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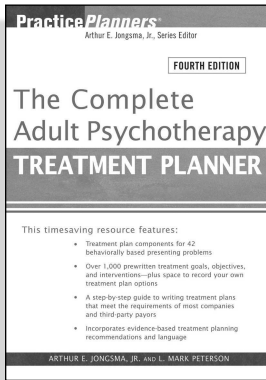
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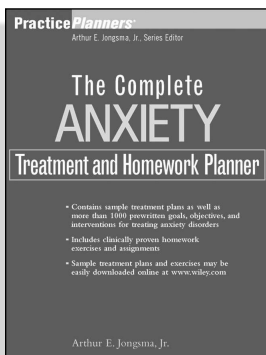
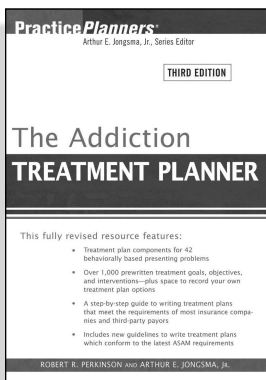
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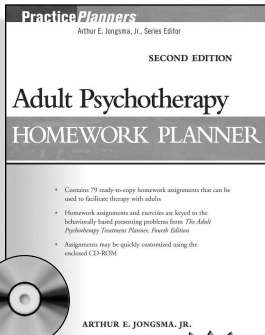


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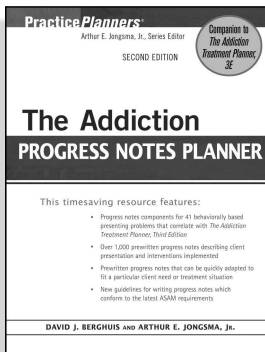




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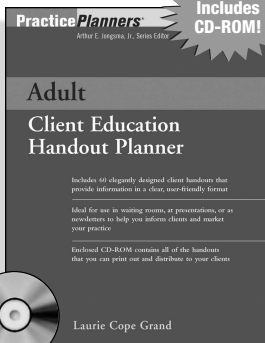
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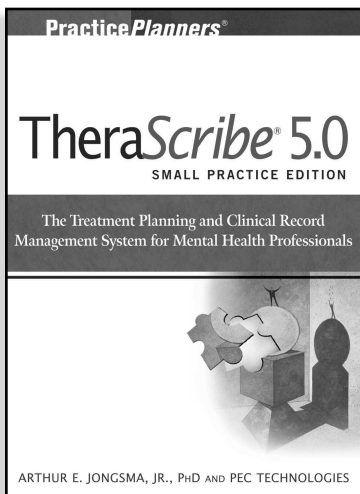
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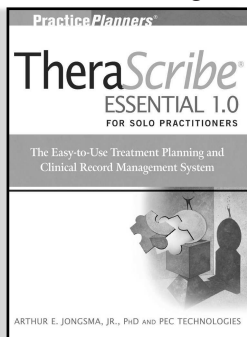
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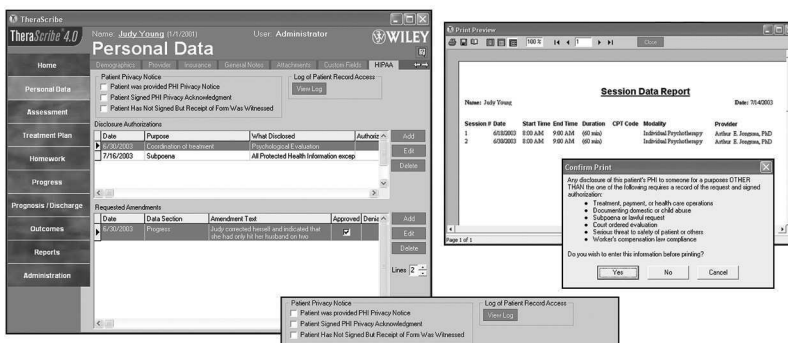
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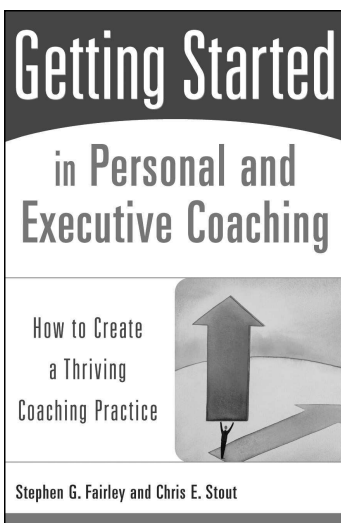
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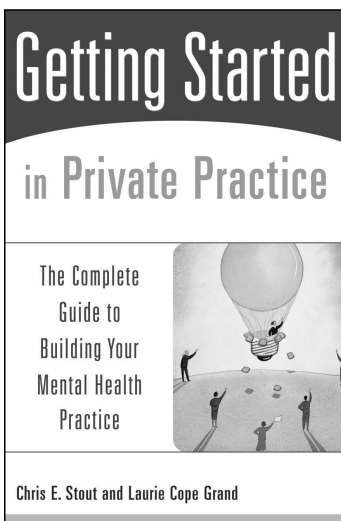
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Arthur E. Jongsma, Jr., Series Editor

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To my daughters and sons-in-law, Kendra and Erwin vanElst and Michelle and David DeGraaf, who give themselves creatively and sacrificially to the task of parenting my grandchildren, Tyler, Kaleigh, Justin, and Carter.

—A.E.J.

To Zach and Jim, who have expanded and enriched my life.

—L.M.P.

To my three children, Breanne, Kelsey, and Andrew, for the love and joy they bring into my life.

—W.P.M.

To Lori, Logan, and Madeline, for everything.

—T.J.B.



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# PRACTICEPLANNERS® SERIES PREFACE

Accountability is an important dimension of the practice of psychotherapy. Treatment programs, public agencies, clinics, and practitioners must justify and document their treatment plans to outside review entities in order to be reimbursed for services. The books and software in the PracticePlanners® series are designed to help practitioners fulfill these documentation requirements efficiently and professionally.

The PracticePlanners® series includes a wide array of treatment planning books including not only the original *Complete Adult Psychotherapy Treatment Planner*, *Child Psychotherapy Treatment Planner*, and *Adolescent Psychotherapy Treatment Planner*, all now in their fourth editions, but also *Treatment Planners* targeted to a wide range of specialty areas of practice, including:

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- School counseling
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- Suicide and homicide risk assessment

In addition, there are three branches of companion books that can be used in conjunction with the *Treatment Planners*, or on their own:

- ***Progress Notes Planners*** provide a menu of progress statements that elaborate on the client's symptom presentation and the provider's therapeutic intervention. Each *Progress Notes Planner* statement is directly integrated with the behavioral definitions and therapeutic interventions from its companion *Treatment Planner*.
- ***Homework Planners*** include homework assignments designed around each presenting problem (such as anxiety, depression, chemical dependence, anger management, eating disorders, or panic disorder) that is the focus of a chapter in its corresponding *Treatment Planner*.
- ***Client Education Handout Planners*** provide brochures and handouts to help educate and inform clients on presenting problems and mental health issues, as well as life skills techniques. The handouts are included on CD-ROMs for easy printing from your computer and are ideal for use in waiting rooms, at presentations, as newsletters, or as information for clients struggling with mental illness issues. The topics covered by these handouts correspond to the presenting problems in the *Treatment Planners*.

The series also includes:

- ***TheraScribe***®, the #1 selling treatment planning and clinical record-keeping software system for mental health professionals. *TheraScribe*® allows the user to import the data from any of the *Treatment Planner*, *Progress Notes Planner*, or *Homework Planner* books into the software's expandable database to simply point and click to create a detailed, organized, individualized, and customized treatment plan along with optional integrated progress notes and homework assignments.

Adjunctive books, such as *The Psychotherapy Documentation Primer* and *The Clinical Documentation Sourcebook* contain forms and resources to aid the clinician in mental health practice management.

The goal of our series is to provide practitioners with the resources they need in order to provide high-quality care in the era of accountability. To put it simply: we seek to help you spend more time on patients, and less time on paperwork.

ARTHUR E. JONGSMA, JR.  
*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I have learned that it is better to acknowledge your weaknesses and to seek out those who complement you with their strengths. I was fortunate enough to have found the right person who brings his expertise in Evidence-Based Treatment to this project. He has contributed wisely and thoughtfully to greatly improve our *Adolescent Psychotherapy Treatment Planner* through his well-informed edits and additions to our content, to bring it in line with the latest psychotherapy research. He has been thoroughly professional in his approach while being a joy to work with, due to his wonderful sense of humor. I have said to many people since beginning this revision, “This guy really knows the literature!” For a person like me, who has spent his career in the psychotherapy trenches, it is a pleasure to get back in touch with my science-based roots by working with a Boulder Model clinician-scientist. I take my hat off to you, Dr. Tim Bruce. You have taken our product to a new level of contribution to the clinicians who are looking for Evidence-Based Treatment guidance. Your students are fortunate to have you for a mentor and we are fortunate to have you for a Contributing Editor. Thank you!

I also want to acknowledge the steady and perceptive work of my manuscript manager, Sue Rhoda. She stays on top of a thousand details while bringing the disjointed pieces of this work to a well organized finished product. Thank you, Sue.

A.E.J.

I want to acknowledge how honored I am to have had this chance to work with Art Jongsma, his colleague Sue Rhoda, and the staff at John Wiley and Sons on these, their well-known and highly regarded, treatment planners. These planners are widely recognized as works of enormous value to practicing clinicians as well as great educational tools for students of our profession. I didn't know Art when he asked me if I would join him on these editions, and the task he had in mind, to help empirically inform objectives and interven-



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tions, was daunting. I knew it would be a challenge to retain the rich breadth of options that Art has offered in past editions while simultaneously trying to identify and describe the fundamental features of identified empirically supported treatments. Although I have trained in empirically supported treatment approaches, contributed to this literature, and used them throughout my professional career, I recognize that our product will be open to criticism. I can say that we have done our best to offer a resource to our colleagues and their clients that is practical, flexible, and appreciates the complexities of any of the treatment approaches it conveys. And in the process of working with Art and Sue toward these goals, I have found them not only to be consummate professionals, but also thoughtful, conscientious, and kind persons. It has been a great pleasure working with you, Art and Sue, and a privilege to call you my friends.

T.J.B.

# INTRODUCTION

## ABOUT PRACTICEPLANNERS® TREATMENT PLANNERS

Pressure from third-party payors, accrediting agencies, and other outside parties has increased the need for clinicians to quickly produce effective, high-quality treatment plans. *Treatment Planners* provide all the elements necessary to quickly and easily develop formal treatment plans that satisfy the needs of most third-party payers and state and federal review agencies.

Each *Treatment Planner*:

- Saves you hours of time-consuming paperwork.
- Offers the freedom to develop customized treatment plans.
- Includes over 1,000 clear statements describing the behavioral manifestations of each relational problem, and includes long-term goals, short-term objectives, and clinically tested treatment options.
- Has an easy-to-use reference format that helps locate treatment plan components by behavioral problem or DSM-IV™ diagnosis.

As with the rest of the books in the *PracticePlanners*® series, our aim is to clarify, simplify, and accelerate the treatment planning process, so you spend less time on paperwork, and more time with your clients.

## HOW TO USE THIS TREATMENT PLANNER

Use this *Treatment Planner* to write treatment plans according to the following progression of six steps:

1. **Problem Selection.** Although the client may discuss a variety of issues during the assessment, the clinician must determine the most significant problems on which to focus the treatment process. Usually a primary problem will surface, and secondary problems may also be evident. Some other problems may have to be set aside as not urgent enough to require treat-

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ment at this time. An effective treatment plan can only deal with a few selected problems or treatment will lose its direction. Choose the problem within this *Planner* which most accurately represents your client's presenting issues.

2. **Problem Definition.** Each client presents with unique nuances as to how a problem behaviorally reveals itself in his or her life. Therefore, each problem that is selected for treatment focus requires a specific definition about how it is evidenced in the particular client. The symptom pattern should be associated with diagnostic criteria and codes such as those found in the *DSM-IV* or the International Classification of Diseases. This *Planner* offers such behaviorally specific definition statements to choose from or to serve as a model for your own personally crafted statements.
3. **Goal Development.** The next step in developing your treatment plan is to set broad goals for the resolution of the target problem. These statements need not be crafted in measurable terms but can be global, long-term goals that indicate a desired positive outcome to the treatment procedures. This *Planner* provides several possible goal statements for each problem, but one statement is all that is required in a treatment plan.
4. **Objective Construction.** In contrast to long-term goals, objectives must be stated in behaviorally measurable language so that it is clear to review agencies, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations when the client has achieved the established objectives. The objectives presented in this *Planner* are designed to meet this demand for accountability. Numerous alternatives are presented to allow construction of a variety of treatment plan possibilities for the same presenting problem.
5. **Intervention Creation.** Interventions are the actions of the clinician designed to help the client complete the objectives. There should be at least one intervention for every objective. If the client does not accomplish the objective after the initial intervention, new interventions should be added to the plan. Interventions should be selected on the basis of the client's needs and the treatment provider's full therapeutic repertoire. This *Planner* contains interventions from a broad range of therapeutic approaches, and we encourage the provider to write other interventions reflecting his or her own training and experience.

Some suggested interventions listed in the *Planner* refer to specific books that can be assigned to the client for adjunctive bibliotherapy. Appendix A contains a full bibliographic reference list of these materials, including these two popular choices: *Read Two Books and Let's Talk Next Week: Using Bibliotherapy in Clinical Practice* (2000) by Maidman Joshua and DiMenna and *Rent Two Films and Let's Talk in the Morning: Using Popular Movies in Psychotherapy, Second Edition* (2001) by Hesley and Hesley (both books are published by Wiley). For further information about self-help books, mental health professionals may wish to consult

*The Authoritative Guide to Self-Help Resources in Mental Health, Revised Edition* (2003) by Norcross et al. (available from The Guilford Press, New York).

6. **Diagnosis Determination.** The determination of an appropriate diagnosis is based on an evaluation of the client's complete clinical presentation. The clinician must compare the behavioral, cognitive, emotional, and interpersonal symptoms that the client presents with the criteria for diagnosis of a mental illness condition as described in *DSM-IV*. Despite arguments made against diagnosing clients in this manner, diagnosis is a reality that exists in the world of mental health care, and it is a necessity for third-party reimbursement. It is the clinician's thorough knowledge of *DSM-IV* criteria and a complete understanding of the client assessment data that contribute to the most reliable, valid diagnosis.

Congratulations! After completing these six steps, you should have a comprehensive and individualized treatment plan ready for immediate implementation and presentation to the client. A sample treatment plan for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder is provided at the end of this introduction.

## **INCORPORATING EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT INTO THE *TREATMENT PLANNER***

Evidence-based treatment (that is, treatment which is scientifically shown in research trials to be efficacious) is rapidly becoming of critical importance to the mental health community as insurance companies are beginning to offer preferential pay to organizations using it. In fact, the APA Division 12 (Society of Clinical Psychology) lists of empirically supported treatments have been referenced by a number of local, state and federal funding agencies, which are beginning to restrict reimbursement to these treatments, as are some managed-care and insurance companies.

In this fourth edition of *The Child Psychotherapy Treatment Planner* we have made an effort to empirically inform some chapters by highlighting Short-Term Objectives (STOs) and Therapeutic Interventions (TIs) that are consistent with therapies that have demonstrated efficacy through empirical study. Watch for this icon as an indication that an Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.



References to their empirical support have been included in the reference section as Appendix B. Reviews of efforts to identify evidence-based therapies (EBT), including the effort's benefits and limitations, can be found in Bruce and Sanderson (2005), Chambless and colleagues (1996, 1998), and Chambless and Ollendick (2001). References have also been included to therapist- and

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client-oriented treatment manuals and books that describe the step-by-step use of noted EBTs or treatments consistent with their objectives and interventions. Of course, recognizing that there are STOs and TIs that practicing clinicians have found useful but that have not yet received empirical scrutiny, we have included those that reflect common practice among experienced clinicians. The goal is to provide a range of treatment plan options, some studied empirically, others reflecting common clinical practice, so the user can construct what they believe to be the best plan for their particular client.

In many instances, EBTs are short-term, problem-oriented treatments that focus on improving current problems/symptoms related to a client's current distress and disability. Accordingly, STOs and TIs of that type have been placed earlier in the sequence of STO and TI options. In addition, some STOs and TIs reflect core components of the EBT approach that are always delivered (e.g., exposure to feared objects and situations for a phobic disorder; behavioral activation for depression). Others reflect adjuncts to treatment that are commonly used to address problems that may not always be a feature of the clinical picture (e.g., assertive communication skills training for the social anxious or depressed client whose difficulty with assertion appears contributory to the primary anxiety or depressive disorder). Most of the STOs and TIs associated with the EBTs are described at a level of detail that permits flexibility and adaptability in their specific application. As with previous editions of this *Treatment Planner*, each chapter also includes the option to add STOs and TIs that are not listed.

### **Criteria for Inclusion of Evidence-Based Therapies**

Not every treatment that has undergone empirical study for a mental health problem is included in this edition. In general, we have included EBTs the empirical support for which has either been well established or demonstrated at more than a preliminary level as defined by those authors who have undertaken the task of identifying EBTs, such as Chambless and colleagues (1996, 1998) and Nathan and Gorman (1998, 2002). At minimum, this requires demonstration of efficacy through a clinical trial or large clinical replication series that have features reflective of good experimental design (e.g., random assignment, blind assignments, reliable and valid measurement, clear inclusion and exclusion criteria, state-of-the-art diagnostic methods, and adequate sample size). Well established EBTs typically have more than one of these types of studies demonstrating their efficacy as well as other desirable features, such as demonstration of efficacy by independent research groups and specification of client characteristics for which the treatment was effective. Because treatment literatures for various problems develop at different paces, treatment STOs and TIs that have been included may have the most empirical support for their problem area, but less than that found in more heavily studied areas. For ex-

ample, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) has the highest level of empirical support of tested psychotherapies for Childhood Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), but that level of evidence is lower than that supporting, for example, exposure-based therapy for phobic fear and avoidance. The latter has simply been studied more extensively. Nonetheless, within the psychotherapy outcome literature for OCD, CBT clearly has the highest level of evidence supporting its efficacy and usefulness. Accordingly, STOs and TIs consistent with CBT have been included in this edition. Lastly, just as some of the STOs and TIs included in this edition reflect common clinical practices of experienced clinicians, those associated with EBTs reflect what is commonly practiced by clinicians that use EBTs.

## **Summary of Required and Preferred EBT Inclusion Criteria**

### *Required*

- Demonstration of efficacy through at least one randomized controlled trial with good experimental design, or
- Demonstration of efficacy through a large, well-designed clinical replication series.

### *Preferred*

- Efficacy has been shown by more than one study.
- Efficacy has been demonstrated by independent research groups.
- Client characteristics for which the treatment was effective were specified.
- A clear description of the treatment was available.

There does remain considerable debate regarding evidence-based treatment amongst mental health professionals who are not always in agreement regarding the best treatments or how to weigh the factors that contribute to good outcomes. Some practitioners are skeptical about the wisdom of changing their practice on the basis of research evidence, and their reluctance is fuelled by the methodological problems of psychotherapy research. Our goal in this book is to provide a range of treatment plan options, some studied empirically, others reflecting common clinical practice, so the user can construct what they believe to be the best plan for their particular client. As indicated earlier, recognizing that there are interventions which practicing clinicians have found useful but that have not yet received empirical scrutiny, we have included those that reflect common practice among experienced clinicians.

