



The Importance of Fostering Adaptive Behavior Skills to Enhance Independence in Adulthood

Presented by: Celine Saulnier, PhD

Delivery method: On-Demand

Instruction level: Intermediate

Sponsored by: NCS Pearson, Inc.

Course Description

Delays and deficits in adaptive behavior or everyday practical skills are common in ASD. Although strong language and cognitive skills have historically been associated with better adult outcomes, research has shown that even very bright and capable autistic adults are struggling in areas of life such as completing college, holding down jobs, living independently, and maintaining successful relationships. This talk will outline how important adaptive skills are for self-sufficiency, and how direct instruction to learn, practice, and apply practical skills to everyday routines and contexts is imperative.

Learner Outcomes

After completing this learning track, the participants will be able to:

1. Define adaptive behavior and differentiate it from cognition/intelligence
2. Discuss common adaptive behavior profiles in ASD
3. Apply coaching strategies and direct instruction to foster adaptive behavior throughout life

Time-Ordered Agenda

10 minutes	Adaptive behavior vs cognition/intelligence
15 minutes	Adaptive behavior profiles in ASD
15 minutes	The importance of adaptive behavior in independent living
15 minutes	Fostering adaptive behavior in autistic adults
5 minutes	Q&A

About the Presenter

Dr. Saulnier obtained her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Connecticut. She trained and worked at the Yale Child Study Center's Autism Program for nearly a decade before relocating to Emory University School of Medicine and the Marcus Autism Center in Atlanta, GA, where she directed a large-scale clinical research program. In 2018, she opened her own company, Neurodevelopmental Assessment & Consulting Services, where she specializes in diagnostic assessment, as well as teaching and training for autism spectrum and related disorders. Dr. Saulnier has published numerous articles, written two books, and is an author on the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales (3rd ed.; Vineland-3).

Disclosure

Financial: Dr. Saulnier is a co-author of the Vineland-3 and receives royalty payments from Pearson. She will be receiving an honorarium for this presentation.

Non-financial disclosure: There is no relevant non-financial relationship to disclose.

NCS Pearson, Inc., the sponsor of this learning track, develops and distributes assessments and intervention tools for speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and psychologists. This offering will include information that pertains to the effective and appropriate use and interpretation of Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales (3rd ed.; Vineland-3).

References

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