
		Interventions, 1(2), 117-122.		
	N34.	Cameron, M. J., Shapiro, R. L., & Ainsleigh, S. A. (2005). Bicycle Riding: Pedaling	N34.	Data received from NSP
		Made Possible Through Positive Behavioral Interventions. Journal of Positive Behavior		
	1127	Interventions, 7(3), 153-158.	N12.5	
	N35.	Carr, D. (2003). Effects of exemplar training in exclusion responding on auditory-visual disarimination tasks with children with outigm. <i>Journal of Applied Polyneign Applied</i>	N35.	NSP rated as non behavioural
		36(4) 507-524		
	N36.	Carr, D., & Felce, J. (2007). The effects of PECS teaching to Phase III on the	N36.	Data received from NSP
		communicative interactions between children with autism and their teachers. Journal of		
		Autism and Developmental Disorders, 37(4), 724-737.		
	N37.	Carter, C. M. (2001). Using choice with game play to increase language skills and	N37.	Data received from NSP
		Interactive behaviors in children with autism. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior</i>		
	N38	Interventions, $5(5)$, $151-151$. Casey S. D. & Merical C. I. (2006). The use of functional communication training	N38	Data received from NSP
	1150.	without additional treatment procedures in an inclusive school setting <i>Behavioral</i>	1130.	Data received noni NSI
		Disorders, 32(1), 46-54.		
	N39.	Charlop-Christy, M. H., Carpenter, M., Le, L., LeBlanc, L. A., & Kellet, K. (2002).	N39.	Data received from NSP
		Using the picture exchange communication system (PECS) with children with autism:		
		Assessment of PECS acquisition, speech, social-communicative behavior, and problem		
	N40	Charlon Christy M H & Carpenter M H (2000) Modified incidental teaching	N40	Data received from NSP
	1140.	sessions: A procedure for parents to increase spontaneous speech in their children with	1140.	Data received from NSI
		autism. Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions, 2(2), 98-112.		
	N41.	Charlop-Christy, M. H., & Haymes, L. K. (1998). Using objects of obsession as token	N41.	Data received from NSP
		reinforcers for children with autism. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders,		
		28(3), 189-198.		
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	Developmental Disorders. 34(4), 411-422.		
N231.	Sigafoos, J., Ganz, J. B., O'Reilly, M., Lancioni, G. E., & Schlosser, R. W. (2007).	N231.	AAC data not provided by
	Assessing correspondence following acquisition of an exchange-based communication		NSP
	system Research in Developmental Disabilities 28(1) 71-83		
N232	Sigafoos I & Littlewood R (1999) Communication intervention on the playground	N232	Data received from NSP
1,202.	A case study on teaching requesting to a young child with autism <i>International Journal</i>	1.2021	
	of Disability Development and Education 46(3) 421-429		
N233	Sigafoos I O'Reilly M Seely-Vork S & Edrisinha C (2004) Teaching students	N233	$\Delta \Delta C$ data not provided by
11235.	with developmental disabilities to locate their AAC device. <i>Research in Developmental</i>	11235.	NSD
	Disabilities 25(4) 371 383		1131
N1224	Signafood I O'Dailly M E Saaly Vark S Wary I San S H Graan V A at al	N224	AAC data not provided by
11234.	(2004) Transferring AAC intervention to the home. Disability and Behabilitation. An	11234.	NCD
	(2004). Transferring AAC intervention to the nome. <i>Disability and Renabilitation: An</i>		INSP
NI225	International, Multialsciplinary Journal, 20(21-22), 1550-1554.	N1225	Data maging d from NICD
N235.	Simpson, A., Langone, J., & Ayres, K. M. (2004). Embedded Video and Computer	N235.	Data received from NSP
	Based Instruction to Improve Social Skills for Students with Autism. Education and		
1100 (Training in Developmental Disabilities, 39(3), 240-252.	1100 (
N236.	Smith, A. E., & Camarata, S. (1999). Using teacher-implemented instruction to increase	N236.	Data received from NSP
	language intelligibility of children with autism. Journal of Positive Behavior		
	Interventions, 1(3), 141-151.		