## **A FINAL NOTE ON TAILORING THE TREATMENT PLAN TO THE CLIENT**

One important aspect of effective treatment planning is that each plan should be tailored to the individual client's problems and needs. Treatment plans should not be mass-produced, even if clients have similar problems. The individual's strengths and weaknesses, unique stressors, social network, family circumstances, and symptom patterns must be considered in developing a treatment strategy. Drawing upon our own years of clinical experience, we have put together a variety of treatment choices. These statements can be combined in thousands of permutations to develop detailed treatment plans. Relying on their own good judgment, clinicians can easily select the statements that are appropriate for the individuals whom they are treating. In addition, we encourage readers to add their own definitions, goals, objectives, and interventions to the existing samples. As with all of the books in the *Treatment Planners* series, it is our hope that this book will help promote effective, creative treatment planning—a process that will ultimately benefit the client, clinician, and mental health community.

## SAMPLE TREATMENT PLAN

### ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD)

- Definitions:** Short attention span; difficulty sustaining attention on a consistent basis.  
Susceptibility to distraction by extraneous stimuli and internal thoughts.  
Repeated failure to follow through on instructions or complete school assignments or chores in a timely manner.  
Poor organizational skills as demonstrated by forgetfulness, inattention to details, and losing things necessary for tasks.
- Goals:** Sustain attention and concentration for consistently longer periods of time.  
Regularly take medication as prescribed to decrease impulsivity, hyperactivity, and distractibility.  
Parents and/or teachers successfully utilize a reward system, contingency contract, or token economy to reinforce positive behaviors and deter negative behaviors.  
Parents set firm, consistent limits and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries.

#### SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Complete psychological testing to confirm the diagnosis of ADHD and/or rule out emotional factors.
2. Take prescribed medication as directed by the physician.

#### THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Arrange for psychological testing to confirm the presence of ADHD and/or rule out emotional problems that may be contributing to the client's inattentiveness, impulsivity, and hyperactivity; give feedback to the client and his/her parents regarding the testing results.
1. Arrange for a medication evaluation for the client.
2. Monitor the client for psychotropic medication prescription compliance, side effects, and effectiveness; consult with the prescribing physician at regular intervals.



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3. Parents and the client demonstrate knowledge about ADHD symptoms.
  1. Educate the client's parents and siblings about the symptoms of ADHD.
  2. Assign the parents readings to increase their knowledge about symptoms of ADHD (e.g., *Taking Charge of ADHD* by Barkley; *Your Hyperactive Child* by Ingersoll; *Dr. Larry Silver's Advice to Parents on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder* by Silver).
  3. Assign the client readings to increase his/her knowledge about ADHD and ways to manage symptoms (e.g., *Putting on the Brakes* by Quinn and Stern; *Sometimes I Drive My Mom Crazy, but I Know She's Crazy about Me* by Shapiro).
4. Parents maintain communication with the school to increase the client's compliance with completion of school assignments.
  1. Encourage the parents and teachers to maintain regular communication about the client's academic, behavioral, emotional, and social progress (or assign "Getting It Done" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
5. Utilize effective study skills on a regular basis to improve academic performance.
  1. Teach the client more effective study skills (e.g., clearing away distractions, studying in quiet places, scheduling breaks in studying).
  2. Assign the client to read *13 Steps to Better Grades* (Silverman) to improve organizational and study skills (or assign "Establish a Homework Routine" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

6. Increase frequency of completion of school assignments, chores, and household responsibilities.
  7. Implement effective test-taking strategies on a consistent basis to improve academic performance.
  8. Delay instant gratification in favor of achieving meaningful long-term goals.
1. Assist the parents in developing a routine schedule to increase the client's compliance with school, chores, or household responsibilities.
  2. Consult with the client's teachers to implement strategies to improve school performance, such as sitting in the front row during class, using a prearranged signal to redirect the client back to task, scheduling breaks from tasks, providing frequent feedback, calling on the client often, arranging for a listening buddy, implementing a daily behavioral report card.
  3. Encourage the parents and teachers to use a behavioral classroom intervention (e.g., a school contract and reward system) to reinforce appropriate behavior and completion of his/her assignments (or employ the "Getting It Done" program in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
1. Teach the client more effective test-taking strategies (e.g., reviewing material regularly, reading directions twice, rechecking work).
  1. Teach the client mediational and self-control strategies (e.g., "stop, think, listen, and act") to delay the need for instant gratification and inhibit impulses to achieve more meaningful, longer-term goals.
  2. Assist the parents in increasing structure to help the client learn

9. Parents implement the Parent Management Training approach in which parents utilize a reward/punishment system, contingency contract, and/or token economy.
- to delay gratification for longer-term goals (e.g., completing homework or chores before playing).
1. Teach the parents a Parent Management Training approach (e.g., a reward/punishment system, contingency contract, token economy), explaining how parent and child behavioral interactions can reduce the frequency of impulsive, disruptive, and negative attention-seeking behaviors and increase desired behavior (e.g., prompting and reinforcing positive behaviors; see *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* by Forehand and Long; *Living with Children* by Patterson).
  2. Teach the parents how to specifically define and identify problem behaviors, identify their reactions to the behavior, determine whether the reaction encourages or discourages the behavior, and generate alternatives to the problem behavior.
  3. Teach the parents how to implement key parenting practices consistently, including establishing realistic age-appropriate rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, prompting of positive behavior in the environment, use of positive reinforcement to encourage behavior (e.g., praise), use of clear direct instruction, time out, and other loss-of-privilege practices for problem behavior.
  4. Assign the parents home exercises in which they implement and record results of implementation exercises (or assign “Clear

Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review in session, providing corrective feedback toward improved, appropriate, and consistent use of skills.

5. Ask the parents to read parent training manuals (e.g., *Living with Children* by Patterson) or watch videotapes demonstrating the techniques being learned in session (see Webster-Stratton, 1994).

## DIAGNOSIS

**Axis I:**            314.00      Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder,  
Predominantly Inattentive Type

# ACADEMIC UNDERACHIEVEMENT

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. History of overall academic performance that is below the expected level according to the client's measured intelligence or performance on standardized achievement tests.
2. Repeated failure to complete school or homework assignments and/or current assignments on time.
3. Poor organizational or study skills that contribute to academic underachievement.
4. Frequent tendency to procrastinate or postpone doing school or homework assignments in favor of playing or engaging in recreational and leisure activities.
5. Family history of members having academic problems, failures, or disinterests.
6. Feelings of depression, insecurity, and low self-esteem that interfere with learning and academic progress.
7. Recurrent pattern of engaging in acting out, disruptive, and negative attention-seeking behaviors when encountering difficulty or frustration in learning.
8. Heightened anxiety that interferes with client's performance during tests or examinations.
9. Excessive or unrealistic pressure placed on the client by his/her parents to the degree that it negatively affects his/her academic performance.
10. Decline in academic performance that occurs in response to environmental factors or stress (e.g., parents' divorce, death of a loved one, relocation, move).

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Demonstrate consistent interest, initiative, and motivation in academics, and bring performance up to the expected level of intellectual or academic functioning.
  2. Complete school and homework assignments on a regular and consistent basis.
  3. Achieve and maintain a healthy balance between accomplishing academic goals and meeting his/her social, emotional, and self-esteem needs.
  4. Stabilize moods and build self-esteem so that the client is able to cope effectively with the frustrations and stressors associated with academic pursuits and learning.
  5. Eliminate the pattern of engaging in acting out, disruptive, or negative attention-seeking behaviors when confronted with difficulty or frustration in learning.
  6. Significantly reduce the level of anxiety related to taking tests.
  7. Parents establish realistic expectations of the client's learning abilities and implement effective intervention strategies at home to help the client keep up with schoolwork and achieve academic goals.
  8. Remove emotional impediments or resolve family conflicts and environmental stressors to allow for improved academic performance.
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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Complete a psychoeducational evaluation. (1)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Arrange for psychoeducational testing to evaluate the presence of a learning disability, and determine whether the client is eligible to receive special-education

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2. Complete psychological testing. (2)
  3. The client and his/her parents provide psychosocial history information. (3)
  4. Cooperate with a hearing, vision, or medical examination. (4)
  5. Comply with the recommendations made by the multidisciplinary evaluation team at school regarding educational interventions. (5, 6)
  6. Parents and teachers implement educational strategies that maximize the client's learning strengths and compensate for learning weaknesses. (7)
- services; provide feedback to the client, his/her family, and school officials regarding the psychoeducational evaluation.
2. Arrange for psychological testing to assess whether possible Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or emotional factors are interfering with the client's academic performance; provide feedback to the client, his/her family, and school officials regarding the psychological evaluation.
  3. Gather psychosocial history information that includes key developmental milestones and a family history of educational achievements and failures.
  4. Refer the client for a hearing, vision, or medical examination to rule out possible hearing, visual, or health problems that are interfering with school performance.
  5. Attend an individualized educational planning committee (IEPC) meeting with the parents, teachers, and school officials to determine the client's eligibility for special-education services, design education interventions, and establish educational goals.
  6. Based on the IEPC goals and recommendations, arrange for the client to be moved to an appropriate classroom setting to maximize his/her learning.
  7. Consult with the client, parents, and school officials about designing effective learning programs for intervention strategies that build on his/her strengths and compensate for weaknesses.

7. Participate in outside tutoring to increase knowledge and skills in the area of academic weakness. (8, 9)
8. Implement effective study skills to increase the frequency of completion of school assignments and improve academic performance. (10, 11)
9. Implement effective test-taking strategies to decrease anxiety and improve test performance. (12, 13)
10. Parents maintain regular (i.e., daily to weekly) communication with the teachers. (14)
11. Use self-monitoring checklists, planners, or calendars to remain organized and help complete school assignments. (15, 16, 17)
8. Recommend that the parents seek outside tutoring after school to boost the client's skills in the area of his/her academic weakness (e.g., reading, mathematics, written expression).
9. Refer the client to a private learning center for extra tutoring in the areas of academic weakness and assistance in improving study and test-taking skills.
10. Teach the client more effective study skills (e.g., remove distractions, study in quiet places, develop outlines, highlight important details, schedule breaks).
11. Consult with the teachers and parents about using a study buddy or peer tutor to assist the client in the area of academic weakness and improve study skills.
12. Teach the client more effective test-taking strategies (e.g., study over an extended period of time, review material regularly, read directions twice, recheck work).
13. Train the client in relaxation techniques or guided imagery to reduce his/her anxiety before or during the taking of tests.
14. Encourage the parents to maintain regular (i.e., daily or weekly) communication with the teachers to help the client remain organized and keep up with school assignments.
15. Encourage the client to use self-monitoring checklists to increase completion of school assignments and improve academic performance.



12. Establish a regular routine that allows time to engage in play, to spend quality time with the family, and to complete homework assignments. (18)
13. Parents and teachers increase the frequency of praise and positive reinforcement of the client's school performance. (19, 20)
14. Identify and resolve all emotional blocks or learning inhibitions that are within the client and/or the family system. (21, 22)
16. Direct the client to use planners or calendars to record school or homework assignments and plan ahead for long-term projects.
17. Monitor the client's completion of school and homework assignments on a regular, consistent basis (or use the "Getting It Done" program in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
18. Assist the client and his/her parents in developing a routine daily schedule at home that allows the client to achieve a healthy balance of completing school/homework assignments, engaging in independent play, and spending quality time with family and peers.
19. Encourage the parents and teachers to give frequent praise and positive reinforcement for the client's effort and accomplishment on academic tasks.
20. Identify a variety of positive reinforcers or rewards to maintain the client's interest and motivation to complete school assignments.
21. Teach the client positive coping mechanisms (e.g., relaxation techniques, positive self-talk, cognitive restructuring) to use when encountering anxiety, frustration, or difficulty with schoolwork.
22. Conduct family sessions that probe the client's family system to identify any emotional blocks or inhibitions to learning; assist the family in resolving identified family conflicts.

15. Parents increase the time spent being involved with the client's homework. (23, 24)
16. Parents decrease the frequency and intensity of arguments with the client over issues related to school performance and homework. (25, 26)
17. Parents verbally recognize that their pattern of overprotectiveness interferes with the client's academic growth and responsibility. (27)
18. Increase the frequency of on-task behavior at school, increasing the completion of
23. Encourage the parents to demonstrate and/or maintain regular interest and involvement in the client's homework (e.g., parents reading aloud to or alongside the client, using flashcards to improve math skills, rechecking spelling words).
24. Assist the parents and teachers in the development of systematic rewards for progress and accomplishment (e.g., charts with stars for goal attainment, praise for each success, some material reward for achievement).
25. Conduct family therapy sessions to assess whether the parents have developed unrealistic expectations or are placing excessive pressure on the client to perform; confront and challenge the parents about placing excessive pressure on the client.
26. Encourage the parents to set firm, consistent limits and use natural, logical consequences for the client's noncompliance or refusal to do homework; instruct the parents to avoid unhealthy power struggles or lengthy arguments over homework each night.
27. Observe parent-child interactions to assess whether the parents' overprotectiveness or infantilization of the client contributes to his/her academic underachievement; assist the parents in developing realistic expectations of his/her learning potential.
28. Consult with school officials about ways to improve the client's on-task behaviors (e.g., keep

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- school assignments without expressing frustration and the desire to give up. (28, 29)
19. Increase the frequency of positive statements about school experiences and confidence in the ability to succeed academically. (30, 31, 32)
20. Decrease the frequency and severity of acting out behaviors when encountering frustrations with school assignments. (33, 34, 35, 36)
- him/her close to the teacher; keep him/her close to positive peer role models; call on him/her often; provide frequent feedback to him/her; structure the material into a series of small steps).
29. Assign the client to read material designed to improve his/her organization and study skills (e.g., *13 Steps to Better Grades* by Silverman); process the information gained from the reading.
30. Reinforce the client's successful school experiences and positive statements about school.
31. Confront the client's self-disparaging remarks and expressed desire to give up on school assignments.
32. Assign the client the task of making one positive self-statement daily about school and his/her ability and have him/her record it in a journal.
33. Help the client to identify which rewards would increase his/her motivation to improve academic performance; implement these suggestions into the academic program.
34. Conduct individual play therapy sessions to help the client work through and resolve painful emotions, core conflicts, or stressors that impede academic performance.
35. Help the client to realize the connection between negative or painful emotions and decrease in academic performance.

21. Identify and verbalize how specific, responsible actions lead to improvements in academic performance. (37, 38)
22. Develop a list of resource people within school setting to whom the client can turn for support, assistance, or instruction for learning problems. (39)
23. Increase the time spent in independent reading. (40)
24. Express feelings about school through artwork and mutual storytelling. (41, 42, 43)
36. Teach the client positive coping and self-control strategies (e.g., cognitive restructuring; positive self-talk; “stop, look, listen, and think”) to inhibit the impulse to act out or engage in negative attention-seeking behaviors when encountering frustrations with schoolwork.
37. Explore periods of time when the client completed schoolwork regularly and/or achieved academic success; identify and encourage him/her to use similar strategies to improve his/her current academic performance.
38. Examine coping strategies that the client has used to solve other problems; encourage him/her to use similar coping strategies to overcome problems associated with learning.
39. Identify a list of individuals within the school to whom the client can turn for support, assistance, or instruction when he/she encounters difficulty or frustration with learning.
40. Encourage the parents to use a reward system to reinforce the client for engaging in independent reading (or use the “Reading Adventure” program in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
41. Use mutual storytelling techniques whereby the therapist and client alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals. The therapist first models appropriate ways

to manage frustration related to learning problems, then the client follows by creating a story with similar characters or themes.

42. Have the client create a variety of drawings on a posterboard or large sheet of paper that reflect how his/her personal and family life would be different if he/she completed homework regularly; process the content of these drawings.
43. Instruct the client to draw a picture of a school building, then have him/her create a story that tells what it is like to be a student at that school to assess possible stressors that may interfere with learning and academic progress.

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_____	_____
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## DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

<b>Axis I:</b>	315.00	Reading Disorder
	315.1	Mathematics Disorder
	315.2	Disorder of Written Expression
	V62.3	Academic Problem
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type
	314.00	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Inattentive Type
	300.4	Dysthymic Disorder
	313.81	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
	312.9	Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS

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<b>Axis II:</b>	317	Mild Mental Retardation
	V62.89	Borderline Intellectual Functioning
	V71.09	No Diagnosis

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# ADOPTION

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Adopted into the present family since infancy.
2. Adopted into the present family after the age of 2.
3. Adopted as an older special-needs child or as a set of siblings into the family.
4. Relates to significant others in a withdrawn, rejecting way, avoiding eye contact and keeping self at a distance from them.
5. Exhibits a pattern of hoarding or gorging food.
6. Displays numerous aggressive behaviors that are out of proportion for the presenting situations and seems to reflect a need to vent pent-up frustration.
7. Lies and steals often when it is not necessary to do so.
8. Displays an indiscriminate pattern of showing open affection to casual friends and strangers.
9. Parents experience excessive, unnecessary frustration with the adopted child's development and level of achievement.
10. Parents are anxious and fearful of the adopted child's questioning of his/her background (e.g., "Where did I come from?" "Who do I look like?").

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Termination of self-defeating acting out behaviors and acceptance of self as loved and lovable within an adopted family.
2. Resolution of the key adoption issues of loss, abandonment, and rejection.
3. The establishment and maintenance of healthy family connections.
4. Removal of all barriers to enable the establishment of a healthy bond between parents and child(ren).
5. Develop a nurturing relationship with parents.
6. Build and maintain a healthy adoptive family.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Family members and the client develop a trusting relationship with the therapist that will allow for open expression of thoughts and feelings. (1)
2. Cooperate with and complete all assessments and evaluations. (2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client and his/her family members by using consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and empathic responses to help promote the open expressions of their thoughts and feelings about the adoption.
2. Conduct or refer the parents and child(ren) for a psychosocial assessment to assess the parents' strength of marriage, parenting style, stress management/coping strengths, resolution of infertility issues, and to assess the child's developmental level, attachment capacity, behavioral issues, temperament, and strengths.



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3. Comply with all recommendations of the evaluations or assessments. (4)
4. Parents acknowledge unresolved grief associated with their infertility. (5)
5. Family members attend family therapy sessions and report on their perception of the adjustment process. (6)
6. Parents commit to improving communication and affection expression within the marriage relationship. (7)
7. Attend and actively take part in play therapy sessions to reduce acting out behaviors connected to unresolved rage, loss, and fear of abandonment. (8, 9, 10, 11)
3. Conduct or arrange for a psychological evaluation to determine the client's level of behavioral functioning, cognitive style, and intelligence.
4. Summarize assessment data and present the findings and recommendations to the family. Encourage and monitor the family's follow-through on all the recommendations.
5. Assess the parents' unresolved grief around the issue of their infertility; refer them for further conjoint or individual treatment if necessary.
6. Establish a wellness plan whereby the family goes at 3-month intervals for a checkup with the therapist to evaluate how the assimilation and attachment process is proceeding. If all is well, check-ups can be annual after the first year.
7. Refer the parents to a skills-based marital program such as "Prep" (see *Fighting for Your Marriage* by Markman, Stanley, and Blumberg) to strengthen their marital relationship by improving responsibility acceptance, communication, and conflict resolution.
8. Conduct filial therapy (i.e., parents' involvement in play therapy sessions), in which the client takes the lead in expressing anger and the parents respond empathically to the client's feelings (e.g., hurt, fear, sadness, helplessness) beneath the anger.

