

An Evidence-Based Individualized Program for Toddlers with ASD

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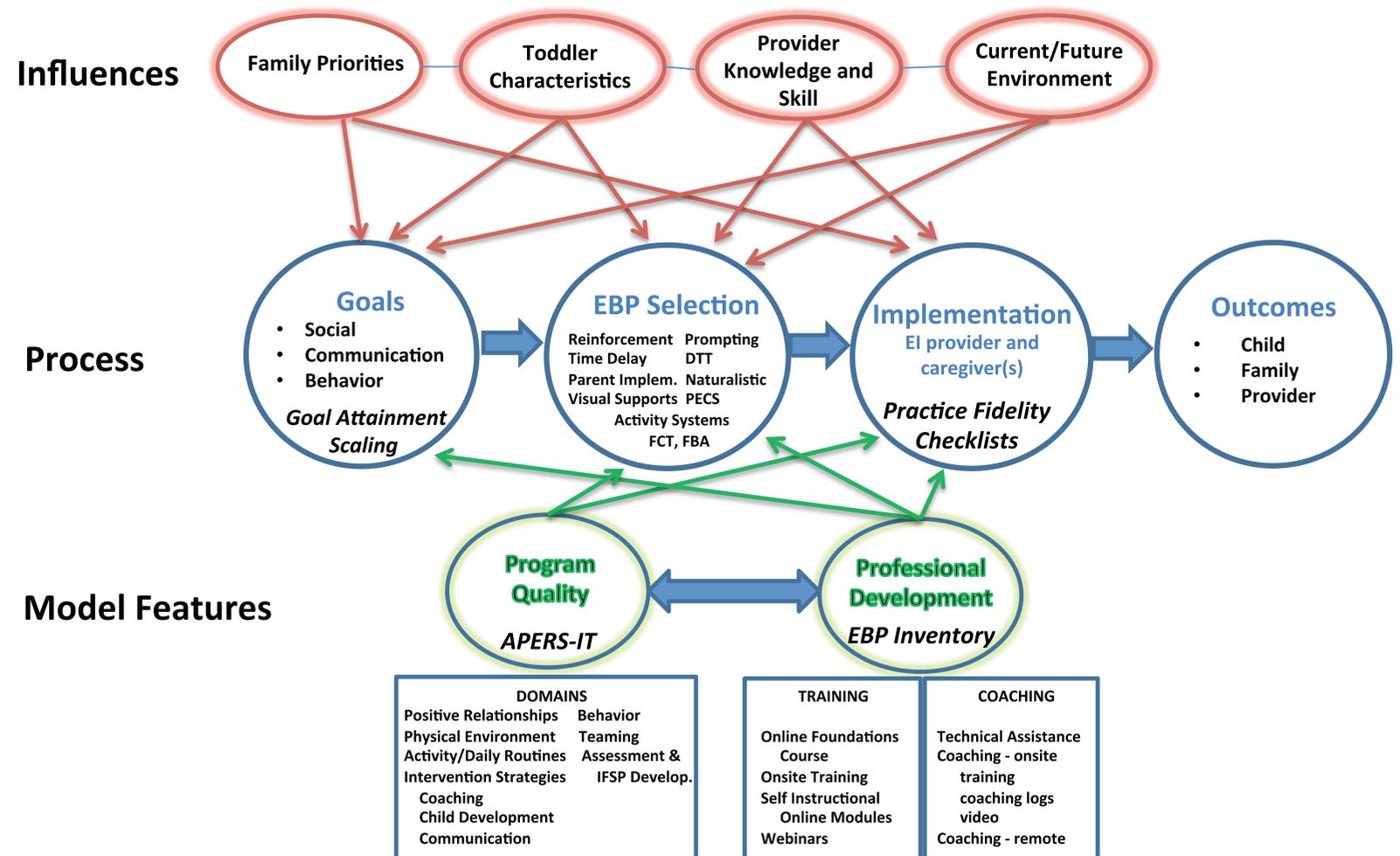
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The Toddler Initiative is an extension of the intervention and professional development model created by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders, which mainly focused on the ages from 3-21 years receiving intervention services through the public schools. For toddlers with ASD in the U. S., Part C through IDEA is the publically available service system, and it differs substantially from public school models.

Features of the Model

- Measureable Goals established for toddlers and families. They draw from multiple sources of information. Goal Attainment Scales are created to measure child/family progress.
- Program quality assessed with the Autism Program Environment Rating System-Infant/Toddler (APERS-IT). Program quality serves as the foundation for implementation of EBPs.
- Evidence-based practices identified from research literature review and evaluation of intervention literature. Eleven practices were found to have evidence with toddlers.
- Selection of EBPs to use with toddlers and families matches outcomes with interventions found in literature as well as child characteristics and provider knowledge.

The Toddler Initiative



Implementation

- Professional development made to happen through professional development that has three features
 - System-level planning and support
 - Training through workshops
 - Follow-up support through TA and Coaching