N237.	Smith, M. R., & Lerman, D. C. (1999). A preliminary comparison of guided compliance	N237.	Data received from NSP
	and high-probability instructional sequences as treatment for noncompliance in children		
	with developmental disabilities. <i>Research in Developmental Disabilities</i> , 20(3), 183-		
N238.	Smith, T., Buch, G. A., & Gamby, T. E. (2000). Parent-directed, intensive early	N238.	Data received from NSP
	intervention for children with pervasive developmental disorder. Research in		
	Developmental Disabilities, 21(4), 297-309.		
N239.	Smith, T., Groen, A. D., & Wynn, J. W. (2000). Randomized trial of intensive early	N239.	Data received from NSP
	intervention for children with pervasive developmental disorder. American Journal on		
	Mental Retardation, 105(4), 269-285.		
N240.	Smith, T., Groen, A. D., & Wynn, J. W. (2001). "Randomized trial of intensive early	N240.	Data not received from NSP
	intervention for children with pervasive developmental disorder." Errata. American		
	Journal on Mental Retardation, 106(3), 208.		
N241.	Smith, T., Lovaas, N. W., & Lovaas, O. I. (2002). Behaviors of children with high-	N241.	Data received from NSP
	functioning autism when paired with typically developing versus delayed peers: A		
	preliminary study. <i>Behavioral Interventions</i> , 17(3), 129-143.		
N242.	Sofronoff, K., Leslie, A., & Brown, W. (2004). Parent management training and	N242.	NSP rated as non behavioural
	Asperger syndrome: A randomized controlled trial to evaluate a parent based		
	intervention. Autism, 8(3), 301-317.	212.42	
N243.	Son, SH., Sigatoos, J., O'Reilly, M., & Lancioni, G. E. (2006). Comparing two types	N243.	AAC data not provided by
	of augmentative and alternative communication systems for children with autism.		NSP
21244	Pediatric Rehabilitation, 9(4), 389-395.	21244	
N244.	Stahmer, A. C., Ingersoll, B., & Koegel, R. L. (2004). Inclusive programming for	N244.	Data received from NSP
	toddlers autism spectrum disorders: Outcomes from the Children's Toddler School.		
21245	Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions, 6(2), 67-82.	21245	
N245.	Stevenson, C. L., Krantz, P. J., & McClannahan, L. E. (2000). Social interaction skills	N245.	Data received from NSP
	for children with autism: A script-fading procedure for nonreaders. <i>Behavioral</i>		
1046	Interventions, $15(1)$, $1-20$.	1046	
N246.	Sundberg, M. L., Endicott, K., & Eigenheer, P. (2000). Using intraverbal prompts to	N246.	Data received from NSP
1047	establish tacts for children with autism. Analysis of Verbal Behavior, 1/, 89-104.	1047	
N247.	Tarbox, J., Wallace, M. D., & Tarbox, R. S. F. (2002). Successful generalized parent	N247.	Data received from NSP
	training and failed schedule thinning of response blocking for automatically maintained		
	object mouthing. Behavioral Interventions, 1/(3), 169-1/8.		

N248.	Tarbox, R. S. F., Ghezzi, P. M., & Wilson, G. (2006). The effects of token	N248.	Data received from NSP
	21(3) 155-164		
N249.	Tarbox, R. S. F., Wallace, M. D., & Williams, L. (2003). Assessment and treatment of	N249.	Data received from NSP
	elopement: A replication and extension. Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 36(2),		
	239-244.		
N250.	Taylor, B. A., Hoch, H., Potter, B., Rodriguez, A., Spinnato, D., & Kalaigian, M.	N250.	Data from NSP (originally in
	(2005). Manipulating establishing operations to promote initiations toward peers in		NZ list)
ND51	children with autism. Research in Developmental Disabilities, 26(4), 385-392.	ND51	Data reasined from NSD
N251.	1 aylor, B. A., Hoch, H., & Weissman, M. (2005). The analysis and treatment of vocal stereotypy in a child with autism. <i>Behavioral Interventions</i> , 20(4), 239–253	IN251.	Data received from NSP
N252	Taylor B A Levin L & Jasper S (1999) Increasing play-related statements in	N252	Data received from NSP
1,202.	children with autism toward their siblings: Effects of video modeling. <i>Journal of</i>	1,202.	