8. Verbalize the connection between anger and/or withdrawal and the underlying feelings of fear, abandonment, and rejection. (12)
9. Identify feelings that are held inside and rarely expressed. (13, 14, 15)
9. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy (e.g., explore and gain understanding of the etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or arrests; interpret resistance, transference, or core anxieties) to help the client work through and resolve issues contributing to acting out behaviors.
10. Conduct individual play therapy sessions to provide the opportunity for expression of feelings surrounding past loss, neglect, and/or abandonment.
11. Employ the ACT model (see *Play Therapy: The Art of the Relationship* by Landreth) in play therapy sessions to *acknowledge* feelings, *communicate* limits, and *target* acceptable alternatives to acting out or aggressive behaviors.
12. Assist the client in making connections between underlying painful emotions of loss, rejection, rage, abandonment, and acting out and/or aggressive behaviors.
13. Use puppets, dolls, or stuffed toys to tell a story to the client about others who have experienced loss, rejection, or abandonment to show how they have resolved these issues. Then ask the client to create a similar story using puppets, dolls, or stuffed toys.
14. Ask the client to draw an outline of himself/herself on a sheet of paper, and then instruct him/her to fill the inside with pictures and objects that reflect what he/she has on the inside that fuels the acting out behaviors.

10. Identify and release feelings in socially acceptable, nondestructive ways. (16, 17, 18)
11. Express feelings directly related to being an adopted child. (19, 20)
12. Parents verbalize an increased ability to understand and handle acting out behaviors. (21, 22, 23)
15. Use expressive art materials (e.g., Play-Doh, clay, finger paint) to create pictures and sculptures that aid the client in expressing and resolving his/her feelings of rage, rejection, and loss.
16. Read with the client, or have the parents read to him/her, *A Volcano in My Tummy* (Whittenhouse and Pudney) or *Don't Rant and Rave on Wednesday!* (Moser) to help him/her to recognize his/her anger and to present ways to handle angry feelings.
17. Play with the client, or have the parents play with him/her, *The Talking, Feeling, Doing Game* (Gardner) or *The Anger Control Game* (Berg) to assist him/her in identifying and expressing feelings and thoughts.
18. Use a feelings chart, felts, or cards to increase the client's ability to identify, understand, and express feelings.
19. Ask the client to read *How It Feels to Be Adopted* (Krementz) and list two or three items from each age-appropriate vignette that he/she will process with the therapist.
20. Assign the client to read books on adoption to help him/her clarify issues and not feel alone (e.g., *I Feel Different* by Stinson; *Adoption Is for Always* by Welvoord-Girard).
21. Affirm often with the parents the health of their family while they are working with the disturbed client to avoid triangulation and undermining of parental authority by him/her.

13. Parents affirm the client's identity as based in self, bio-parents, and adoptive family. (24, 25, 26)
14. Express and preserve own history and its contribution to identity. (27)
22. Refer the parents and/or the client to an adoption support group.
23. Work with the parents in conjoint sessions to frame the client's acting out behaviors as *opportunities to reparent the client*. Then strategize with them to come up with specific ways to intervene in the problem behaviors.
24. Ask the parents to read material to increase their knowledge and understanding of adoption (e.g., *Helping Children Cope with Separation and Loss* by Jennett-Jarratt; *Adoption Wisdom* by Russell; *The Whole Life Adoption Book* by Schouler; *Making Sense of Adoption* by Melina).
25. Refer the parents to reliable Internet sites that provide information and support to adoptive parents (e.g., [www.adoption.com](http://www.adoption.com); [www.adoption.about.com](http://www.adoption.about.com) [www.olderchildadoptions.com](http://www.olderchildadoptions.com); [www.adoptionsites.com](http://www.adoptionsites.com)).
26. Educate the parents on the importance of affirming the client's entire identity (i.e., self, bioparents, adoptive parents), and show them specific ways to reaffirm him/her (e.g., verbally identify talents, such as art or music, that are similar to those of the biological parents; recognize positive tasks that the client does that are similar to those of the adoptive mom or dad).
27. Assign the parents to help the client create a *life book* that chronicles his/her life to this point in order to give him/her a visual perspective and knowledge of his/her own history and identity

- (or assign the “Create a Memory Album” exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
15. Verbalize needs and wishes. (28)
  16. Verbalize a feeling of increased confidence and self-acceptance. (26, 27, 29)
  28. Assist the client in clarifying and expressing his/her needs and desires (or assign the exercise “Three Wishes Game” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  26. Educate the parents on the importance of affirming the client’s entire identity (i.e., self, bioparents, adoptive parents), and show them specific ways to reaffirm him/her (e.g., verbally identify talents, such as art or music, that are similar to those of the biological parents; recognize positive tasks that the client does that are similar to those of adoptive mom or dad).
  27. Assign the parents to help the client create a *life book* that chronicles his/her life to this point in order to give him/her a visual perspective and knowledge of his/her own history and identity (or assign the “Create a Memory Album” exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  29. Assign a self-esteem-building exercise to help the client develop self-knowledge, acceptance, and confidence (see *SEALS & Plus* by Korb-Khara, Azok, and Leutenberg).

17. Parents verbalize reasonable expectations for the client's behavior given his/her developmental stage and the process of adjustment to adoption. (30)
18. Parent spends one-on-one time with the client in active play. (31, 32)
19. Parents increase the frequency of expressing affection verbally and physically toward the client. (33)
20. Parents speak only positively regarding the client's bioparents. (34)
21. Parents feel free to ask questions regarding the details of adoption adjustment. (35)
30. Process the parents' expectations for the client's behavior and adjustment; confront and modify unrealistic expectations and foster realistic expectations considering his/her developmental stage and adjustment to the adoption process.
31. Use a *Theraplay* (Jernberg and Booth) attachment-based approach, in which the therapist takes charge by planning and structuring each session. The therapist uses his/her power to entice the client into the relationship and to keep the focus of therapy on the relationship, not on intrapsychic conflicts. Also, parents are actively involved and are trained to be cotherapists.
32. Assign each parent to spend time in daily one-on-one active play with the client.
33. Encourage the parents to provide large, genuine, daily doses of positive verbal reinforcement and physical affection; monitor and encourage them to continue this behavior and to reinforce positive attachment signs when they appear.
34. Encourage the parents to refrain from negative references about the bioparents.
35. Conduct sessions with the parents to give them opportunities to raise adoption-specific issues of concern to them (e.g., how to handle an open adoption, how much to share with the client about his/her bioparents) in order to give them direction and support.

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22. Parents verbalize reasonable discipline and nurturance guidelines. (36, 37, 38)

23. Family members express an acceptance of and trust in each other. (39, 40)

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36. Provide the parents with education about keeping discipline related to the offense reasonable and always respectful to reduce resentment and rebellion. (Recommend *How to Raise Responsible Children* by Glen and Nelson.)

37. Ask the parents to read *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families* (Covey) for suggestions on how to increase their family's health and connections.

38. Have the parents spend individual one-on-one time with the children who were part of the family prior to the adoption.

39. Refer the family to an initiatives weekend (e.g., high-and low-ropes course, tasks, and various group-oriented physical problem-solving activities) to increase trust, co-operation, and connections with each other.

40. In a family session, construct a genogram that includes all family members, showing how everyone is connected in order to demonstrate the client's origins and what he/she has become a part of.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

<b>Axis I:</b>	309.0	Adjustment Disorder With Depressed Mood
	309.4	Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct
	300.4	Dysthymic Disorder
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type
	309.81	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
	313.89	Reactive Attachment Disorder of Infancy or Early Childhood

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<b>Axis II:</b>	V71.09	No Diagnosis
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# ANGER MANAGEMENT

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Repeated angry outbursts that are out of proportion to the precipitating event.
2. Excessive yelling, swearing, crying, or use of verbally abusive language when efforts to meet desires are frustrated or limits are placed on behavior.
3. Frequent fighting, intimidation of others, and acts of cruelty or violence toward people or animals.
4. Verbal threats of harm to parents, adult authority figures, siblings, or peers.
5. Persistent pattern of destroying property or throwing objects when angry.
6. Consistent failure to accept responsibility for anger control problems accompanied by repeated pattern of blaming others for poor control of anger.
7. Repeated history of engaging in passive-aggressive behaviors (e.g., forgetting, pretending not to listen, dawdling, procrastinating) to frustrate or annoy others.
8. Strained interpersonal relationships with peers due to aggressiveness and anger control problems.
9. Underlying feelings of depression, anxiety, or insecurity that contribute to angry outbursts and aggressive behaviors.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Express anger through appropriate verbalizations and healthy physical outlets on a consistent basis.
2. Significantly reduce the frequency and intensity of temper outbursts.
3. Terminate all destruction of property, physical aggression, and acts of violence or cruelty toward people or animals.
4. Interact consistently with adults and peers in a mutually respectful manner.
5. Markedly reduce frequency of passive-aggressive behaviors by expressing anger and frustration through controlled, respectful, and direct verbalizations.
6. Resolve the core conflicts that contribute to the emergence of anger control problems.
7. Parents establish and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries, setting firm, consistent limits when the client reacts in a verbally or physically aggressive or passive-aggressive manner.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Identify situations, thoughts, and feelings that trigger angry feelings, problem behaviors, and the targets of those actions. (1)
2. Cooperate with a medical evaluation to assess possible organic contributors to poor anger control. (2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Thoroughly assess the various stimuli (e.g., situations, people, thoughts) that have triggered the client's anger and the thoughts, feelings, and actions that have characterized his/her anger responses.
2. Refer the client to a physician for a complete physical exam to rule out organic contributors (e.g., brain damage, tumor, elevated testosterone levels) to poor anger control.

3. Complete psychological testing. (3)
3. Conduct or arrange for psychological testing to help in assessing whether a comorbid condition (e.g., depression, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder [ADHD]) is contributing to anger control problems; follow-up accordingly with client and parents regarding treatment options.
- ▽ 4. Cooperate with a physician evaluation for possible treatment with psychotropic medications and take medications consistently, if prescribed. (4, 5)
4. Assess the client for the need for psychotropic medication to assist in anger and behavioral control, referring him/her, if indicated, to a physician for an evaluation for prescription medication. ▽
- ▽ 5. Recognize and verbalize how feelings are connected to misbehavior. (6)
5. Monitor the client's prescription compliance, effectiveness, and side effects; provide feedback to the prescribing physician. ▽
6. Increase the number of statements that reflect the acceptance of responsibility for misbehavior. (7, 8, 9)
6. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help increase his/her ability to identify and express feelings instead of acting them out; assist the client in making a connection between his/her feelings and reactive behaviors (or assign "Risk Factors Leading to Child Behavior Problems" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
7. Firmly confront the client's oppositional behavior and attitude, pointing out consequences for himself/herself and others. ▽

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▽ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- 8. Confront statements in which the client lies and/or blames others for his/her misbehaviors and fails to accept responsibility for his/her actions. ▽
    - 9. Explore and process the factors that contribute to the client's pattern of blaming others (e.g., harsh punishment experiences, family pattern of blaming others). ▽
  - ▽ 7. Agree to learn alternative ways to think about and manage frustration, anger, and angry action. (10, 11)
- 10. Assist the client in reconceptualizing frustration and anger as involving different components (cognitive, physiological, affective, and behavioral) that go through predictable phases (e.g., demanding expectations not being met leading to increased arousal and anger leading to acting out) that can be managed. ▽
  - 11. Assist the client in identifying the positive consequences of managing frustration and anger (e.g., respect from others and self, cooperation from others, improved physical health); ask the client to agree to learn new ways to conceptualize and manage anger and misbehavior (or assign "Anger Control" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
- ▽ 8. Learn and implement calming strategies as part of a new way to manage reactions to frustration. (12)
  - 12. Teach the client calming techniques (e.g., muscle relaxation, paced breathing, calming imagery) as part of a tailored strategy for responding appropriately to angry feelings when they occur. ▽

- ▼ 9. Identify, challenge, and replace self-talk that leads to frustration, anger, and angry actions with self-talk that facilitates more constructive reactions. (13)
- ▼ 10. Learn and implement thought-stopping to manage intrusive unwanted thoughts that trigger anger and angry actions. (14)
- ▼ 11. Verbalize feelings of frustration, disagreement, and anger in a controlled, assertive way. (15)
- ▼ 12. Implement problem-solving and/or conflict resolution skills to manage interpersonal problems constructively. (16)
- ▼ 13. Practice using new calming, communication, conflict resolution, and thinking skills. (17, 18)
- 13. Explore the client's self-talk that mediates his/her frustration and anger (e.g., demanding expectations reflected in should, must, or have to statements); identify and challenge biases, assisting him/her in generating appraisals and self-talk that corrects for the biases and facilitates a more flexible and temperate response to frustration. ▼
- 14. Teach the client the "thought-stopping" technique and assign implementation on a daily basis between sessions; review implementation, reinforcing success and providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
- 15. Use instruction, videotaped or live modeling, and/or role-playing to help develop the client's anger control skills, such as calming, self-statement, assertion skills; if indicated, refer him/her to an anger control group for further instruction. ▼
- 16. Teach the client conflict resolution skills (e.g., empathy, active listening, "I messages," respectful communication, assertiveness without aggression, compromise); use modeling, role-playing, and behavior rehearsal to work through several current conflicts. ▼
- 17. Assist the client in constructing and consolidating a client-tailored strategy for managing anger that combines any of the somatic, cognitive, communication, problem-solving, and/or conflict resolution skills relevant to his/her needs. ▼

- ▼14. Practice using new calming, communication, conflict resolution, and thinking skills in homework exercises. (19)
- ▼15. Decrease the number, intensity, and duration of angry outbursts, while increasing the use of new skills for managing anger. (20)
- ▼16. Identify social supports that will help facilitate the implementation of new skills. (21)
- ▼17. Parents learn and implement Parent Management Training skills to recognize and manage problem behavior of the client. (22, 23, 24, 25, 26)
- 18. Use any of several techniques (e.g., relaxation, imagery, behavioral rehearsal, modeling, role-playing, feedback of video-taped practice) in increasingly challenging situations to help the client consolidate the use of his/her new anger management skills. ▼
- 19. Assign the client homework exercises to help him/her practice newly learned calming, assertion, conflict resolution, or cognitive restructuring skills as needed; review and process toward the goal of consolidation. ▼
- 20. Monitor the client's reports of angry outbursts toward the goal of decreasing their frequency, intensity, and duration through the client's use of new anger management skills (or assign "Anger Control" or "Child Anger Checklist" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McNinis); review progress, reinforcing success and providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
- 21. Encourage the client to discuss and/or use his/her new anger management skills with trusted peers, family, or otherwise significant others who are likely to support his/her change. ▼
- 22. Use a Parent Management Training approach beginning with teaching the parents how parent and child behavioral interactions can encourage or discourage positive or negative behavior and that changing key elements of those

interactions (e.g., prompting and reinforcing positive behaviors) can be used to promote positive change (e.g., *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* by Forehand and Long; *Living with Children* by Patterson). ▽

23. Teach the parents how to specifically define and identify problem behaviors, identify their reactions to the behavior, determine whether the reaction encourages or discourages the behavior, and generate alternatives to the problem behavior. ▽
24. Teach parents how to implement key parenting practices consistently, including establishing realistic age-appropriate rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, prompting of positive behavior in the environment, use of positive reinforcement to encourage behavior (e.g., praise), use of clear and direct instruction, time out, and other loss-of-privilege practices for problem behavior. ▽
25. Assign the parents home exercises in which they implement and record results of implementation exercises (or assign “Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review in session, providing corrective feedback toward improved, appropriate, and consistent use of skills. ▽







- (e.g., assign the task of writing a letter to an absent parent or use the empty-chair technique or assign “The Lesson of Salmon Rock . . . Fighting Leads to Loneliness” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
25. Parents participate in marital therapy. (37)
  26. Identify and verbally acknowledge family dynamics that contribute to the emergence of anger control problems. (38, 39, 40)
  27. Assess the marital dyad for possible substance abuse, conflict, or triangulation that shifts the focus from marriage issues to the client’s acting out behaviors; refer for appropriate treatment, if needed.
  28. Conduct family therapy sessions to explore the dynamics that contribute to the emergence of the client’s anger control problems.
  29. Assess the family dynamics by employing the family-sculpting technique, in which the client defines the roles and behaviors of each family member in a scene of his/her choosing.
  30. Give a directive to uninvolved or disengaged parent(s) to spend more time with the client in leisure, school, or work activities; review progress, reinforcing success and redirecting failure.
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## DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

**Axis I:**

312.81	Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type
312.82	Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type
312.89	Conduct Disorder, Unspecified Onset
313.81	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
312.9	Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
314.9	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS
312.34	Intermittent Explosive Disorder
V71.02	Child Antisocial Behavior
V61.20	Parent-Child Relational Problem

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**Axis II:**

V71.09	No Diagnosis
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# ANXIETY

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Excessive anxiety, worry, or fear that markedly exceeds the normal level for the client's stage of development.
2. High level of motor tension, such as restlessness, tiredness, shakiness, or muscle tension.
3. Autonomic hyperactivity (e.g., rapid heartbeat, shortness of breath, dizziness, dry mouth, nausea, diarrhea).
4. Hypervigilance, such as feeling constantly on edge, concentration difficulties, trouble falling or staying asleep, and a general state of irritability.
5. A specific fear that has become generalized to cover a wide area and has reached the point where it significantly interferes with the client's and the family's daily life.
6. Excessive anxiety or worry due to parent's threat of abandonment, overuse of guilt, denial of autonomy and status, friction between parents, or interference with physical activity.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Reduce overall frequency, intensity, and duration of the anxiety so that daily functioning is not impaired.
2. Stabilize anxiety level while increasing ability to function on a daily basis.

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3. Resolve the core conflict that is the source of anxiety.
4. Enhance ability to effectively cope with the full variety of life's anxieties.

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### SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe current and past experiences with specific fears, prominent worries, and anxiety symptoms including their impact on functioning and attempts to resolve it. (1, 2)
2. Complete questionnaires designed to assess fear, worry, and anxiety symptoms. (3)

### THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help increase his/her ability to identify and express concerns.
2. Assess the focus, excessiveness, and uncontrollability of the client's fears and worries and the type, frequency, intensity, and duration of his/her anxiety symptoms (e.g., *The Anxiety Disorders Interview Schedule for Children—Parent Version* or *Child Version* by Silverman and Albano; "Finding and Losing Your Anxiety" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
3. Administer a patient-report measure to help assess the nature and degree of the client's fears, worries, and anxiety symptoms (e.g., *The Fear Survey Schedule for Children* by Ollendick).

- ▼ 3. Cooperate with an evaluation by a physician for antianxiety medication. (4, 5)
- ▼ 4. Verbalize an understanding of how thoughts, physical feelings, and behavioral actions contribute to anxiety and its treatment. (6, 7, 8)
- ▼ 5. Learn and implement calming skills to reduce overall anxiety and manage anxiety symptoms. (9, 10, 11, 12)
- 4. Refer the client to a physician for a psychotropic medication consultation. ▼
- 5. Monitor the client's psychotropic medication compliance, side effects, and effectiveness; confer regularly with the physician. ▼
- 6. Discuss how fears and worries typically involve excessive concern about unrealistic threats; various bodily expressions of tension, overarousal, and hypervigilance; and avoidance of what is threatening, which interact to maintain the problem (see *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼
- 7. Discuss how treatment targets fear, worry, anxiety symptoms, and avoidance to help the client manage thoughts and overarousal effectively while overcoming unnecessary avoidance. ▼
- 8. Assign the parents to read psychoeducational sections of books or treatment manuals to emphasize key therapy concepts (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼
- 9. Teach the client calming skills (e.g., progressive muscle relaxation, guided imagery, slow diaphragmatic breathing) and how to discriminate better between relaxation and tension; teach the client how to apply these skills to his/her daily life. ▼

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.



