

Learning Objectives

MedBridge

Theory of Mind for Children with Autism Part 1: Assessment & Evaluation

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Course Description:

Theory of mind is often considered one of the core areas of deficit for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Do we have, however, content valid tools that help us understand areas of relative strength and challenge for children with ASD across the many dimensions of theory of mind? This course describes theory of mind and its implications for children with ASD, highlights the challenges in current assessment approaches and offers an innovative approach to theory of mind assessment that is both content valid and easy to use. Further, the presenters link assessment to intervention, demonstrating a profile approach to understanding theory of mind in individual children with ASD. Case examples are presented that link assessment to intervention targets.

Course objectives:

Following this course, participants will be able to:

1. Define theory of mind
2. Describe the challenges to traditional assessment of theory of mind
3. Explain the components of the Theory of Mind Inventory-2 (ToMI-2) that address the challenges of traditional theory of mind assessment
4. Identify two ways to build a theory of mind profile for a child with ASD based on the results of the ToMI-2
5. Explain the process for determining intervention targets following administration of the ToMI-2
6. Identify one strategy for identifying family priorities in for ToM intervention