	Developmental and Physical Disabilities, 11(3), 253-264.		
N253.	Thiemann, K. S., & Goldstein, H. (2001). Social stories, written text cues, and video	N253.	Data received from NSP
	feedback: Effects on social communication of children with autism. Journal of Applied		
	Behavior Analysis, 34(4), 425-446.		
N254.	Thiemann, K. S., & Goldstein, H. (2004). Effects of Peer Training and Written Text	N254.	Data received from NSP
	Cueing on Social Communication of School-Age Children with Pervasive		
	Developmental Disorder. Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 47(1), 126-144		
N255	Thomas N & Smith C (2004) Developing Play Skills in Children with Autistic	N255	Data received from NSP
1,200.	Spectrum Disorders. Educational Psychology in Practice, 20(3), 195-206.	1.200.	
N256.	Tincani, M. (2004). Comparing the Picture Exchange Communication System and Sign	N256.	Data received from NSP
	Language Training for Children with Autism. Focus on Autism and Other		
	Developmental Disabilities, 19(3), 152-163.		
N257.	Tincani, M., Crozier, S., & Alazetta, L. (2006). The Picture Exchange Communication	N257.	Data received from NSP
	System: Effects on Manding and Speech Development for School-Aged Children with		
N258	Todd T & Reid G (2006) Increasing Physical Activity in Individuals With Autism	N258	Data received from NSP
11230.	Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities 21(3) 167-176	11230.	Data received from 1051

N259.	Tsao, L. L., & Odom, S. L. (2006). Sibling-mediated social interaction intervention for young children with autism. <i>Topics in Early Childhood Special Education</i> , 26(2), 106-	N259.	Data received from NSP
N260.	123. Van Laarhoven, T., & Van Laarhoven-Myers, T. (2006). Comparison of three video- based instructional procedures for teaching daily living skills to persons with developmental disabilities. <i>Education and Training in Developmental Disabilities</i> ,	N260.	Data from NSP (originally in NZ list)
N261.	 41(4), 365-381. Vaughn, B. J., Wilson, D., & Dunlap, G. (2002). Family-centered intervention to resolve problem behaviors in a fast-food restaurant. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions</i>, 4(1), 38-45. 	N261.	Data received from NSP
N262.	Weiskop, S., Matthews, J., & Richdale, A. (2001). Treatment of sleep problems in a 5- year old how with autism using behavioural principles. <i>Autism</i> , 5(2), 209, 221	N262.	Data received from NSP
N263.	Wert, B. Y., & Neisworth, J. T. (2003). Effects of video self-modeling on spontaneous requesting in children with autism. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions</i> , 5(1), 30-34	N263.	Data received from NSP
N264.	West, E. A., & Billingsley, F. (2005). Improving the System of Least Prompts: A Comparison of Procedural Variations. <i>Education and Training in Developmental</i> <i>Disabilities</i> 40(2) 131-144	N264.	Data from NSP (originally in NZ list)
N265.	Whalen, C., & Schreibman, L. (2003). Joint attention training for children with autism using behavior modification procedures. <i>Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry</i> , 44(3), 456-468	N265.	Data received from NSP
N266.	Wilczynski, S. M., Fusilier, I., Dubard, M., & Elliott, A. (2005). Experimental Analysis of Proximity as a Social Stimulus: Increasing On-Task Behavior of an Adolescent With Autism. <i>Psychology in the Schools</i> 42(2), 189-196	N266.	Data received from NSP
N267.	Williams, G., Donley, C. R., & Keller, J. W. (2000). Teaching children with autism to ask questions about hidden objects. <i>Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis</i> , <i>33</i> (4), 627-630	N267.	Data received from NSP
N268.	Williams, G., Perez-Gonzalez, L. A., & Vogt, K. (2003). The role of specific consequences in the maintenance of three types of questions. <i>Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis</i> 36(3), 285-296	N268.	Data received from NSP
N269.	Yi, J. I., Christian, L., Vittimberga, G., & Lowenkron, B. (2006). Generalized Negatively Reinforced Manding in Children with Autism. <i>Analysis of Verbal Behavior</i> , 22, 21-33.	N269.	Data from NSP (originally in NZ list)

Γ	N1270	Vilmar I. Dirkon D. Konukman E. & Erkon M. (2005) Using a Constant Time	N270	Data received from NSD
l	1N2/0.	Γ Innaz, I., Dirkan, D., Konukinan, F., & Erkan, M. (2005). Using a Constant Time	1N2/0.	Data received from NSP
		Delay Procedure to Teach Aquatic Play Skills to Children with Autism. <i>Education and</i>		
		Training in Developmental Disabilities, 40(2), 171-182.		