- ▼ 7. Identify, challenge, and replace fearful self-talk with positive, realistic, and empowering self-talk. (16, 17, 18, 19)
16. Explore the client's schema and self-talk that mediate his/her fear response; challenge the biases; assist him/her in replacing the distorted messages with reality-based alternatives and positive self-talk that will increase his/her self-confidence in coping with irrational fears or worries. ▼
17. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she identifies fearful self-talk and creates reality-based alternatives (or assign "Tools for Anxiety" in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner II* by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
18. Teach the client to implement a "thought-stopping" technique (thinking of a STOP sign and then a pleasant scene) for fears or worries that have been addressed but persist (or assign "Making Use of the Thought-Stopping Technique" in the *Adult Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma); monitor and encourage the client's use of the technique in daily life between sessions. ▼
19. Assign parents to read and discuss with the client cognitive restructuring of fears or worries in relevant books or treatment manuals (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼
- ▼ 8. Participate in live, or imaginal then live, exposure exercises in which worries and fears are gradually faced. (20, 21, 22, 23)
20. Direct and assist the client in constructing a hierarchy around two to three spheres of worry for use in exposure (e.g., fears of school



- failure, worries about relationship problems). ▽
21. Select initial exposures that have a high likelihood of being a success experience for the client; develop a coping plan for managing the negative affect engendered by exposure; mentally rehearse the procedure. ▽
  22. Ask the client to vividly imagine conducting the exposure, or conduct it live until anxiety associated with it weakens and a sense of safety and/or confidence strengthens; process the experience. ▽
  23. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she does gradual exposure to identified fears and records responses (see *Phobic and Anxiety Disorders in Children and Adolescents* by Ollendick and March); review, reinforce success, and provide corrective feedback toward improvement (or assign “Gradually Facing a Phobic Fear” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
  24. Ask the client to develop a list of key conflicts that trigger fear or worry and process this list, teaching skills, toward resolution (e.g., problem-solving, assertiveness, acceptance, cognitive restructuring). ▽
  25. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she works on solving a current problem (see *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and
- ▽ 9. Learn and implement new strategies for realistically addressing fears or worries. (24, 25)

- Wignall; or “An Anxious Story” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review, reinforce success, and provide corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
- ▼10. Increase participation in daily social and academic activities. (26)
  - ▼11. Parents verbalize an understanding of the client’s treatment plan and a willingness to participate in it with the client. (27)
  - ▼12. Parents learn and implement constructive ways to respond to the client’s fear and avoidance. (28, 29)
  - ▼13. Parents learn and implement problem-solving strategies, assertive communication, and other constructive ways to respond to their own anxieties. (30)
  - 26. Encourage the client to strengthen his/her new nonavoidant approach by using distraction from anxious thoughts through increasing daily social and academic activities and other potentially rewarding experiences. ▼
  - 27. If acceptable to the client and if possible, involve the client’s parents in the treatment, having them participate in selective activities. ▼
  - 28. Conduct Family Anxiety Management sessions (see *FRIENDS Program for Children* series by Barrett, Lowry-Webster, and Turner) in which the family is taught how to prompt and reward courageous behavior, empathetically ignore excessive complaining and other avoidant behaviors, manage their own anxieties, and model the behavior being taught in session. ▼
  - 29. Teach family members problem-solving and communication skills to assist the client’s progress through therapy. ▼
  - 30. Teach and encourage parents to use the same nonavoidant skills the client is learning to manage and approach their own fears and worries, including problem-solving conflicts and assertive communication (e.g., *Keys to Parenting Your Anxious Child* by Manassis). ▼

- ▼14. Learn and implement relapse prevention strategies for managing possible future fears or worries. (31, 32, 33, 34)
15. Verbalize an increased understanding of anxious feelings and their causes. (35, 36, 37)
31. Discuss with the client the distinction between a lapse and relapse, associating a lapse with an initial and reversible return of a fear, worry, anxiety symptom, or urges to avoid and relapse with the decision to return to a fearful and avoidant manner of dealing with the fear or worry. ▼
32. Identify and rehearse with the client the management of future situations or circumstances in which lapses could occur. ▼
33. Instruct the client to routinely use his/her newly learned skills in relaxation, cognitive restructuring, exposure, and problem-solving exposures as needed to address emergent fears or worries, building them into his/her life as much as possible. ▼
34. Develop a “coping card” or other reminder on which coping strategies and other important information (e.g., “Breathe deeply and relax,” “Challenge unrealistic worries,” “Use problem-solving”) are recorded for the client’s later use. ▼
35. Use child-centered play therapy approaches (e.g., provide unconditional positive regard; reflect feelings in a nonjudgmental manner; display trust in child’s capacity to work through issues) to increase the client’s ability to cope with anxious feelings.
36. Assign the client the task of drawing two or three situations that generally bring on anxious feelings.

16. Identify areas of conflict that underlie the anxiety. (38, 39)
17. Identify and use specific coping strategies for anxiety reduction. (40, 41, 42, 43)
37. Conduct psychoanalytical play therapy sessions (e.g., explore and gain an understanding of the etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or arrests; interpret resistance or core anxieties) to help the client work through to resolutions of the issues that are the source of his/her anxiety.
38. Use puppets, felts, or a sand tray to enact situations that provoke anxiety in the client. Involve him/her in creating such scenarios, and model positive cognitive responses to the situations that bring on anxiety.
39. Play the therapeutic game, My Home and Places (Flood) with the client to help identify and talk about divorce, peers, alcohol abuse, or other situations that make him/her anxious.
40. Use a narrative approach (White) in which the client writes out the story of his/her anxiety or fear and then acts out the story with the therapist to externalize the issues. Work with the client to reach a resolution or develop an effective way to cope with the anxiety or fear (see “An Anxious Story” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
41. Conduct sessions with a focus on anxiety-producing situations in which techniques of storytelling, drawing pictures, and viewing photographs are used to assist the client in talking about and reducing the level of anxiety or fear.

18. Parents verbalize constructive ways to respond to the client's anxiety. (44, 45, 46)
42. Use a mutual storytelling technique (Gardner) in which the client tells a story about a central character who becomes anxious. The therapist then interprets the story for its underlying meaning and retells the client's story while weaving in healthier adaptations to fear or anxiety and resolution of conflicts.
43. Prescribe a Predication Task (Shuzer) for anxiety management. (The client predicts the night before whether the anxiety will bother him/her the next day. The therapist directs the client to be a good detective and bring back key elements that contributed to it being a "good day" so the therapist then can reinforce or construct a solution to increasing the frequency of "good days.")
44. Work with the parents in family sessions to develop their skills in effectively responding to the client's fears and anxieties with calm confidence rather than fearful reactivity (e.g., parents remind the client of a time when he/she handled a fearful situation effectively; express confidence in the client's ability to face the fearful situation).
45. Educate the client's parents to increase their awareness and understanding of which fears and anxieties are normal for various stages of child development.
46. Assign the client's parents to read books related to child development and parenting (e.g., *Between Parent and Child* by Ginott; *How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk* by Faber and Mazlish).



# ATTACHMENT DISORDER

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Brought into family through adoption after coming from an abusive, neglectful biological family.
2. Consistent pattern of failing to initiate or respond to social interactions in an age-appropriate way (e.g., withdrawing and rejecting behavior toward primary caregivers, a general detached manner toward everyone).
3. Pattern of becoming friendly too quickly and/or showing indiscriminate affection to strangers.
4. Three years old or older and has no significant bond with any caregiver.
5. Resists accepting care from others, usually being very insistent that he/she does not need help from anyone.
6. Hoarding or gorging food.
7. Aggressive behaviors toward peers, siblings, and caregivers.
8. Frequent lying without remorse.
9. Stealing petty items without need for them.
10. By age 7, little or no sign of conscience development is evident (e.g., shows no guilt or remorse when confronted with his/her misbehavior).
11. Excessive clinginess to primary caregiver, becoming emotionally distraught when out of caregiver's immediate presence.
12. Has experienced persistent disregard for his/her emotional and/or physical needs.
13. Has been subjected to frequent changes in primary caregiver.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Establishment and maintenance of a bond with primary caregivers.
2. Resolution of all barriers to forming healthy connections with others.
3. Capable of forming warm physical and emotional bonds with the parents.
4. Has a desire for and initiates connections with others.
5. Keeps appropriate distance from strangers.
6. Tolerates reasonable absence from presence of parent or primary caregiver without panic.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Openly express thoughts and feelings. (1, 2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and empathic responses to help promote the open expressions of his/her thoughts and feelings.
2. Conduct a celebrity-style interview with the client to elicit information (e.g., school likes/dislikes, favorite food, music, best birthday, hopes, wishes, dreams, “if I had a million dollars”) in order to build a relationship and help him/her learn more about himself/herself.
3. Conduct all sessions in a consistent and predictable manner so that all is clear for the client and he/she can start to take a risk and trust the therapist.



2. Cooperate with and complete all assessments and testing. (4, 5)
3. Comply with all recommendations of assessments and evaluations. (6)
4. Parents commit to improving the communication and affection within the marriage relationship. (7)
5. Parents acknowledge unresolved grief associated with infertility. (8)
6. Parent(s) make a verbal commitment to take an active role in the client's treatment and in developing skills to work with the client and his/her issues. (9, 10, 11)
4. Conduct or refer the parents and the client for psychosocial evaluation to assess the strength of the parent's marriage, parenting style, stress management/coping strengths, resolutions of the infertility issue, and to assess the client's developmental level, attachment capacity, behavior issues, temperament, and strengths.
5. Conduct or arrange for psychological evaluation to determine level of behavioral functioning, cognitive style, and intelligence.
6. Summarize assessment data and present findings and recommendations to the family; monitor and encourage their follow-through on all the recommendations on each evaluation and assessment.
7. Refer the parents to a skills-based marital program such as PREP (e.g., *Fighting for Your Marriage* by Markman, Stanley, and Blumberg) to strengthen their marital relationship by improving personal responsibility, communication, and conflict resolution.
8. Assess the parents' unresolved grief around the issue of their infertility; refer them for further conjoint or individual treatment if necessary.
9. Elicit from the parents a firm commitment to be an active part of the client's treatment by participating in sessions and being cotherapists in the home.
10. Work with the parents in conjoint sessions to frame the client's acting out behaviors as opportunities to reparent the client. Then

- strategize with them to come up with specific ways to intervene in the problem behaviors.
7. Parents verbalize an understanding of the dynamics of attachment and trauma. (12)
  8. Parents verbalize reasonable expectations regarding progress. (13, 14)
  9. Attend and actively take part in play therapy sessions. (15, 16, 17)
  11. Train and empower the parents as cotherapists (e.g., being patient, showing unconditional positive regard, setting limits firmly but without hostility, verbalizing love and expectations clearly, seeking to understand messages of pain and fear beneath the acting out behavior) in the process of developing the client's capacity to form healthy bonds/connections.
  12. Provide education to the parents on the nature of attachment and the overall effect of trauma on children and families.
  13. Process with the parents the issue of expectations for the client's behavior and adjustment; confront and modify unrealistic expectations regarding their child's emotional attachment progress and foster more realistic expectations considering the client's history.
  14. Explore with the parents the reality that "strong relationships involve love, understanding, trust, time, money, sharing, giving, stimulating, and inspiring; they seldom come automatically, and love may be the last thing on the list rather than the first" (see *Anxiously Awaiting Attachment* by Paddock).
  15. Use the *Theraplay* (Jernberg and Booth) attachment-based approach, in which the therapist takes charge by planning and structuring each session. The

therapist uses his/her power to entice the client into a relationship and to keep the focus of therapy on the relationship, not on intrapsychic conflicts. Also, the parents are actively involved and are trained to be cotherapists.

10. Parents acknowledge their frustrations regarding living with a detached child and state their commitment to keep trying. (18, 19)
11. Share fears attached to new situations. (20)
16. Employ the ACT Model (Lan-dreth) in play therapy sessions to acknowledge feelings, communicate limits, and target acceptable alternatives to acting out or aggressive behaviors.
17. Conduct filial therapy (i.e., parent involvement in play therapy sessions), whereby the client takes the lead in expressing anger and the parent responds empathically to the client's feelings (e.g., hurt, fear, sadness, helplessness) beneath the anger.
18. Suggest to the parents that they read books to increase their understanding and give encouragement in continuing to work with their child (e.g., *The Difficult Child* by Turecki; *The Challenging Child* by Greenspan).
19. Empathize with the parents' frustrations regarding living with a detached child; allow them to share their pain and disappointment while reinforcing their commitment to keep trying.
20. Encourage the client to share his/her fears in order to gain self-acceptance (or assign the exercise "Dixie Overcomes Her Fears" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

12. Identify specific positive talents, traits, and accomplishments about self. (21)
13. Verbalize memories of the past that have shaped current identity and emotional reactions. (22, 23)
14. Parents acknowledge the client's history and affirm him/her as an individual. (23)
15. Parents spend one-on-one time with the client in active play. (24)
16. Parents gradually increase the frequency of expressing affection verbally and physically toward the client. (25)
17. Report an increased ability to trust, giving examples of trust. (26, 27)
21. Assign a self-esteem-building exercise from *SEALS & Plus* (Korb-Khalsa, Azok, and Leutenberg) to help develop self-knowledge, acceptance, and confidence.
22. Assign the parents to help the client create a *life book* that chronicles his/her life to this point in order to give a visual perspective and knowledge of his/her history and identity (or assign the exercise "Create a Memory Album" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
23. Educate the parents on the importance of affirming the client's entire identity (i.e., self, bioparents, adoptive parents), and show them specific ways to reaffirm him/her.
23. Educate the parents on the importance of affirming the client's entire identity (i.e., self, bioparents, adoptive parents), and show them specific ways to reaffirm him/her.
24. Assign the parents to each spend specific time in daily one-on-one active play with the client.
25. Encourage the parents to provide large, genuine, daily doses of positive verbal reinforcement and physical affection. Monitor and encourage the parents to continue this behavior and to identify positive attachment signs when they appear.
26. Have the client attend an initiative or adventure-based summer camp to build his/her self-esteem, trust

- in self and others, conflict resolution skills, and relationship skills.
27. Conduct a family session in which the parents, client, and therapist take part in a trust walk. (One person is blindfolded and led around by a guide through a number of tasks. Then roles are reversed and the process is repeated.) The object is to increase the client's awareness of his/her trust issues and to expand his/her sense of trust. Process and repeat at intervals over the course of treatment as a way to measure the client's progress in building trust.
  28. Train the client in meditation and focused breathing as self-calming techniques to use when tension, anger, or frustration is building.
  29. Read and process with the client *Don't Rant and Rave on Wednesdays!* (Moser) to assist him/her in finding ways to handle angry feelings in a controlled, effective way.
  18. Suggest to the parents that they read books to increase their understanding and give encouragement in continuing to work with their child (e.g., *The Difficult Child* by Turecki; *The Challenging Child* by Greenspan).
  30. Help the parents to design preventive safety measures (i.e., supervision and environmental controls) if the client's behavior becomes dangerous or frightening.
  31. Direct the parents to give constant feedback, structure, and repeated emphasis of expectations to the client in order to reassure
18. Recognize and express angry feelings without becoming emotionally out of control. (28, 29)
  19. Parents demonstrate firm boundaries on the client's expressions of anger. (18, 30, 31)

- him/her that they are firmly in control and that they will not allow his/her intense feelings to get out of hand.
20. Family engages in social/recreational activities together. (32)
  21. Accept physical contact with family members without withdrawal. (33)
  22. Parents use respite care to protect selves from burnout. (34, 35)
  32. Encourage the parents to engage the client and family in many “cohesive shared experiences” (see James in *Handbook for Treatment of Attachment-Trauma Problems in Children*), such as attending church, singing together at home, attending sports events, building and work projects, and helping others.
  33. Assign the family the homework exercise of 10 minutes of physical touching twice daily for 2 weeks (see James in *Handbook for Treatment of Attachment-Trauma Problems in Children*) to decrease the client’s barriers to others. (This can take the form of snuggling with the parent while watching television, feet or shoulder massage, being held in a rocking chair, or physical recreational games.) Process the experience with the therapist at the end of 2 weeks.
  34. Assist the parents in finding care providers, then encourage and monitor the parents’ use of respite care on a scheduled basis to avoid burnout and to keep their energy level high, as well as to build trust with the client through the natural process of leaving and returning.
  35. Meet with the parents conjointly on a regular basis to allow them to vent their concerns and frustrations in dealing day in and day out with the client. Also, provide the parents with specific suggestions to handle difficult situations when they feel stuck.

23. Parents respond calmly but firmly to the client's detachment behavior. (36, 37)
24. Parents give the client choices and allow him/her to make own decisions. (38)
25. Complete a psychotropic medication evaluation and comply with all recommendations. (39)
26. Report a completion to the process of mourning losses in life. (40)
36. Educate the parents to understand the psychological meaning and purpose for the client's detachment, and train them to implement appropriate interventions to deal day to day with the behavior in a therapeutic way (e.g., calmly reflecting on the client's feelings, ignoring negative behavior as much as is reasonably possible, rewarding any approximation of prosocial behavior, practicing unconditional positive regard).
37. Monitor the parents' implementation of interventions for detachment behavior and evaluate the effectiveness of their interventions; assist in making adjustments to interventions so that the client's feelings do not get out of hand.
38. Ask the parents to give the client as many choices as is reasonable and possible to impart a sense of control and empowerment to him/her.
39. Arrange for the client to have a psychiatric evaluation for medication, and if psychotropic medication is prescribed, monitor the client for compliance, side effects, and overall effectiveness of the medication.
40. Assist, guide, and support the client in working through each stage of the grief process (see Grief/Loss Unresolved chapter in this *Planner*).

