

Instructions for writing an Intended Therapy Plan (ITP)

A. Definition of a behavioral objective: A statement that describes a specific target behavior to be achieved, in observable and measurable terms.

B. Components: Performance, conditions, criteria, rationale.

- Performance – States what the learner is expected to be able to do and what will be demonstrated; equals capability. Written in behavioral terms which clearly state the observable action to be measured. Examples of behavioral terms: write, recite, point to, say, etc. Always reflects what the client will do, not what the clinician will do. Written as a singular trial.
Examples: “the client will produce an initial /s/ blend at the word level”
“the client will point to named object from a field of 3”
“the client will follow a 2-step direction”
“the client will repeat a 3-syllable word”
- Conditions: States the situation in which the target behavior is performed. Includes the initial stimulus, context, and type and amount of cues required.
Examples: “while naming pictures, given 1 verbal and 1 phonemic cue”
“independently, while completing functional writing activities”
“given her communication board and 1 gestural cue”
“given a general category label and 2 verbal cues”
- Criteria: States how well the target behavior must be performed for the objective to be achieved. Must be measurable. Can be set in terms of a) speed, b) accuracy, c) quality.
Examples: “8 tongue protrusions in 10 sec”
“in 8/10 trials”
“with no more than 2 errors”
“with no more than 2 errors in 5 minutes of spontaneous conversation”
- Rationale: Includes *Client-based* and *Literature-based* rationales:
Client based: Includes data and remarkable results from the previous session that justifies your behavioral objective for the week (e.g., was criterion met, and task complexity to be increased? Was difficulty still demonstrated, and continuation at established level is needed before advancing? Is probing at a different/more advanced level recommended?). Initial sessions may also include parental concerns or recommendations from DX report or prior QTS/STS.

Literature-based: Includes a sound and recent literature based citation (5-10 years) which supports your treatment plan for the week. For baseline sessions, it may include developmental acquisition data or a proposed treatment approach to

determine stimulability. For therapy, it may include a citation regarding developmental norms or justify why a modification in your treatment plan is appropriate. Be thorough and specific.

Once STP is approved and signed off by the Supervisor, literature-based rationales are no longer required, unless indicated in specific circumstances.