	N271.	Yoder, P., & Stone, W. L. (2006). A randomized comparison of the effect of two	N271.	Data received from NSP
		prelinguistic communication interventions on the acquisition of spoken communication		
		in preschoolers with ASD. Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 49(4),		
		698-711.		
	N272.	Yoder, P., & Stone, W. L. (2006). Randomized Comparison of Two Communication	N272.	Data received from NSP
		Interventions for Preschoolers With Autism Spectrum Disorders. Journal of Consulting		
		and Clinical Psychology, 74(3), 426-435.		
	N273.	Yokoyama, K., Naoi, N., & Yamamoto, Ji. (2006). Teaching Verbal Behavior Using	N273.	Data received from NSP
		the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) With Children With Autistic		
		Spectrum Disorders. Japanese Journal of Special Education, 43(6), 485-503.		
	N274.	Zanolli, K., & Daggett, J. (1998). The effects of reinforcement rate on the spontaneous	N274.	Data received from NSP
		social initiations of socially withdrawn preschoolers. Journal of Applied Behavior		
		Analysis, 31(1), 117-125.		
	N275.	Zercher, C., Hunt, P., Schuler, A., & Webster, J. (2001). Increasing joint attention, play	N275.	NSP rated as non behavioural
I		and language through peer supported play. Autism, 5(4), 374-398.		
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Appendix D: Table 3. New Zealand Exclusion Reference List

REFF	CRENCE	Con	nments
E1.	Agosta, E., Graetz, J. E., Mastropieri, M. A., & Scruggs, T. E. (2004). Teacher researcher	E1.	SMRS below 2
	partnerships to improve social behavior through social stories. Intervention in School and		
-	<i>Clinic, 39</i> (5), 276-287.		
E2.	Ahearn, W. H., Clark, K. M., DeBar, R., & Florentino, C. (2005). On the Role of	E2.	NSP excluded
	Preference in Response Competition. Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 38(2), 24/-		
E3	250. Akande A (1999) Self monitoring of autistic behavior Psychology 36(3-A) 63-63	E3	no data
E3. E4	Alberto P A Cihak D F & Gama R I (2005) Use of static nicture prompts versus	E3. F4	not ASD
L 1.	video modeling during simulation instruction. <i>Research in Developmental Disabilities</i> .		
	26(4), 327-339.		
E5.	Aldred, C., Green, J., & Adams, C. (2004). A new social communication intervention for	E5.	Not ABA
	children with autism: pilot randomised controlled treatment study suggesting		
	effectiveness. Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 45(8), 1420-1430.		
E6.	Arntzen, E., Tonnessen, I. R., & Brouwer, G. (2006). Reducing aberrant verbal behavior	E6.	SMRS below 2
	by building a repertoire of rational verbal behavior. <i>Behavioral Interventions</i> , 21(3), 177-		
F7	193. Banda D.R. McAfee I.K. Lee D.L. & Kubina R. M. Ir. (2007) Math preference	F7	Demo project and no individual
L/.	and mastery relationship in middle school students with autism spectrum disorders	L/.	data paths
	Journal of Behavioral Education, 16(3), 207-223.		una pullo
E8.	Barbera, M. L., & Kubina, R. M., Jr. (2005). Using transfer procedures to teach tacts to a	E8.	SMRS below 2
	child with autism. Analysis of Verbal Behavior, 21, 155-161.		