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 313.89 Reactive Attachment Disorder of Infancy and Early Childhood
  - 314.9 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS
  - 296.3x Major Depressive Disorder, Recurrent
  - 300.4 Dysthymic Disorder
  - 309.4 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct
  - 309.81 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
  - 300.3 Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
  - 313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder

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- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD)

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Short attention span; difficulty sustaining attention on a consistent basis.
2. Susceptibility to distraction by extraneous stimuli and internal thoughts.
3. Gives impression that he/she is not listening well.
4. Repeated failure to follow through on instructions or complete school assignments or chores in a timely manner.
5. Poor organizational skills as demonstrated by forgetfulness, inattention to details, and losing things necessary for tasks.
6. Hyperactivity as evidenced by a high energy level, restlessness, difficulty sitting still, or loud or excessive talking.
7. Impulsivity as evidenced by difficulty awaiting turn in group situations, blurting out answers to questions before the questions have been completed, and frequent intrusions into others' personal business.
8. Frequent disruptive, aggressive, or negative attention-seeking behaviors.
9. Tendency to engage in carelessness or potentially dangerous activities.
10. Difficulty accepting responsibility for actions, projecting blame for problems onto others, and failing to learn from experience.
11. Low self-esteem and poor social skills.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Sustain attention and concentration for consistently longer periods of time.
2. Increase the frequency of on-task behaviors.
3. Demonstrate marked improvement in impulse control.
4. Regularly take medication as prescribed to decrease impulsivity, hyperactivity, and distractibility.
5. Parents and/or teachers successfully utilize a reward system, contingency contract, or token economy to reinforce positive behaviors and deter negative behaviors.
6. Parents set firm, consistent limits and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries.
7. Develop positive social skills to help maintain lasting peer friendships.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Complete psychological testing to confirm the diagnosis of ADHD and/or rule out emotional factors. (1)
- ▼ 2. Take prescribed medication as directed by the physician. (2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Arrange for psychological testing to confirm the presence of ADHD and/or rule out emotional problems that may be contributing to the client's inattentiveness, impulsivity, and hyperactivity; give feedback to the client and his/her parents regarding the testing results.
2. Arrange for a medication evaluation for the client. ▼

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- 3. Monitor the client for psychotropic medication prescription compliance, side effects, and effectiveness; consult with the prescribing physician at regular intervals. ▽
  - 4. Educate the client's parents and siblings about the symptoms of ADHD. ▽
  - 5. Assign the parents readings to increase their knowledge about symptoms of ADHD (e.g., *Taking Charge of ADHD* by Barkley; *Your Hyperactive Child* by Ingersoll; *Dr. Larry Silver's Advice to Parents on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder* by Silver). ▽
  - 6. Assign the client readings to increase his/her knowledge about ADHD and ways to manage symptoms (e.g., *Putting on the Brakes* by Quinn and Stern; *Sometimes I Drive My Mom Crazy, but I Know She's Crazy about Me* by Shapiro). ▽
  - 7. Assist the parents in developing and implementing an organizational system to increase the client's on-task behaviors and completion of school assignments, chores, or household responsibilities (e.g., using calendars, charts, notebooks, and class syllabi). ▽
  - 8. Assist the parents in developing a routine schedule to increase the client's compliance with school, household, or work-related responsibilities. ▽
- ▽ 3. Parents and the client demonstrate increased knowledge about ADHD symptoms. (4, 5, 6)
- ▽ 4. Parents develop and utilize an organized system to keep track of the client's school assignments, chores, and household responsibilities. (7, 8)

- ▼ 5. Parents maintain communication with the school to increase the client's compliance with completion of school assignments. (9)
- ▼ 6. Utilize effective study skills on a regular basis to improve academic performance. (10, 11)
- ▼ 7. Increase frequency of completion of school assignments, chores, and household responsibilities. (8, 12, 13)
- 9. Encourage the parents and teachers to maintain regular communication about the client's academic, behavioral, emotional, and social progress (or assign "Getting It Done" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- 10. Teach the client more effective study skills (e.g., clearing away distractions, studying in quiet places, scheduling breaks in studying). ▼
- 11. Assign the client to read *13 Steps to Better Grades* (Silverman) to improve organizational and study skills (or assign "Establish a Homework Routine" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- 8. Assist the parents in developing a routine schedule to increase the client's compliance with school, household, or work-related responsibilities. ▼
- 12. Consult with the client's teachers to implement strategies to improve school performance, such as sitting in the front row during class, using a prearranged signal to redirect the client back to task, scheduling breaks from tasks, providing frequent feedback, calling on the client often, arranging for a listening buddy, implementing a daily behavioral report card. ▼
- 13. Encourage the parents and teachers to use a behavioral classroom intervention (e.g., a school contract and reward system) to

- reinforce appropriate behavior and completion of his/her assignments (or employ the “Getting It Done” program in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
- ▽ 8. Implement effective test-taking strategies on a consistent basis to improve academic performance. (14)
  - ▽ 9. Delay instant gratification in favor of achieving meaningful long-term goals. (15, 16)
  - ▽ 10. Parents implement Parent Management Training approach in which parents utilize a reward/punishment system, contingency contract, and/or token economy. (17, 18, 19, 20, 21)
  - 14. Teach the client more effective test-taking strategies (e.g., reviewing material regularly, reading directions twice, rechecking work). ▽
  - 15. Teach the client mediational and self-control strategies (e.g., “stop, look, listen, and think”) to delay the need for instant gratification and inhibit impulses to achieve more meaningful, longer-term goals. ▽
  - 16. Assist the parents in increasing structure to help the client learn to delay gratification for longer-term goals (e.g., completing homework or chores before playing). ▽
  - 17. Teach the parents a Parent Management Training approach (e.g., a reward/punishment system, contingency contract, token economy), explaining how parent and child behavioral interactions can reduce the frequency of impulsive, disruptive, and negative attention-seeking behaviors and increase desired behavior (e.g., prompting and reinforcing positive behaviors; see *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* by Forehand and Long; *Living with Children* by Patterson). ▽
  - 18. Teach the parents how to specifically define and identify problem

behaviors, identify their reactions to the behavior, determine whether the reaction encourages or discourages the behavior, and generate alternatives to the problem behavior. ▼

19. Teach parents how to implement key parenting practices consistently, including establishing realistic age-appropriate rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, prompting of positive behavior in the environment, use of positive reinforcement to encourage behavior (e.g., praise), use of clear direct instruction, time out, and other loss-of-privilege practices for problem behavior. ▼
20. Assign the parents home exercises in which they implement and record results of implementation exercises (or assign “Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review in session, providing corrective feedback toward improved, appropriate, and consistent use of skills. ▼
21. Ask the parents to read parent training manuals (e.g., *Living with Children* by Patterson) or watch videotapes demonstrating the techniques being learned in session (see Webster-Stratton, 1994). ▼
- ▼11. Learn and implement social skills to reduce anxiety and build confidence in social interactions. (22, 23)
22. Use instruction, modeling, and role-playing to build the client’s general and developmentally appropriate social and/or communication skills. ▼

- ▼12. Identify and implement effective problem-solving strategies. (24, 25)
- ▼13. Increase the frequency of positive interactions with parents. (26, 27, 28)
23. Assign the client to read about general social and/or communication skills in books or treatment manuals on building social skills (e.g., or assign the “Social Skills Exercise” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
24. Teach older clients effective problem-solving skills (e.g., identifying the problem, brainstorming alternative solutions, selecting an option, implementing a course of action, evaluating). ▼
25. Utilize role-playing and modeling to teach the older child how to implement effective problem-solving techniques in his/her daily life (or assign “Stop, Think, and Act” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis, or use the therapeutic game, Stop, Relax and Think by Bridges [available from Childsworld/Childsplay]). ▼
26. Explore for periods of time when the client demonstrated good impulse control and engaged in fewer disruptive behaviors; process his/her responses and reinforce positive coping mechanisms that he/she used to deter impulsive or disruptive behaviors. ▼
27. Instruct the parents to observe and record three to five positive behaviors by the client in between therapy sessions; reinforce positive behaviors and encourage him/her to continue to exhibit these behaviors. ▼

14. Increase the frequency of socially appropriate behaviors with siblings and peers. (29, 30)
15. Increase verbalizations of acceptance of responsibility for misbehavior. (31, 32)
16. Identify stressors or painful emotions that trigger increase in hyperactivity and impulsivity. (33, 34)
28. Encourage the parents to spend 10 to 15 minutes daily of one-on-one time with the client to create a closer parent-child bond. Allow the client to take the lead in selecting the activity or task. ▼
29. Give homework assignments where the client identifies 5 to 10 strengths or interests; review the list in the following session and encourage him/her to utilize strengths or interests to establish friendships.
30. Assign the client the task of showing empathy, kindness, or sensitivity to the needs of others (e.g., allowing sibling or peer to take first turn in a video game, helping with a school fundraiser).
31. Firmly confront the client's impulsive behaviors, pointing out consequences for himself/herself and others.
32. Confront statements in which the client blames others for his/her annoying or impulsive behaviors and fails to accept responsibility for his/her actions.
33. Explore and identify stressful events or factors that contribute to an increase in impulsivity, hyperactivity, and distractibility. Help the client and parents develop positive coping strategies (e.g., "stop, look, listen, and think," relaxation techniques, positive self-talk) to manage stress more effectively.
34. Explore possible stressors, roadblocks, or hurdles that might cause impulsive and acting out behaviors to increase in the future.



- Identify coping strategies (e.g., “stop, look, listen, and think,” guided imagery, utilizing “I messages” to communicate needs) that the client and his/her family can use to cope with or overcome stressors, roadblocks, or hurdles.
- 17. Parents and the client regularly attend and actively participate in group therapy. (35)
  - 18. Identify and list constructive ways to utilize energy. (36)
  - 19. Express feelings through artwork. (37)
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- 35. Encourage the client’s parents to participate in an ADHD support group.
  - 36. Give a homework assignment where the client lists the positive and negative aspects of his/her high energy level; review the list in the following session and encourage him/her to channel energy into healthy physical outlets and positive social activities.
  - 37. Instruct the client to draw a picture reflecting what it feels like to have ADHD; process content of the drawing with the therapist.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

<b>Axis I:</b>	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type
	314.00	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Inattentive Type
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
	314.9	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS
	312.81	Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type

**ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD) 73**

312.82 Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type  
313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder  
312.9 Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS  
296.xx Bipolar I Disorder

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**Axis II:**

V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# AUTISM/PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Shows a pervasive lack of interest in or responsiveness to other people.
2. Demonstrates a chronic failure to develop social relationships appropriate to the developmental level.
3. Lacks spontaneity and emotional or social reciprocity.
4. Exhibits a significant delay in or total lack of spoken language development.
5. Is impaired in sustaining or initiating conversation.
6. Demonstrates oddities in speech and language such as echolalia, pronominal reversal, or metaphorical language.
7. Rigidly adheres to repetition of nonfunctional rituals or stereotyped motor mannerisms.
8. Shows persistent preoccupation with objects, part of objects, or restricted areas of interest.
9. Exhibits a marked impairment or extreme variability in intellectual and cognitive functioning.
10. Demonstrates extreme resistance or overreaction to minor changes in routines or environment.
11. Exhibits emotional constriction or blunted affect.
12. Demonstrates a recurrent pattern of self-abusive behaviors (e.g., head banging, biting, burning himself/herself).

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Develop basic language skills and the ability to communicate simply with others.
2. Establish and maintain a basic emotional bond with primary attachment figures.
3. Family members develop acceptance of the client's overall capabilities and place realistic expectations on his/her behavior.
4. Engage in reciprocal and cooperative interactions with others on a regular basis.
5. Stabilize mood and tolerate changes in routine or environment.
6. Eliminate all self-abusive behaviors.
7. Attain and maintain the highest realistic level of independent functioning.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Complete an intellectual and cognitive evaluation. (1)
2. Complete vision, hearing, or medical examination. (2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Arrange for an intellectual and cognitive assessment to gain greater insights into the client's strengths and weaknesses; provide feedback to the parents.
2. Refer the client in early childhood years for vision and/or hearing examination to rule out vision or hearing problems that may be interfering with his/her social and speech/language development.
3. Refer the client for medical examination to rule out health problems that may be interfering with speech/language development.

3. Complete a speech/language evaluation. (4)
4. Attend speech and language therapy sessions. (5)
5. Complete a neurological evaluation and/or neuropsychological testing. (6)
6. Comply fully with the recommendations offered by the assessment(s) and individualized educational planning committee (IEPC). (7, 8)
7. Comply with the move to an appropriate alternative residential placement setting. (9)
- ▽ 8. Participate in a psychiatric evaluation regarding the need for psychotropic medication. (10)
- ▽ 9. Increase the frequency of appropriate, self-initiated verbalizations toward the therapist, family members, and others. (11, 12, 13, 14)
4. Refer the client for speech/language evaluation; consult with speech/language pathologist about evaluation findings.
5. Refer the client to a speech/language pathologist for ongoing services to improve his/her speech and language abilities.
6. Arrange for neurological evaluation or neuropsychological testing of the client to rule out organic factors.
7. Attend an IEPC review to establish the client's eligibility for special education services, to update and revise educational interventions, and to establish new behavioral and educational goals.
8. Consult with the parents, teachers, and other appropriate school officials about designing effective learning programs, classroom assignments, or interventions that build on the client's strengths and compensate for weaknesses.
9. Consult with parents, school officials, and mental health professionals about the need to place the client in an alternative residential setting (e.g., foster care, group home, residential program).
10. Arrange for psychiatric evaluation of the client to assess the need for psychotropic medication. ▽
11. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, frequent attention and interest, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to facilitate increased communication. ▽

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▽ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- 12. Teach the parents behavior management techniques (e.g., prompting behavior, reinforcement and reinforcement schedules, use of ignoring for off-task behavior). ▽
  - 13. Teach the parents a Pivotal Response Intervention (see *Pivotal Response Training for Autism* by Koegel and Koegel) in which they are taught how to use behavioral management skills to increase their child's motivation to respond to and to self-initiate social interactions in the context of play; urge them to use natural reinforcers and child-selected stimulus materials; provide feedback toward improvement. ▽
  - 14. Have parents and client practice Pivotal Response techniques until parents reach an 80% correct use criterion. ▽
  - 15. Teach the parents to apply behavior management techniques (e.g., prompting behavior, reinforcement and reinforcement schedules, use of ignoring for off-task behavior) to decrease the client's temper outbursts and self-abusive behaviors (or assign "Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences" in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
  - 16. Design a token economy for use in the home, classroom, or residential program to improve the client's social skills, anger management, impulse control, and speech/language abilities. ▽
- ▽10. Decrease the frequency and severity of temper outbursts and aggressive behaviors. (15, 16, 17)

- ▼11. Decrease the frequency and severity of self-abusive behaviors. (18)
- ▼12. Parents verbalize increased knowledge and understanding of autism and pervasive developmental disorders. (19, 20)
- ▼13. Demonstrate essential self-care and independent living skills. (21, 22, 23, 24)
17. Develop a contingency contract to improve the client's social skills and anger control. ▼
18. Teach the parents to apply behavior management techniques (e.g., prompting behavior, reinforcement and reinforcement schedules, use of ignoring for off-task behavior) to decrease the client's self-abusive behaviors such as scratching or hitting self (or assign "Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences" in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis or "Reaction to Change and Excessive Stimulation" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
19. Educate the client's parents and family members about the maturation process in individuals with autism or pervasive developmental disorders and the challenges that this process presents. ▼
20. Assign the parents to view the videotape, *Straight Talk about Autism with Parents and Kids* (available from the A.D.D. Warehouse) to increase their knowledge about autism. ▼
21. Counsel the parents about teaching the client essential self-care skills (e.g., combing hair, bathing, brushing teeth). ▼
22. Monitor and provide frequent feedback to the client regarding his/her progress toward developing self-care skills. ▼

23. Use modeling and operant conditioning principles and response-shaping techniques to help the client develop self-help skills (e.g., dressing self, making bed, fixing sandwich) and improve personal hygiene. ▼
24. Encourage the parents to use the “Activities of Daily Living Program” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. (Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis) to improve the client’s personal hygiene and self-help skills. ▼
14. Parents increase social support network. (25, 26, 27)
25. Direct the parents to join an autism group or organization (e.g., Autism Society of America) to expand their social network, to gain additional knowledge of the disorder, and to give them support and encouragement (or assign “Initial Reaction to Diagnosis of Autism” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
26. Refer the client’s parents to a support group for parents of autistic children.
27. Refer the parents to, and encourage them to use, respite care on a periodic basis.
15. Parents and siblings report feeling a closer bond with the client. (28, 29, 30)
28. Conduct family therapy sessions to provide the parents and siblings with the opportunity to share and work through their feelings pertaining to the client’s autism or pervasive developmental disorder.
29. To facilitate a closer parent-child bond, use filial play therapy approaches (i.e., parental involvement in session) with a higher-functioning client to



- increase the parents' awareness of the client's thoughts, feelings, and needs.
16. Increase the frequency of positive interactions with parents and siblings. (31, 32, 33)
    30. Assign the client and his/her parents a task (e.g., swimming, riding a bike) that will help build trust and mutual dependence.
    31. Encourage the family members to regularly include the client in structured work or play activities for 20 minutes each day.
    32. Instruct the parents to sing songs (e.g., nursery rhymes, lullabies, popular hits, songs related to client's interests) with the client to help establish a closer parent-child bond and increase verbalizations in home environment.
    33. Encourage detached parents to increase their involvement in the client's daily life, leisure activities, or schoolwork.
  17. Identify and express basic emotions. (34, 35)
    34. Use art therapy (e.g., drawing, painting, sculpting) with the higher-functioning client to help him/her express basic needs or emotions and facilitate a closer relationship with the parents, caretakers, and therapist.
    35. Use Feelings Poster (available from Childsworld/Childsplay) to help the higher-functioning client identify and express basic emotions.
  18. Increase the frequency of social contacts with peers. (36)
    36. Consult with the client's parents and teachers about increasing the frequency of his/her social contacts with peers (working with student aide in class, attending Sunday school, participating in Special Olympics, refer to summer camp).

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 299.00 Autistic Disorder
  - 299.80 Pervasive Developmental Disorder NOS
  - 299.80 Rett’s Disorder
  - 299.10 Childhood Disintegrative Disorder
  - 299.80 Asperger’s Disorder
  - 313.89 Reactive Attachment Disorder of Infancy or Early Childhood
  - 307.3 Stereotypic Movement Disorder
  - 295.xx Schizophrenia

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- Axis II:**
- 317 Mild Mental Retardation
  - 319 Mental Retardation, Severity Unspecified
  - V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# BLENDING FAMILY

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Children from a previous union are united into a single family unit, resulting in interpersonal conflict, anger, and frustration.
2. Resistance and defiance toward the new stepparent.
3. Open conflict between siblings from different parents now residing in the same family system.
4. Defiance, either overt or covert in nature, from one or several siblings toward the stepparent.
5. Verbal threats to the biological parent of going to live with the other parent or report abuse.
6. Interference from former spouse in the daily life of the new family system.
7. Anxiety and concern by both new partners regarding bringing their two families together.
8. No clear lines of communication or responsibilities assigned within the blended family, making for confusion, frustration, and unhappiness.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Achieve a reasonable level of family connectedness and harmony whereby members support, help, and are concerned for each other.

2. Become an integrated, blended family system that is functional and bonded to each other.
3. Attain a level of peaceful coexistence whereby daily issues can be negotiated without becoming ongoing conflicts.
4. Accept stepparent and/or stepsiblings and treat them with respect, kindness, and cordiality.
5. Establish a new family identity in which each member feels he/she belongs and is valued.
6. Accept the new blended family system as not inferior to the nuclear family, just different.
7. Establish a strong bond between the couple as a parenting team that is free from triangulation and able to stabilize the family.

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**SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES**

1. Each family member openly shares thoughts and feelings regarding the blended family. (1, 2, 3)

**THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS**

1. Within family therapy sessions, actively build the level of trust with each family member through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and acceptance to allow each to identify and express openly his/her thoughts and feelings regarding the blended family.
2. In a family session, use a set of markers and a large sheet of drawing paper for the following exercise: The therapist begins a drawing by making a scribble line on the paper, then each family member adds to the line using a colored marker of his/her choice. When the drawing is complete,

- the family can be given the choice to either each interpret the drawing or to develop a mutual story based on the drawing (see Lowe in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques*).
2. Attend and freely participate in play therapy sessions with the therapist. (4, 5, 6)
  3. Family members verbalize realistic expectations and rejection of myths regarding stepfamilies. (7, 8, 9)
  3. Conduct family, sibling, and marital sessions to address the issues of loss, conflict negotiation, parenting, stepfamily psychoeducation, joining, rituals, and relationship building.
  4. Use child-centered play therapy approaches (e.g., providing unconditional positive regard, reflecting feelings in a nonjudgmental manner, displaying trust in the child's capacity to resolve issues) to assist the client in adjusting to changes, grieving losses, and cooperating with the new stepfamily.
  5. Conduct individual play therapy sessions to provide the client an opportunity to express feelings about losses and changes in his/her life.
  6. Seize opportunities in play therapy (especially when the client is playing with groups of animals, army figures, dollhouse, puppets), as well as in sibling and family sessions, to emphasize the need for everyone within the family to respect and cooperate with each other.
  7. In a family session, ask the members to list their expectations for the new family; ask the members to share and process their lists with the whole family and the therapist.

4. Identify losses/changes in each of their lives. (10, 11)
5. Family members demonstrate increased skills in recognizing and expressing feelings. (12, 13, 14)
8. Remind family members that instant love of new family members is a myth. It is unrealistic to expect children to immediately like (much less love) the partner who is serving in the new-parent role.
9. Help family members accept the position that siblings from different biological families need not like or love one another, but that they should be mutually respectful and kind.
10. Instruct the family to read *Changing Families: An Interactive Guide for Kids and Grownups* (Fassler, Lash, and Ives) to help them identify the changes within the family and give them ways to adjust and thrive.
11. Assign sibling members in a session to complete a list of losses and changes that each has experienced over the last year and then for all years. Give empathic confirmation while they share the list in the session, and help them to see the similarities of their experiences to those of their siblings.
12. Have family or siblings play The Ungame (available from The Ungame Company) or The Talking, Feeling, Doing Game (available from Childsworld/Childsplay) to promote each family member's awareness of self and his/her feelings.
13. Using feelings charts, a feelings felt board, or a feelings card, educate the family on identifying, labeling, and expressing feelings appropriately.

6. Family members verbalize expanded knowledge of stepfamilies. (15, 16)
7. Family members demonstrate increased negotiating skills. (17, 18, 19)
14. In a family session, help the family to practice identifying and expressing feelings by doing a feelings exercise (e.g., “I feel sad when \_\_\_\_\_,” “I feel excited when \_\_\_\_\_”). The therapist should affirm and acknowledge each member as they share during the exercise.
15. Assign parents or teens to read material to expand their knowledge of stepfamilies and their development (e.g., *Stepfamily Realities* by Newman; *How to Win as a Stepfamily* by Visher and Visher; *Stepfamilies Stepping Ahead* by Stepfamily Association of America); process key concepts that they gathered from the reading.
16. Refer the parents to the Stepfamily Association of America (1-800-735-0329) to obtain additional information and resources on stepfamilies.
17. Conduct the following exercise in a sibling session: Place several phone books and/or Sunday papers in the center of a room and instruct the clients to tear the paper into small pieces and throw the shredded paper into the air. The only two rules are that the paper must be thrown *up*, not at anyone, and that the participants must clean up afterward. Process the experience around releasing energy and emotion. Give positive feedback for following through and cooperating in cleaning up (see Daves in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques*).

8. Family members report a reduced level of tension between all members. (20, 21, 22)
18. Train family members in building negotiating skills (e.g., identifying problems, brainstorming solutions, evaluating pros and cons, compromising, agreeing on a solution, making an implementation plan), and have them practice these skills on issues that present in family sessions.
19. Assign siblings to write a list of their conflicts and suggest solutions (or assign the exercise "Negotiating a Peace Treaty" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
20. Inject humor whenever appropriate in a family or sibling session to decrease tensions/conflict and to model balance and perspective. Give positive feedback to members who create appropriate humor.
21. Hold a family sibling session in which each child focuses on listing and developing an appreciation of each sibling's differences/uniqueness (or assign the exercise "Cloning the Perfect Sibling" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
22. In a brief, solution-focused intervention, reframe or normalize the conflictual situation to show the clients that it's a stage the family needs to get through. Identify the next stage as the coming-together stage, and talk about when they might be ready to move there and how they could begin (see O'Hanlon and Beadle in *A Guide to Possibility Land*).



9. Family members report increased trust of each other. (23, 24)
10. Each parent takes the primary role of disciplining own children. (25)
11. Parents attend a stepparenting didactic group to increase parenting skills. (26)
12. Family members attend weekly family meetings in the home to express feelings. (27)
13. Parents create and institute new family rituals. (28, 29, 30)
23. Read and process with the family the story of *Stone Soup* (Brown), focusing on the issues of risk, mistrust, and cooperation.
24. In a family session, read Dr. Seuss's *The Sneetches* to show members the folly of top dog-wunderdog, one-upmanship, and insider-outsider attitudes.
25. Encourage each parent to take the primary role in disciplining his/her own children, and have each refrain from all negative references to former spouses.
26. Refer the parents to a parenting group for stepparents.
27. Assist the parents in implementing a once-a-week family meeting in which issues can be raised and resolved and members are encouraged to share their thoughts, complaints, and compliments.
28. Assist the parents in creating and implementing daily rituals (e.g., mealtimes, bedtime stories, household chores, time alone with parents, times together) in order to give structure and connection to the system.
29. Conduct a family session in which rituals from both former families are examined. Then encourage the family to retain the rituals that are appropriate and will work in the new system and combine them with new rituals.
30. Give the family the assignment to create birthday rituals for the new blended unit.

14. Parents identify and eliminate triangulation within the system. (31)
15. Parents report a strengthening of their marital bond. (32, 33, 34)
16. Family members report an increased sense of loyalty and connectedness. (35, 36, 37)
31. Educate the parents on patterns of interactions within families by creating a genogram that denotes the family's patterns of interactions and focuses on the pattern of triangulation and its dysfunctional aspects.
32. Refer the couple to skills-based marital therapy based on strengthening avenues of responsibilities, communication, and conflict resolution (see *Prep, Fighting for Your Marriage* by Markman, Stanley, and Blumberg).
33. Work with the dyad in conjoint sessions to deal with issues of having time away alone, privacy, and individual space; develop specific ways for these things to occur regularly.
34. Hold conjoint session(s) with the couple to process the issue of showing affection toward each other. Help the couple to develop appropriate boundaries and ways of showing affection that do not give rise to unnecessary anger in their children.
35. Conduct family sessions in which a genogram is developed for the entire new family system to show how everyone is interconnected.
36. Refer the family to an initiatives camp weekend to increase cooperation, conflict resolution, and sense of trust. Process the experiences with the family in the next family session.
37. In a family session, assign the family to design on poster board a

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| <p>17. Parents spend one-on-one time with each child. (38)</p>            | <p>coat of arms for the family that reflects where they came from and where they are now. Process this experience when completed and have the family display it in their home.</p>   |
| <p>18. Report the development of a bond between each member. (38, 39)</p> | <p>38. Assist the parents in scheduling one-on-one time with each child and stepchild in order to give them undivided attention and to build/maintain relationships.</p> <p>38. Assist the parents in scheduling one-on-one time with each child and stepchild in order to give them undivided attention and to build/maintain relationships.</p> <p>39. Emphasize and model in family, sibling, and couple sessions the need for the family to build their new relationships slowly, allowing everyone time and space to adjust and develop a level of trust with each other.</p> |
| <p>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p>                                | <p>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____<br/>_____</p>   |

**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
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|--------|---|
| 309.0  | Adjustment Disorder With Depressed Mood         |
| 309.3  | Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct |
| 309.24 | Adjustment Disorder With Anxiety                |
| 309.81 | Posttraumatic Stress Disorder                   |
| 300.4  | Dysthymic Disorder                              |

V62.81 Relational Problem NOS

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\_\_\_\_\_

**Axis II:**

V71.09 No Diagnosis

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\_\_\_\_\_

# BULLYING/INTIMIDATION PERPETRATOR

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Makes verbal threats to younger or weaker peers.
2. Engages in intimidating behavior only when reinforced by friends.
3. Engages in intimidating behavior even when alone and not reinforced by friends.
4. Uses mild, physically aggressive behavior to reinforce the verbal intimidation (e.g., pushing, grabbing and holding, throwing things at the victim).
5. Breaks or takes objects belonging to the victim of the bullying.
6. Has fits of rage in front of peers that include screaming, shouting, threatening, or name-calling.
7. Family of origin has provided models of threatening, intimidating, aggressive behavior.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Terminate intimidating behavior and treat others with respect and kindness.
2. Develop empathy and compassion for others.
3. Parents/caregivers terminate the use of aggressive means of control and implement positive parenting methods.

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**SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES**

1. Describe the type of behavioral interaction that occurs with peers when the goal is to get own way or control the other peer. (1)
2. Parents/caregivers and teachers describe the client’s pattern of bullying or intimidating his/her peers. (2)
3. Acknowledge, without denial, that bullying has been used against peers. (1, 3, 4)
4. Verbalize an understanding of the feelings of the victim of intimidating behavior. (5, 6, 7, 8)

**THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS**

1. Gather data from the client regarding his/her pattern of interaction with peers, especially when he/she is trying to control the situation or intimidate others.
2. Meet with the client’s parents/ caregivers and school teachers to ask for their input regarding his/her pattern of bullying or intimidating peers.
1. Gather data from the client regarding his/her pattern of interaction with peers, especially when he/she is trying to control the situation or intimidate others.
3. Confront the client with facts reported by others that indicate that he/she does engage in intimidating behavior toward peers.
4. Role-play several social interactions with peers in which the therapist, playing the role of the client, uses bullying behavior to intimidate others; ask the client to acknowledge that he/she does behave in this manner.
5. Teach the client empathy for the victim of his/her intimidating behavior by asking him/her to

- list the feelings generated in the victim due to the client's bullying (e.g., fear, rejection, anger, helplessness, social withdrawal).
6. Engage the client in a role-playing session in which he/she is the victim of bullying from a peer (played by the therapist); stop the role-playing periodically to explore and identify the victim's feelings.
  7. Assign the client to be alert to observing instances of bullying perpetrated by others and to note the feelings of the victim; process these experiences.
  8. Explore the client's capacity for empathy; assess whether cruelty toward animals or other indicators of Conduct Disorder are present (see Conduct Disorder chapter in this *Planner*).
  9. Ask the client to write a list of words that are self-descriptive; assess his/her perception of himself/herself (e.g., low self-esteem, aggressive, isolated, unloved).
  10. Administer or refer the client for psychological testing to determine his/her self-perception, emotional state, and relationship style; provide feedback of the test results to the client and his/her parents.
  11. Assist the client in exploring his/her goal when he/she engages in intimidation of others (e.g., impress peers to gain acceptance; seek to control others; resolve a conflict using aggression).
  12. Role-play social interactions in which the client is the bully; stop the action periodically to have
5. Identify feelings toward self. (9, 10)
  6. Identify the goal or intent of bullying or intimidating behavior. (11, 12, 13)

- him/her verbalize his/her goal or intent.
7. Implement prosocial assertiveness to attain social interaction goals and to resolve disputes. (14, 15)
  8. Family members acknowledge the presence of intimidation in family interactions. (16, 17)
  9. Family members demonstrate respect for each other's rights and feelings during conflict resolution. (18, 19)
  13. Read book passages or view videos with the client in which bullying is taking place; ask him/her to identify the goal of the intimidator and the feelings of the victim.
  14. Assist the client in identifying prosocial means of attaining healthy social interaction goals (e.g., attain respect by being kind, honest, and trustworthy; attain leadership through assertiveness and respect, not aggression; use effective problem-solving techniques, rather than intimidation).
  15. Role-play peer conflict situations with the client in which bullying is used first, then where assertiveness and problem-solving techniques are used.
  16. In a family therapy session, assign the family the task of resolving a conflict; assess for the use of effective and respectful problem-solving techniques versus authoritarianism and aggression.
  17. Explore with the family members whether aggression, intimidation, and threats are often a part of family interaction, especially during times of conflict.
  18. Teach the family respectful conflict resolution techniques in which the parents' authority is recognized but not flaunted without regard to the feelings of others.
  19. During a role-playing session, guide the family in the use of prosocial problem-solving techniques that respect each person's rights and feelings.



10. Attend a social skills training group. (20, 21)
11. Increase socially appropriate behavior with peers and siblings. (22, 23)
12. Attend and freely participate in play therapy sessions. (24, 25, 26, 27)
20. Refer the client to a social skills training group that emphasizes demonstrating respect and compassion for peers.
21. Review and process what the client has learned in attending the social skills training group.
22. Play The Social Conflict Game (Berg) with the client to assist him/her in developing behavioral skills to decrease interpersonal antisocialism with others.
23. Use The Anger Control Game (Shore) or a similar game to expand the client's ways to manage aggressive feelings.
24. Employ the ACT model (Lan-dreth) in play therapy sessions to *acknowledge* the client's feelings, to *communicate* limits, and to *target* more appropriate alternatives to ongoing conflicts and aggression with peers and/or siblings.
25. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., explore and gain an understanding of the etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or arrests; interpret resistance, transference, or core anxieties) to help the client work through and resolve peer conflicts.
26. Interpret the client's feelings expressed in play therapy and relate them to anger and aggressive behaviors toward peers.
27. Create scenarios with puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals that model and/or suggest constructive ways for the client to handle/manage conflicts with peers.

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| <p>13. Read books and play therapeutic games to increase sensitivity to the causes and effects of bullying. (28)</p>                 | <p>28. Read books and play games with the client that focus on bullying to teach its causes and effects (e.g., <i>Sometimes I Like to Fight, but I Don't Do It Much Anymore</i> by Shapiro; <i>The Very Angry Day that Amy Didn't Have</i> by Shapiro; No More Bullies Game [available from Courage to Change]; The Anti-Bullying Game by Searle and Streng); process the application of principles learned to the client's daily life.</p>   |
| <p>14. Identify family issues that contribute to bullying/intimidating behavior. (29)</p>  | <p>29. Conduct family therapy sessions to explore the dynamics (e.g., parental modeling of aggressive behavior; sexual, verbal, or physical abuse of family members; substance abuse in the home; neglect) that contribute to the emergence of the client's bullying/intimidating behavior.</p>   |
| <p>15. Identify and verbally express feelings that are associated with past neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment. (30, 31)</p> | <p>30. Encourage and support the client in expressing his/her feelings associated with neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment (see Attachment Disorder, Sexual Abuse Victim, and Physical/Emotional Abuse Victim chapters in this <i>Planner</i>).</p> <p>31. Give the client permission to cry about past losses, separation, or abandonment; educate him/her about the healing nature of crying (i.e., provides an opportunity to express sadness, takes the edge off anger, helps to induce calmness after crying subsides).</p> |

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# CONDUCT DISORDER/DELINQUENCY

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Persistent refusal to comply with rules or expectations in the home, school, or community.
2. Excessive fighting, intimidation of others, cruelty or violence toward people or animals, and destruction of property.
3. History of stealing at home, at school, or in the community.
4. School adjustment characterized by disrespectful attitude toward authority figures, frequent disruptive behaviors, and detentions or suspensions for misbehavior.
5. Repeated conflict with authority figures at home, at school, or in the community.
6. Impulsivity as manifested by poor judgment, taking inappropriate risks, and failing to stop and think about consequences of actions.
7. Numerous attempts to deceive others through lying, conning, or manipulating.
8. Consistent failure to accept responsibility for misbehavior accompanied by a pattern of blaming others.
9. Little or no remorse for misbehavior.
10. Lack of sensitivity to the thoughts, feelings, and needs of other people.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Comply with rules and expectations in the home, school, and community consistently.
2. Eliminate all illegal and antisocial behavior.
3. Terminate all acts of violence or cruelty toward people or animals and the destruction of property.
4. Express anger in a controlled, respectful manner on a consistent basis.
5. Parents establish and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries, setting firm, consistent limits when the client acts out in an aggressive or rebellious manner.
6. Demonstrate empathy, concern, and sensitivity for the thoughts, feelings, and needs of others on a regular basis.
7. Parents learn and implement good child behavioral management skills.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Identify situations, thoughts, and feelings that trigger angry feelings, problem behaviors, and the targets of those actions. (1)
2. Cooperate with a medical evaluation to assess possible organic contributors to poor anger control. (2)
3. Complete psychological testing. (3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Thoroughly assess the various stimuli (e.g., situations, people, thoughts) that have triggered the client's anger and the thoughts, feelings, and actions that have characterized his/her anger responses.
2. Refer the client to a physician for a complete physical exam to rule out organic contributors (e.g., brain damage, tumor, elevated testosterone levels) to poor anger control.
3. Conduct or arrange for psychological testing to help in assessing whether a comorbid condition

- (e.g., depression, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder [ADHD]) is contributing to anger control problems; follow-up accordingly with client and parents regarding treatment options.
4. Cooperate with the recommendations or requirements mandated by the criminal justice system. (4, 5, 6)
  4. Consult with criminal justice officials about the appropriate consequences for the client's destructive or aggressive behaviors (e.g., pay restitution, community service, probation, intensive surveillance).
  5. Consult with parents, school officials, and criminal justice officials about the need to place the client in an alternative setting (e.g., foster home, group home, residential program, juvenile detention facility).
  6. Encourage and challenge the parents not to protect the client from the natural or legal consequences of his/her destructive or aggressive behaviors.
  7. Assess the client for the need for psychotropic medication to assist in anger and behavioral control, referring him/her, if indicated, to a physician for an evaluation for prescription medication. ▽
  8. Monitor the client's prescription compliance, effectiveness, and side effects; provide feedback to the prescribing physician. ▽
  9. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and
- ▽ 5. Cooperate with a physician evaluation for possible treatment with psychotropic medications and take medications consistently, if prescribed. (7, 8)
  - ▽ 6. Recognize and verbalize how feelings are connected to misbehavior. (9)

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▽ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- warm acceptance to help increase his/her ability to identify and express feelings instead of acting them out; assist the client in making a connection between his/her feelings and reactive behaviors (or assign “Risk Factors Leading to Child Behavior Problems” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
- ▽ 7. Increase the number of statements that reflect the acceptance of responsibility for misbehavior. (10, 11, 12)
- ▽ 8. Agree to learn alternative ways to think about and manage anger and misbehavior. (13, 14)
10. Firmly confront the client’s antisocial behavior and attitude, pointing out consequences for himself/herself and others. ▽
11. Confront statements in which the client lies and/or blames others for his/her misbehaviors and fails to accept responsibility for his/her actions. ▽
12. Explore and process the factors that contribute to the client’s pattern of blaming others (e.g., harsh punishment experiences, family pattern of blaming others). ▽
13. Assist the client in reconceptualizing anger as involving different components (cognitive, physiological, affective, and behavioral) that go through predictable phases (e.g., demanding expectations not being met leading to increased arousal and anger leading to acting out) that can be managed. ▽
14. Assist the client in identifying the positive consequences of managing anger and misbehavior (e.g., respect from others and self, cooperation from others, improved physical health); ask the client to agree to learn new ways to conceptualize and manage anger and misbehavior. ▽