E9.	Barnhill, G. P., Cook, K. T., Tebbenkamp, K., & Myles, B. S. (2002). The effectiveness	E9.	not ABA
	of social skills intervention targeting nonverbal communication for adolescents with		
	Asperger syndrome and related pervasive developmental delays. <i>Focus on Autism and</i>		
E10	Other Developmental Disabilities, $1/(2)$, 112-118. Portmon S & Freeman N (2002) Teaching language to a two year old with outigm	E10	NSD avaludad
E10.	Journal on Developmental Disabilities 10(1) 47-53		. INSP excluded
E11	Basil C & Reves S (2003) Acquisition of literacy skills by children with severe	E11	not ABA
	disability. Child Language Teaching & Therapy, 19(1), 27-45.		

E12.	Bedrosian, J., Lasker, J., Speidel, K., & Politsch, A. (2003). Enhancing the written	E12. NSP excluded
	narrative skills of an AAC student with Autism: Evidence-based research issues. Topics	
	in Language Disorders, 23(4), 305-324.	
E13.	Bernad-Ripoll, S. (2007). Using a self-as-model video combined with social storiesTM to	E13. SMRS below 2
	help a child with Asperger syndrome understand emotions. Focus on Autism and Other	
	Developmental Disabilities, 22(2), 100-106.	
E14.	Bertone, A., Mottron, L., Jelenic, P., & Faubert, J. (2005). Enhanced and diminished	E14. not treatment
	visuo-spatial information processing in autism depends on stimulus complexity. Brain,	
	128(10), 2430-2441.	
E15.	Bidwell, M. A., & Rehfeldt, R. A. (2004). Using video modeling to teach a domestic skill	E15. not ASD
	with an embedded social skill to adults with severe mental retardation. Behavioral	
	Interventions, 19(4), 263-274.	
E16.	Biederman, G. B., Stepaniuk, S., Davey, V. A., Raven, K., & Ahn, D. (1999).	E16. not ASD
	Observational learning in children with Down syndrome and developmental delays: the	
	effect of presentation speed in videotaped modelling. Down Syndrome: Research &	
	<i>Practice</i> , 6(1), 12-18.	
E17.	Boettcher, M., Koegel, R. L., McNerney, E. K., & Koegel, L. K. (2003). A family-	E17. no data
	centered prevention approach to PBS in a time of crisis. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior</i>	
E10	Interventions, 5(1), 55-59.	
E18.	Bolte, S. (2006). Computer-based intervention in autism spectrum disorders.	E18. not peer-reviewed journal
F10	www.awares.org/conferences/home.asp?conferenceCode=00020002.	
E19.	Bondy, A., & Frost, L. (2001). The picture exchange communication system. <i>Behavior</i>	E19. no data
F2 0	Modification, $25(5)$, $25-744$.	
E20.	Bondy, A. S., & Frost, L. A. (1998). The picture exchange communication system.	E20. not a study
E21	Seminars in Speech & Language, 19(4), 3/3-388, quiz 389, 424.	E21 wat a study
E21.	Bosch, S., & Fuqua, K. W. (2001). Benavioral cusps: a model for selecting target	E21. not a study
БЭЭ	Denaviors. Journal of Applied Denavior Analysis, 54(1), 125-125.	E22 coloctio
EZZ.	animeted tutor for vocabulary and language learning in children with outigm. <i>Journal of</i>	E22. eclectic
	Autism and Developmental Disorders 33(6), 653, 672	
E23	Roulware G.J. Schwartz I S. Sandall S. R. & McBride B. I. (2006) Project DATA	E23 not ABA eclectic no design
1223.	for Toddlers: An Inclusive Approach to Very Young Children With Autism Spectrum	125. IIOTADA CECCIC IIO desigii
	Disorder Tonics in Early Childhood Special Education 26(2) 94-105	
	Disorder. Topics in Early Childhood Special Education, 20(2), 94-105.	

E24.	Bourret, J., Vollmer, T. R., & Rapp, J. T. (2004). Evaluation of a vocal mand assessment	E24	NSP excluded
	and vocal mand training procedures. <i>Journal of Applied Benavior Analysis</i> , 37(2), 129-		
E25.	Boyd, R. D., & Corley, M. J. (2001). Outcome survey of early intensive behavioral	E25	NSP excluded
	intervention for young children with autism in a community setting. Autism, 5(4), 430-		
	441.		
E26.	Brady, N. C. (2000). Improved comprehension of object names following voice output	E26	NSP excluded
	Communication and use: 1 wo case studies. AAC: Augmentative and Alternative		
E27	Braithwaite M & Sigafoos J (1998) Effects of social versus musical antecedents on	E27	not ASD
	communication responsiveness in five children with developmental disabilities. <i>Journal</i>	22,	
	of Music Therapy, 35(2), 88-104.		
E28.	Broderick, C., Caswell, R., Gregory, S., Marzolini, S., & Wilson, O. (2002). 'Can I join	E28	NSP-excluded
	the club?' - A social integration scheme for adolescents with Asperger syndrome. <i>Autism</i> ,		
E20	0(4), 42/-431. Preakman I. Poettahar M. Klain F. Onandan D. Kaagal P. J. & Kaagal I. K.	E20	no data
E29.	(2003) Facilitating Social Interactions in a Community Summer Camp Setting for	E29	. no data
	Children with Autism. Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions, 5(4), 249-252.		
E30.	Brownell, M. D. (2002). Musically adapted social stories to modify behaviors in students	E30	Not ABA
	with autism: four case studies. Journal of Music Therapy, 39(2), 117-144.		
E31.	Buckley, S. D., & Newchok, D. K. (2005). Differential impact of response effort within a	E31	NSP excluded
	response chain on use of mands in a student with autism. <i>Research in Developmental</i> Disabilities 26(1), 77-85		
E32.	Buckley, S. D., Strunck, P. G., & Newchok, D. K. (2005), A Comparison Of Two	E32	SMRS below 2
	Multicomponent Procedures To Increase Food Consumption. <i>Behavioral Interventions</i> ,		
	20(2), 139-146.		
E33.	Buschbacher, P., Fox, L., & Clarke, S. (2004). Recapturing desired family routines: A	E33	. not ASD
	parent-professional behavioral collaboration. <i>Research and Practice for Persons with</i>		
F34	Severe Disabilities, 29(1), 25-59. Butler I. R. & Luiselli I. K. (2007). Escape-maintained problem behavior in a child	F34	SMRS below 2
E94.	with autism. Antecedent functional analysis and intervention evaluation of noncontingent	LJ4	
	escape and instructional fading. Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions, 9(4), 195-		
	202.		

	E35.	Butter, E. M., Mulick, J. A., & Metz, B. (2006). Eight case reports of learning recovery	E35.	NSP excluded
		in children with pervasive developmental disorders after early intervention. Behavioral		
		Interventions, 21(4), 227-243.		
	E36.	Carminati, G. G., Gerber, F., Baud, M. A., & Baud, O. (2007). Evaluating the effects of a	E36.	not ABA
		structured program for adults with autism spectrum disorders and intellectual disabilities.		
		Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, 1(3), 256-265.		
	E37.	Carminati, G. G., Gerber, F., Kempf-Constantin, N., & Baud, O. (2007). Evolution of	E37.	not ABA
		adults with autism and proeffect intellectual disabilities living within a structured		
		residential programme: A 21-month longitudinal study. Schweizer Archiv fur Neurologie		
		und Psychiatrie, 158(5), 233-241.		
	E38.	Carr, D., & Felce, J. (2007). Brief report: Increase in production of spoken words in some	E38.	NSP excluded
		children with autism after PECS teaching to Phase III. Journal of Autism and		
		Developmental Disorders, 37(4), 780-787.		