- ▼ 9. Learn and implement calming strategies as part of a new way to manage reactions to frustration. (15)
- ▼ 10. Identify, challenge, and replace self-talk that leads to anger and misbehavior with self-talk that facilitates more constructive reactions. (16)
- ▼ 11. Learn and implement thought-stopping to manage intrusive unwanted thoughts that trigger anger and acting out. (17)
- ▼ 12. Verbalize feelings of frustration, disagreement, and anger in a controlled, assertive way. (18)
- ▼ 13. Implement problem-solving and/or conflict resolution skills to manage interpersonal problems constructively. (19)
- 15. Teach the client calming techniques (e.g., muscle relaxation, paced breathing, calming imagery) as part of a tailored strategy for responding appropriately to angry feelings when they occur. ▼
- 16. Explore the client's self-talk that mediates his/her angry feelings and actions (e.g., demanding expectations reflected in should, must, or have to statements); identify and challenge biases, assisting him/her in generating appraisals and self-talk that corrects for the biases and facilitates a more flexible and temperate response to frustration. ▼
- 17. Teach the client the "thought-stopping" technique and assign implementation on a daily basis between sessions; review implementation, reinforcing success and providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
- 18. Use instruction, videotaped or live modeling, and/or role-playing to help develop the client's anger control skills, such as calming, self-statement, assertion skills; if indicated, refer him/her to an anger control group for further instruction. ▼
- 19. Teach the client conflict resolution skills (e.g., empathy, active listening, "I messages," respectful communication, assertiveness without aggression, compromise); use modeling, role-playing, and behavior rehearsal to work through several current conflicts. ▼



- ▼14. Practice using new calming, communication, conflict resolution, and thinking skills in group or individual therapy. (20, 21)
- ▼15. Practice using new calming, communication, conflict resolution, and thinking skills in homework exercises. (22)
- ▼16. Decrease the number, intensity, and duration of angry outbursts, while increasing the use of new skills for managing anger. (23)
- ▼17. Identify social supports that will help facilitate the implementation of new skills. (24)
20. Assist the client in constructing and consolidating a client-tailored strategy for managing anger that combines any of the somatic, cognitive, communication, problem-solving, and/or conflict resolution skills relevant to his/her needs. ▼
21. Use any of several techniques (e.g., relaxation, imagery, behavioral rehearsal, modeling, role-playing, feedback of videotaped practice) in increasingly challenging situations to help the client consolidate the use of his/her new anger management skills. ▼
22. Assign the client homework exercises to help him/her practice newly learned calming, assertion, conflict resolution, or cognitive restructuring skills as needed; review and process toward the goal of consolidation. ▼
23. Monitor the client's reports of angry outbursts toward the goal of decreasing their frequency, intensity, and duration through the client's use of new anger management skills (or assign "Anger Control" or "Anger Checklist" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review progress, reinforcing success and providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
24. Encourage the client to discuss and/or use his/her new anger and conduct management skills with trusted peers, family, or otherwise significant others who are likely to support his/her change. ▼

- ▼18. Parents learn and implement Parent Management Training skills to recognize and manage problem behavior of the client. (25, 26, 27, 28, 29)
25. Use a Parent Management Training approach beginning with teaching the parents how parent and child behavioral interactions can encourage or discourage positive or negative behavior and that changing key elements of those interactions (e.g., prompting and reinforcing positive behaviors) can be used to promote positive change (e.g., *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* by Forehand and Long; *Living with Children* by Patterson). ▼
26. Teach the parents how to specifically define and identify problem behaviors, identify their reactions to the behavior, determine whether the reaction encourages or discourages the behavior, and generate alternatives to the problem behavior. ▼
27. Teach parents how to implement key parenting practices consistently, including establishing realistic age-appropriate rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, prompting of positive behavior in the environment, use of positive reinforcement to encourage behavior (e.g., praise), use of clear direct instruction, time out, and other loss-of-privilege practices for problem behavior. ▼
28. Assign the parents home exercises in which they implement and record results of implementation exercises (or assign “Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review in session,

- providing corrective feedback toward improved, appropriate, and consistent use of skills. ▽
- ▽19. Parents and client participate in play sessions in which they use their new rules for appropriate conduct (30, 31)
- ▽20. Increase compliance with rules at home and school. (32)
- ▽21. Parents verbalize appropriate boundaries for discipline to prevent further occurrences of abuse and to ensure the safety of the client and his/her siblings. (33, 34)
29. Use Webster-Stratton videotapes to teach parenting techniques (see Webster-Stratton, 1994, 1996). ▽
30. Conduct Parent-Child Interaction Therapy in which child-directed and parent-directed sessions focus on teaching appropriate child behavior, and parental behavioral management skills (e.g., clear commands, consistent consequences, positive reinforcement) are developed (see *Parent-Child Interaction Therapy* by Bell and Eyberg). ▽
31. Teach parents to use the time out technique as a consequence for inappropriate behavior; if possible, use a “signal seat” that has a battery-operated buzzer that serves as both a timer and an alert that the child is not staying in the seat (see Hamilton and MacQuiddy, 1984). ▽
32. Design a reward system and/or contingency contract for the client and meet with school officials to reinforce identified positive behaviors at home and school and deter impulsive or rebellious behaviors. ▽
33. Explore the client’s family background for a history of neglect and physical or sexual abuse that may contribute to his/her behavioral problems; confront the client’s parents to cease physically abusive or overly punitive methods of discipline. ▽



“The Lesson of Salmon Rock . . . Fighting Leads to Loneliness” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

25. Parents participate in marital therapy. (40)

40. Assess the marital dyad for possible substance abuse, conflict, or triangulation that shifts the focus from marriage issues to the client’s acting out behaviors; refer for appropriate treatment, if needed.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 312.81 Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type
  - 312.82 Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type
  - 313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder
  - 312.9 Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
  - 314.01 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
  - 314.9 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS
  - 312.34 Intermittent Explosive Disorder
  - V71.02 Child Antisocial Behavior
  - V61.20 Parent-Child Relational Problem

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**Axis II:** V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# DEPRESSION

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Demonstrates sad or flat affect.
2. Reports a preoccupation with the subject of death.
3. Reports suicidal thoughts and/or actions.
4. Exhibits moody irritability.
5. Isolates self from family and/or peers.
6. Deterioration in academic performance.
7. Lacks interest in previously enjoyed activities.
8. Refuses to communicate openly.
9. Demonstrates low energy.
10. Makes little or no eye contact.
11. Frequently expresses statements reflecting low self-esteem.
12. Exhibits a reduced appetite.
13. Demonstrates an increased need for sleep.
14. Exhibits poor concentration and indecision.
15. Expresses feelings of hopelessness, worthlessness, or inappropriate guilt.
16. Reports unresolved feelings of grief.
17. Uses street drugs to elevate mood.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Elevate mood and show evidence of usual energy, activities, and socialization level.
2. Renew typical interest in academic achievement, social involvement, and eating patterns as well as occasional expressions of joy and zest for life.
3. Reduce irritability and increase normal social interaction with family and friends.
4. Acknowledge the depression verbally and resolve its causes, leading to normalization of the emotional state.
5. Develop healthy cognitive patterns and beliefs about self and the world that lead to alleviation and help prevent the relapse of depression symptoms.
6. Develop healthy interpersonal relationships that lead to alleviation and help prevent the relapse of depression symptoms.
7. Appropriately grieve the loss in order to normalize mood and to return to previous adaptive level of functioning.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe current and past experiences with depression complete with its impact on function and attempts to resolve it. (1)
2. Verbally identify, if possible, the source of depressed mood. (2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Assess current and past mood episodes including their features, frequency, intensity, and duration (e.g., Clinical Interview supplemented by the *Inventory to Diagnose Depression* by Zimmerman, Coryell, Corenthal, and Wilson).
2. Ask the client to make a list of what he/she is depressed about (or assign the “Childhood Depression Survey” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); process the list content.

3. Complete psychological testing to assess the depth of depression, the need for antidepressant medication, and suicide prevention measures. (4)
4. Verbalize any history of suicide attempts and any current suicidal urges. (5)
5. State no longer having thoughts of self-harm. (6, 7)
- ▼ 6. Take prescribed psychotropic medications responsibly at times ordered by physician. (8, 9)
- ▼ 7. Identify and replace depressive thinking that leads to depression. (10, 11, 12, 13)
3. Encourage the client to share his/her feelings of depression in order to clarify them and gain insight as to causes.
4. Arrange for the administration of an objective assessment instrument for evaluating the client's depression and suicide risk (e.g., Beck Depression Inventory for Youth); evaluate results and give feedback to the client.
5. Explore the client's history and current state of suicidal urges and behavior.
6. Assess and monitor the client's suicide potential.
7. Arrange for hospitalization, as necessary, when the client is judged to be harmful to self.
8. Evaluate the client's possible need for psychotropic medication and arrange for a physician to give him/her a physical examination to rule out organic causes for depression, assess need for antidepressant medication, and order a prescription, if appropriate. ▼
9. Monitor and evaluate the client's psychotropic medication compliance, effectiveness, and side effects; communicate with prescribing physician. ▼
10. Assist the client in developing an awareness of his/her automatic thoughts that reflect a depressogenic schemata; challenge depressive thinking patterns and replace them with reality-based thoughts ▼

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.



11. Assign the client to keep a daily journal of automatic thoughts associated with depressive feelings (e.g., “Daily Record of Dysfunctional Thoughts” in *Cognitive Therapy of Depression* by Beck, Rush, Shaw, and Emery); process the journal material to challenge depressive thinking patterns and replace them with reality-based thoughts. ▼
12. Do “behavioral experiments” in which depressive automatic thoughts are treated as hypotheses/predictions, reality-based alternative hypotheses/predictions are generated, and both are tested against the client’s past, present, and/or future experiences. ▼
13. Reinforce the client’s positive, reality-based cognitive messages that enhance self-confidence and increase adaptive action (or assign “Recognizing Your Abilities, Traits, and Accomplishments” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner II* by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- ▼ 8. Learn new ways to overcome depression through activity. (14, 15)
14. Assist the client in developing age-appropriate coping strategies for managing feelings of depression (e.g., more physical exercise, less internal focus, increased social involvement, more assertiveness, greater need sharing, constructive anger expression); reinforce success. ▼
15. Engage the client in “behavioral activation” by scheduling activities that have a high likelihood for pleasure and mastery; use rehearsal, role-playing, role reversal,

- as needed, to assist adoption in the client's daily life; reinforce success. ▽
- ▽ 9. Learn and implement social skills to reduce anxiety and build confidence in social interactions. (16)
  - ▽ 10. Learn and implement problem-solving and/or conflict resolution skills to resolve interpersonal problems. (17)
  - 11. Initiate and respond actively to social communication with family and peers. (18, 19)
  - 12. Verbalize any unresolved grief issues that may be contributing to depression. (20)
  - 13. Implement a routine of physical exercise. (21)
  - 14. Learn and implement relapse prevention skills. (22)
  - 16. Use instruction, modeling, and role-playing to build the client's general social and/or communication skills (see *Social Effectiveness Therapy for Children and Adolescents* by Turner, Beidel, Turner, and Morris). ▽
  - 17. Teach the client age-appropriate conflict resolution skills (e.g., empathy, active listening, "I messages," respectful communication, assertiveness without aggression, compromise) to help alleviate depression; use modeling, role-playing, and behavior rehearsal to work through several current conflicts. ▽
  - 18. Encourage the client to participate in social/recreational activities that enrich his/her life (or assign "Greeting Peers" or "Show Your Strengths" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  - 19. Use therapeutic feelings games (e.g., The Talking, Feeling, and Doing Game) to assist the client in being more verbal.
  - 20. Explore the role of unresolved grief issues as they contribute to the client's current depression (see Grief/Loss Unresolved chapter in this *Planner*).
  - 21. Develop and reinforce a routine of physical exercise for the client.
  - 22. Build the client's relapse prevention skills by helping him/her identify early warning signs of

- relapse, reviewing skills learned during therapy, and developing a plan for managing challenges.
15. State the connection between rebellion, self-destruction, or withdrawal and the underlying depression. (23, 24, 25)
  16. Specify what is missing from life to cause the unhappiness. (26, 27)
  17. Specify what in the past or present life contributes to sadness. (28, 29)
  23. Assess the client's level of self-understanding about self-defeating behaviors linked to the depression.
  24. Interpret and confront the client's acting out behaviors as avoidance of the real conflict involving his/her unmet emotional needs and reflection of the depression.
  25. Teach the client the connection between angry, irritable behaviors and feelings of hurt and sadness (or assign the exercise "Surface Behavior/Inner Feelings" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  26. Explore the client's fears regarding abandonment or loss of love from others.
  27. Ask the client what is missing from his/her life that contributes to the unhappiness (or assign "Three Wishes Game" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  28. Explore the emotional pain from the client's past that contributes to the feelings of hopelessness and low self-esteem.
  29. Assist the client in identifying his/her current unmet emotional needs and specifying ways to meet those needs (or assign the exercise "Unmet Emotional Needs—Identification and Satisfaction" from the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

18. Express negative feelings through artistic modalities. (30, 31)
19. Express emotional needs to significant others. (32)
20. Improve academic performance as evidenced by better grades and positive teacher reports. (33)
21. Adjust sleep hours to those typical of the developmental stage. (34)
22. Eat nutritional meals regularly without strong urging from others. (35)
23. Express feelings of sadness, hurt, and anger in play therapy sessions. (36, 37)
24. Verbalize the life changes that would result in a reduction of sadness and an increase in hope. (27, 38)
30. Use art therapy (e.g., drawing, coloring, painting, collage, sculpture) to help the client express depressive feelings; use his/her artistic products as a springboard for further elaboration of emotions and their causes.
31. Ask the client to produce a family drawing to help assess the factors contributing to his/her depression.
32. Hold family therapy sessions to facilitate the client's expression of conflict with family members while teaching family members and significant others to encourage, support, and tolerate the client's respectful expression of his/her thoughts and feelings.
33. Challenge and encourage the client's academic effort; arrange for a tutor, if needed, to increase the client's sense of academic mastery.
34. Monitor the client's sleep patterns and the restfulness of sleep.
35. Monitor and encourage the client's food consumption.
36. Arrange for a play therapy session that allows for the client to express feelings toward himself/herself and others.
37. Interpret the feelings expressed in play therapy as those of the client toward real life circumstances.
27. Ask the client what is missing from his/her life that contributes to the unhappiness (or assign "Three Wishes Game" in the *Child*

*Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

38. Assign the client the homework of writing three ways he/she would like to change the world to bring increased feelings of joy, peace, and security (or assign the exercise “Three Ways to Change the World” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

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### DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

- Axis I:**
- 309.0 Adjustment Disorder With Depressed Mood
  - 296.xx Bipolar I Disorder
  - 296.89 Bipolar II Disorder
  - 300.4 Dysthymic Disorder
  - 296.2x Major Depressive Disorder, Single Episode
  - 296.3x Major Depressive Disorder, Recurrent
  - V62.82 Bereavement

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- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# DISRUPTIVE/ATTENTION-SEEKING

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Repeated attempts to draw attention to self through silly, immature, or regressive behaviors, loud talking, and making inappropriate noises or gestures.
2. Frequent disruptions in the classroom by interrupting the teacher and/or interfering with classmates' attention and concentration by talking excessively, blurting out remarks, speaking without permission, and laughing or making noises at inappropriate times.
3. Strained sibling and peer relationships due to annoying or antagonistic behaviors (e.g., teasing, mocking, name-calling, picking on others).
4. Fails to follow agreed-upon rules in play or game activities, refusing to share or cooperate, and demanding that others do things his/her way.
5. Obstinate refusal to comply with reasonable requests by authority figures in home or school settings.
6. Unwillingness to back down or bend during an argument with family members, peers, or adult authority figures.
7. Lack of sensitivity to or awareness of how attention-seeking behaviors impact other people.
8. Lack of awareness of important social cues and/or failure to follow expected social norms.
9. Numerous complaints by siblings or peers of inappropriate touching or contact and intrusions into personal space.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Terminate disruptive attention-seeking behaviors, and increase cooperative, prosocial interactions.
2. Gain attention, approval, and acceptance from other people through appropriate verbalizations and positive social behaviors.
3. Establish and maintain positive sibling relationships and lasting peer friendships.
4. Comply with rules and expectations in home and school settings on a regular basis.
5. Resolve core conflicts that contribute to the emergence of disruptive, antagonistic, annoying, or negative attention-seeking behaviors.
6. React appropriately to important social cues and follow expected rules of engagement in play, classroom, extracurricular, or social activities.
7. Parents set firm, consistent limits on the client's disruptive or negative attention-seeking behaviors and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Cooperate with a psychological assessment to rule out diagnosable conditions contributing to disruptive behavior. (1, 2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Arrange for psychological testing of the client to assess whether emotional factors or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are contributing to his/her disruptive, antagonistic, annoying, or negative attention-seeking behaviors; provide feedback to the client and his/her parents.
2. Assess the client for the presence of symptom patterns that indicate the presence of Oppositional

- Defiant Disorder or Conduct Disorder and treat appropriately if positive for either of these conditions (see chapters on Conduct Disorder/Delinquency and Oppositional Defiant in this *Planner*).
2. Complete a psychoeducational evaluation. (3)
  3. Parents and teachers establish appropriate boundaries, develop clear rules, and follow through consistently with consequences for the client's disruptive or annoying behaviors. (4, 5, 6, 7, 8)
  3. Arrange for a psychoeducational evaluation of the client to rule out the presence of a learning disability that may be contributing to his/her disruptive and negative attention-seeking behaviors in the school setting; provide feedback to the client's parents or school officials.
  4. Assist the parents in establishing clearly defined boundaries and consequences for the client's disruptive, antagonistic, annoying, and negative attention-seeking behaviors.
  5. Establish clear rules for the client in home and school; ask him/her to repeat the rules to demonstrate an understanding of the expectations.
  6. Consult with the parents about increasing structure in the home to help the client delay gratification for longer-term goals (e.g., completing homework or chores before playing video games or socializing with peers).
  7. Consult with the parents, teachers, and school officials to design and implement interventions (e.g., sitting in the front row during class, providing frequent feedback, calling on the client often, using a teacher's aide to assist with learning problems) to deter



- the client's impulsivity, improve academic performance, and increase positive behaviors in the classroom.
4. Parents increase the frequency of praise and positive reinforcement to the client. (9, 10)
  5. Reduce the frequency and severity of disruptive or negative attention-seeking behaviors at home and/or school. (11, 12, 13, 14)
  8. Assign the parents readings to increase their knowledge about effective disciplinary techniques (e.g., *1-2-3 Magic: Training Your Preschoolers and Preteens to Do What You Want* by Phelan; *Family Rules* by Kaye; *Assertive Discipline for Parents* by Canter and Canter).
  9. Encourage the parents to provide frequent praise and positive reinforcement for the client's positive social behaviors and good impulse control.
  10. Design a reward system and/or contingency contract for the client to reinforce identified positive behaviors, completion of school and homework assignments, and to reduce the frequency of disruptive and negative attention-seeking behaviors.
  11. Design and implement a token economy to increase the client's positive social behaviors and deter disruptive and negative attention-seeking behaviors.
  12. Teach mediational and self-control strategies (e.g., relaxation; "stop, look, listen, and think") to help the client to delay the impulse to act out and engage in negative attention-seeking behaviors.
  13. Encourage the client to use self-monitoring checklists at home or school to improve impulse control and social skills.