	E39.	Carr, E. G., & Blakeley-Smith, A. (2006). Classroom intervention for illness-related	E39.	ASD data mixed with non-ASD
		problem behavior in children with developmental disabilities. <i>Behavior Modification</i> ,		
	-	<i>30</i> (6), 901-924.	-	
	E40.	Carr, E. G., Levin, L., McConnachie, G., Carlson, J. I., Kemp, D. C., Smith, C. E., et al.	E40.	no "ASD" but "autistic features"
		(1999). Comprehensive multisituational intervention for problem behavior in the		
		community: Long-term maintenance and social validation. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior</i>		
	F 41	Interventions, 1(1), 5-25.	T 41	
	E41.	Carr, J. E., Dozier, C. L., Patel, M. R., Adams, A. N., & Martin, N. (2002). Treatment of	E41.	SMRS below 2
		automatically reinforced object mouthing with noncontingent reinforcement and response		
		Diocking: Experimental analysis and social validation. Research in Developmental		
	E42	Disabilities, $25(1)$, $57-44$.	E42	not tractment study
	E42.	behavioral intervention for outigm: A call for additional ampirical support. <i>Journal of</i>	E42.	not treatment study
		Early and Intensive Behavioral Intervention 2, 18, 27		
	E/3	Carr L E Nicolson A C & Highee T S (2000) Evaluation of a brief multiple-	E43	not treatment study
	Ľ4J.	stimulus preference assessment in a naturalistic context <i>Journal of Applied Bahavior</i>	Ľ4J.	not treatment study
		Analysis 33(3) 353-357		
	F44	Carr I F & Sidener T M (2002) On the relation between applied behavior analysis	F44	not a study
l	⊥	and positive behavioral support The Rehavior Analyst 25, 245-253	L77.	not a study
		and positive conditional support. The Denarior Interior, 25, 275-255.		

Cauley, K. S., Brian, J. A., & Snider, J. (2003). Teaching children with autism to engage	E45. NSP excluded
n play-related talk. <i>Journal of Precision Teaching & Celeration</i> , 19(2), 39-42.	
Chambers, M., & Rehfeldt, R. A. (2003). Assessing the acquisition and generalization of	E46. not ASD
wo mand forms with adults with severe developmental disabilities. <i>Research in</i>	
Developmental Disabilities, 24(4), 265-280.	
Chambless, D. L., Baker, M., Baucom, D. H., Beutler, L. E., Calhoun, K. S., Crits-	E47. not a study
Christoph, P., et al. (1998). Update on empirically validated theories, II. <i>The Clinical</i>	
Psychologist, 51, 3-16.	
Chambless, D. L., & Ollendick, T. H. (2001). Empirically supported psychological	E48. not a study
nterventions: controversies and evidence. Annual Review of Psychology, 52, 685-716.	
Charlop-Christy, M. H., & Daneshvar, S. (2003). Using video modeling to teach	E49. demonstration non-functional
perspective taking to children with autism. <i>Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions</i> ,	
b(1), 12-21.	
Children's Mental Health Ontario. (2003). Evidence-based practices for children and	E50. not a study
adolescents with autism spectrum disorders: Review of literature and practice guide.	
Retrieved March 8, 2007, from	
http://www.kidsmentalhealth.ca/documents/PR_Evidence_based_practices_for_children	ES1. not treatment
Long, I. M., & Carr, J. E. (2005). An investigation of the potentially adverse effects of	
ask interspersal. Benavioral Interventions, 20(4), 285-300.	E52 mot ADA
uning, KM., Reavis, S., Mosconi, M., Drewry, J., Maunews, T., & Tasse, M. J. (2007).	E52. not ABA
Peer-mediated social skills training program for young children with high-functioning	
Autism. Research in Developmental Disabilities, 28(4), 423-430.	E52 not ASD
under habevieur difficulties: A review of research Wellington: Ministry of Education	E35. HOLASD
Clarka S. Dunlan G. & Vaughn P. (1000) Family contared assessment based	E54 SMPS below 2
Intervention to improve behavior during on early morning routing. <i>Journal of Positive</i>	E34. SIMINS DEIOW 2
Rehavior Interventions $1(\Lambda)$ 235-241	
Connolly S. D. Bernstein G. A. & Work Group on Quality I (2007) Practice	E55 not ASD
parameter for the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with anyiety	L35. not ASD
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