6. Verbalize an awareness of how disruptive behaviors negatively affect self and others. (15, 16, 17)
7. Recognize and verbalize how unpleasant or negative emotions are connected to disruptive, antagonistic, or negative, attention-seeking behaviors. (18)
8. Identify and implement appropriate ways to elicit attention from family members, authority figures, or peers. (19, 20, 21, 22)
14. Assign the client to read material that will help him/her learn to improve impulse control and attain the ability to stop and think about possible consequences of negative social behaviors (see *How I Learned to Think Things Through* by Shapiro).
15. Firmly confront the client's annoying and disruptive behaviors, pointing out consequences for himself/herself and others.
16. Help the client develop an awareness of how disruptive behaviors lead to negative consequences for himself/herself and others (or assign the "Stop, Think, and Act" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
17. Confront statements in which the client blames others for his/her annoying or disruptive behaviors and fails to accept responsibility for his/her actions.
18. Help the client to make a connection between unpleasant or negative emotions and annoying or disruptive behaviors.
19. Teach effective communication and assertiveness skills to help the client to meet his/her needs for attention and approval through appropriate verbalizations and positive social behaviors.
20. Instruct the parents and teachers to observe and record positive behaviors by the client in between

- therapy sessions; reinforce and encourage the client to continue to engage in the positive behaviors.
21. Assess periods of time during which the client displays positive social behaviors; reinforce any strengths or resources used to gain approval and acceptance from peers.
  22. Introduce the idea that the client can change the pattern of engaging in disruptive or negative attention-seeking behaviors by asking the following question: "What will you be doing when you stop getting into trouble?" Process the client's responses and help him/her develop an action plan to accomplish goals or desired behavior changes.
  23. Explore with the client possible stressors or frustrations (e.g., lengthy separation from parent, learning problems, failure experiences) that might cause negative behaviors to reappear in the future; help him/her and family members identify how to manage stressors or frustrations.
  24. Conduct family therapy sessions to explore the dynamics that contribute to the emergence of the client's disruptive and negative attention-seeking behaviors.
  25. Conduct filial play therapy sessions (i.e., parental involvement in session) to help improve the quality of the parent-child relationship and increase the parent's awareness of the factors contributing to the client's disruptive or annoying behaviors.
9. Identify and list stressors that contribute to the emergence of disruptive and negative, attention-seeking behaviors. (23, 24)
  10. Increase parental time spent with the client in positive and rewarding activities. (25, 26, 27)

26. Give a directive to uninvolved or disengaged parent(s) to spend more time with the client in leisure, school, or household activities.
  27. Prescribe a symptom by directing the client to engage in annoying or disruptive behaviors for a specific length of time or at a set time each day to help disrupt established patterns of negative behaviors. (This intervention seeks to diffuse the client's power of gaining negative attention through the annoying and disruptive behaviors.)
  28. Explore the client's family background for a history of physical, sexual, or substance abuse, which may contribute to his/her disruptive behaviors.
  29. Encourage and support the client in expressing feelings associated with neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment.
  30. Use child-centered play therapy approaches (e.g., provide unconditional, positive regard, offer nonjudgmental reflection of feelings, display trust in child's capacity to act responsibly) to help the client express and work through feelings surrounding past neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment.
  31. Use the empty-chair technique to assist the client in expressing and working through feelings of anger and sadness about past neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment.
11. Identify and verbally express feelings associated with past neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment. (28, 29, 30, 31)

12. Increase the frequency of socially appropriate behaviors with siblings and peers. (32, 33, 34)
13. Increase verbalizations of empathy and concern for other people. (35)
14. Express feelings in therapeutic games or individual play therapy sessions. (36, 37, 38)
15. Express feelings through art therapy and mutual storytelling. (39, 40)
32. Encourage the client to participate in extracurricular or positive peer group activities to provide a healthy outlet for anger, improve social skills, and increase self-esteem.
33. Refer the client for group therapy to improve his/her social judgment and interpersonal skills.
34. Play the game, *You & Me: A Game of Social Skills* (Shapiro) to help the client develop positive social skills.
35. Assign the client the task of showing empathy, kindness, or sensitivity to the needs of others (e.g., reading a bedtime story to a sibling, helping a classmate with reading or math problems).
36. Play the game, *The Helping, Sharing, and Caring Game* (Gardner) with the client to promote his/her greater expression of empathy and concern for other people.
37. Interpret the feelings expressed in individual play therapy sessions, and relate them to the client's negative attention-seeking behaviors.
38. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy principles (e.g., explore and gain an understanding of the etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or arrests; interpret resistance, transference, or core anxieties) to help the client work through and resolve issues contributing to disruptive behaviors.
39. Use puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals to create a story that models appropriate ways to gain approval

and acceptance from peers; then ask the client to create a story with similar characters or themes.

- 40. Use the Color Your Life technique (O'Connor) to improve the client's ability to identify and verbalize feelings instead of acting them out: Ask the client to match colors to different emotions (e.g., red-anger, blue-sad, black-very sad, yellow-happy), and then fill up a blank page with colors that reflect his/her feelings about different life events.
  - 16. Take medication as prescribed by the physician. (41)
  - 41. Arrange for a medication evaluation to improve the client's impulse control and stabilize his/her moods.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

<b>Axis I:</b>	312.9	Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type
	312.81	Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type
	313.81	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
	309.3	Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct
	309.4	Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct

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V71.02	Child Antisocial Behavior
V61.20	Parent-Child Relational Problem
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_____	_____

**Axis II:**

V71.09	No Diagnosis
_____	_____
_____	_____

# DIVORCE REACTION

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Infrequent contact or loss of contact with a parental figure due to separation or divorce.
2. Intense emotional reaction (e.g., crying, begging, pleading, temper outbursts) associated with separation of parental figures and/or when making the transfer from one parent's home to another.
3. Persistent fears and worries about being abandoned or separated from a parent.
4. Strong feelings of grief and sadness combined with feelings of low self-worth, lack of confidence, social withdrawal, and loss of interest in activities that normally bring pleasure.
5. Feelings of guilt accompanied by unreasonable belief regarding behaving in some manner to cause parents' divorce and/or failing to prevent their divorce from occurring.
6. Marked increase in frequency and severity of acting out, oppositional, and aggressive behaviors since the onset of parents' marital problems, separation, or divorce.
7. Significant decline in school performance and lack of interest or motivation in school-related activities.
8. Appearance of regressive behaviors (e.g., thumb sucking, baby talk, rocking, bed-wetting).
9. Pseudomaturity as manifested by denying or suppressing painful emotions about parents' divorce and often assuming parental roles or responsibilities.
10. Numerous psychosomatic complaints in response to anticipated separations, stress, or frustration.
11. Loss of contact with positive support network due to geographic move.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Accept parents' separation or divorce with understanding and control of feelings and behavior.
2. Alleviate fear of abandonment and establish loving, secure relationship with the parents.
3. Eliminate feelings of guilt and statements that reflect self-blame for parents' divorce.
4. Elevate and stabilize mood.
5. Parents establish and maintain consistent visitation arrangement that meets the client's emotional needs.
6. Parents establish and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries in discipline and assignment of responsibilities.
7. Parents consistently demonstrate mutual respect for one another, especially in front of the children.
8. Create a strong, supportive social network outside of the immediate family to offset loss of nurturance or support from within family.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Tell the story of parents' separation or divorce. (1, 2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to improve his/her ability to identify and express feelings connected to parents' separation or divorce.

2. Identify and express feelings related to parents' separation or divorce. (2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
2. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying his/her feelings associated with the separation or divorce.
  2. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying his/her feelings associated with the separation or divorce.
  3. Read books with the client to assist him/her in expressing his/her feelings about the parents' divorce and changes in the family system (e.g., *Dinosaur's Divorce: A Guide for Changing Families* by Brown, Tolon Brown, and Krasney Brown; *Divorce Workbook: A Guide for Kids and Families* by Ives, Fassler, and Lash).
  4. Create a photo album by first instructing the client to gather a diverse collection of photographs covering many aspects of his/her life; then place the pictures in a photo album during a session while allowing him/her to verbalize his/her feelings about changes in the family system.
  5. Use the Color Your Life technique (O'Connor) to improve the client's ability to identify and verbalize feelings: Ask the client to match colors with different emotions (e.g., red-anger, purple-rage, yellow-happy, blue-sad, black-very sad), and then instruct him/her to fill a blank page with colors that reflect his/her feelings about his/her parents' separation or divorce.
  6. Ask the client to first draw pictures of different emotions on

- blank faces and then share time when he/she experienced those emotions about parent's separation or divorce (or assign the "Feelings and Faces" exercise from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
3. Describe how parents' separation or divorce has impacted his/her personal and family life. (7)
  4. Express thoughts and feelings within the family system regarding parental separation or divorce. (8, 9)
  5. Recognize and affirm self as not being responsible for parents' separation or divorce. (10, 11)
  6. Parents verbalize an acceptance of the responsibility for dissolution of the marriage. (12, 13)
  7. Use the empty-chair technique to help the client express mixed emotions he/she feels toward both parents about changes in personal or family life due to separation or divorce.
  8. Hold family therapy sessions to allow the client and siblings to express feelings about separation or divorce in presence of parents.
  9. Encourage the parents to provide opportunities (e.g., family meetings) at home to allow the client and siblings to express feelings about separation/divorce and subsequent changes in family system.
  10. Explore the factors contributing to the client's feelings of guilt and self-blame about parents' separation/divorce; assist him/her in realizing that his/her negative behaviors did not cause parents' divorce to occur.
  11. Assist the client in realizing that he/she does not have the power or control to bring parents back together.
  12. Conduct family therapy sessions where the parents affirm the client and siblings as not being responsible for separation or divorce.
  13. Challenge and confront statements by the parents that place blame or responsibility for separation or divorce on the children.

7. Identify positive and negative aspects of parents' separation or divorce. (14)
8. Identify and verbalize unmet need to parents. (15, 16)
9. Reduce the frequency and severity of angry, depressed, and anxious moods. (17, 18)
10. Express feelings of anger about the parents' separation or divorce through controlled, respectful verbalizations and healthy physical outlets. (19, 20)
14. Give homework assignment in which the client lists both positive and negative aspects of parents' divorce; process this list in the next session and allow him/her to express different emotions.
15. Give parents the directive of spending 10 to 15 minutes of one-on-one time with the client and siblings on a regular daily basis to identify and meet the children's needs.
16. Consult with the client and his/her parents about establishing routine or ritual (e.g., snuggling and reading books together, playing board games, watching a favorite video) to help decrease his/her emotional distress around periods of separation or transfer from one parent's home to another.
17. Empower the client by reinforcing his/her ability to cope with divorce and make healthy adjustments.
18. Assist the client in making a connection between underlying painful emotions about divorce and angry outbursts or aggressive behaviors.
19. Identify appropriate and inappropriate ways for the client to express anger about the parents' separation or divorce.
20. Use the Angry Tower technique (Saxe) to help the client identify and express feelings of anger about divorce: Build a tower out of plastic containers; place a small object (representing anger) on top of the tower; instruct the client to throw a small fabric ball

11. Parents verbally recognize how their guilt and failure to follow through with limits contributes to the client's acting out or aggressive behaviors. (21, 22)
12. Reduce the frequency and severity of acting out, oppositional, and aggressive behaviors. (23, 24, 25)
13. Complete school and homework assignments on a regular basis. (26, 27)
- at the tower while verbalizing feelings of anger connected to the divorce.
21. Encourage and challenge the parents not to allow guilt feelings about divorce to interfere with the need to impose consequences for acting out or oppositional behaviors.
22. Assist the parents in establishing clearly defined rules, boundaries, and consequences for acting out, oppositional, or aggressive behaviors.
23. Help the client to recognize how an increase in acting out behaviors is connected to emotional pain surrounding the parents' divorce (or assign the "Surface Behavior/Inner Feelings" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
24. Assign the parents to read a book to learn to manage the client's increased acting out, oppositional, and aggressive behaviors (e.g., *1-2-3 Magic: Training Your Preschoolers and Preteens to Do What You Want* by Phelan); process the reading with the therapist.
25. Design a reward system and/or contingency contract with the client to reinforce good anger control and deter acting out, oppositional, or aggressive behaviors.
26. Assist the parents in establishing a new study routine to help the client complete school or homework assignments.

14. Decrease the frequency of somatic complaints. (28)
15. Noncustodial parent verbally recognizes pattern of over-indulgence and begins to set limits on money spending and/or time spent in leisure or recreational activities. (29)
16. Noncustodial parent begins to assign household responsibilities and/or require the client to complete homework during visits. (30)
17. Reduce the frequency of regressive, immature, and irresponsible behaviors. (31, 32)
18. Parents cease making unnecessary, hostile, or overly critical remarks about the other parent in the presence of their child(ren). (33)
19. Parents recognize and agree to cease the pattern of soliciting information and/or sending messages to the other parent through the child(ren). (34, 35)
27. Design and implement a reward system and/or contingency contract to reinforce completion of school and homework assignments or good academic performance.
28. Refocus the client's discussion from physical complaints to emotional conflicts and the expression of feelings.
29. Encourage the noncustodial parent to set limits on the client's misbehavior and refrain from overindulging the client during visits.
30. Give a directive to the non-custodial parent to assign a chore of having the client complete a school or homework assignment during a visit.
31. Teach how enmeshed or overly protective parents reinforce the client's regressive, immature, or irresponsible behaviors by failing to set necessary limits.
32. Have the client and his/her parents identify age-appropriate ways for him/her to meet needs for attention, affection, and acceptance; process the list and encourage him/her to engage in age-appropriate behaviors.
33. Challenge and confront the parents to cease making unnecessary hostile or overly critical remarks about the other parent in the presence of the child(ren).
34. Counsel the parents about not placing the child(ren) in the middle by soliciting information about the other parent or sending messages through the child(ren) to the other parent about adult matters.

20. Disengaged or uninvolved parent follows through with recommendations to spend greater quality time with the client. (36, 37, 38)
21. Identify and express feelings through mutual story-telling and artwork. (39, 40, 41)
35. Challenge and confront the client about playing one parent against the other to meet needs, obtain material goods, or avoid responsibility.
36. Hold individual and/or family therapy session to challenge and encourage noncustodial parent to maintain regular visitation and involvement in the client's life.
37. Give a directive to the disengaged or distant parent to spend more time or perform a specific task with the client (e.g., going on an outing to the zoo, assisting the client with homework, working on a project around the home).
38. Use family therapy principles (e.g., active involvement by the parent in the session, with him/her responding empathically to the client's feelings or needs) to strengthen or facilitate a closer parent-child relationship.
39. Use a mutual storytelling technique whereby the therapist and client alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals: The therapist first models appropriate ways to express emotions related to the parents' separation or divorce; the client then follows by creating a story with similar characters or themes.
40. Have the client draw a variety of pictures reflecting his/her feelings about his/her parents' divorce or how divorce has impacted his/her life; place these pictures in a notebook that is given to him/her at the end of therapy as a keepsake.

- 22. Increase participation in a positive peer group and extra-curricular or school-related activities. (42)
  - 23. Participate in a support group with other children of divorce. (43)
  - 24. Increase contacts with adults and build a support network outside the family. (44)
  - 41. Instruct the client to draw pictures of both his/her mother's and father's homes, and then have him/her share what it is like to live in or visit each home to assess the quality of his/her relationship with each parent.
  - 42. Encourage the client to participate in school, extracurricular, or positive peer group activities to offset the loss of time spent with his/her parents.
  - 43. Refer the client to a children-of-divorce group to assist him/her in expressing feelings and to help him/her understand that he/she is not alone in going through the divorce process.
  - 44. Identify a list of adult individuals (e.g., school counselor, neighbor, uncle or aunt, Big Brother or Big Sister, member of clergy) outside of the family to whom the client can turn for support, guidance, and nurturance to help him/her cope with divorce, family move, or change in schools.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

**Axis I:**            309.0            Adjustment Disorder With Depressed Mood  
                          309.24          Adjustment Disorder With Anxiety



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- 309.28 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Anxiety and Depressed Mood
- 309.3 Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct
- 309.4 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct
- 300.4 Dysthymic Disorder
- 300.02 Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- 309.21 Separation Anxiety Disorder
- 313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- 300.81 Undifferentiated Somatoform Disorder

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**Axis II:**

V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# ENURESIS/ENCOPRESIS

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Repeated pattern of voluntary or involuntary voiding of urine into bed or clothes during the day or at night after age 5, when continence is expected.
2. Repeated passage of feces, whether voluntary or involuntary, in inappropriate places (e.g., clothing, floor) after age 5, when continence is expected.
3. Feelings of shame associated with Enuresis or Encopresis that cause the avoidance of situations (e.g., overnight visits with friends) that might lead to further embarrassment.
4. Social ridicule, isolation, or ostracism by peers because of Enuresis or Encopresis.
5. Frequent attempts to hide feces or soiled clothing because of shame or fear of further ridicule, criticism, or punishment.
6. Excessive anger, rejection, or punishment by the parents or caretakers centered on toilet-training practices, which contributes to low self-esteem.
7. Strong feelings of fear or hostility, which are channeled into acts of Enuresis and Encopresis.
8. Poor impulse control, which contributes to lack of responsibility with toilet-training practices.
9. Deliberate smearing of feces.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Eliminate all diurnal and/or nocturnal episodes of Enuresis.
2. Terminate all episodes of Encopresis, whether voluntary or involuntary.
3. Resolve the underlying core conflicts contributing to the emergence of Enuresis or Encopresis.
4. Parents eliminate rigid or coercive toilet-training practices.
5. Cease all incidents of smearing feces.
6. Increase self-esteem and successfully work through feelings of shame or humiliation associated with past Enuresis or Encopresis.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Comply with a physician's orders for medical tests and evaluations. (1, 2)
2. Complete psychological testing. (3)
- ▼ 3. Take prescribed medication as directed by the physician. (4)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Refer the client for a medical examination to rule out organic or physical causes of the Enuresis or Encopresis.
2. Arrange for a medication evaluation of the client.
3. Conduct psychological testing to rule out the presence of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), impulse-control disorder, or serious underlying emotional problems; provide feedback from the testing to the client and his/her parents.
4. Monitor the client for medication compliance, side effects, and effectiveness; consult with the

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- prescribing physician at regular intervals and be alert for Enuresis relapse after discontinuation. ▽
- ▽ 4. Parents consistently comply with the use of bell-and-pad conditioning procedures to treat nocturnal Enuresis. (5, 6)
  - 5. Train the client and his/her parents to treat Enuresis by using bell-and-pad conditioning procedures in which a urine-sensitive pad causes an alarm to sound when involuntary wetting occurs. ▽
  - 6. Employ overlearning method (e.g., require the client to drink a gradually increasing, but small, amount of fluid shortly before bedtime) along with the use of bell-and-pad conditioning procedures in latter states of treatment to help prevent the client's relapse of nocturnal Enuresis. ▽
  - ▽ 5. Reduce the frequency of enuretic behavior. (7, 8, 9, 10, 11)
  - 7. Design and counsel the parents on the use of positive reinforcement procedures to increase the client's bladder control. ▽
  - 8. Teach the client and his/her parents an effective urine-retention training technique that increases the client's awareness of the sensation or need to urinate by having the client hold urine for increasingly longer periods of time before voiding (or assign "Bladder Retention Training Program" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); reward successful retention. ▽
  - 9. Train the client's parents or caretakers in the use of staggered-awakening procedures, using a variable-interval schedule, to control nocturnal Enuresis. ▽

6. Reduce the frequency of encopretic behavior. (12, 13)
7. Increase the client's role in implementing the toilet-training practices and interventions. (14, 15, 16, 17)
10. Design and implement dry-bed techniques, training the parents and the client in response inhibition, positive reinforcement, rapid awakening, gradual increase of fluid intake, self-correction of accidents, and decreased critical comments about toilet-training behavior. <sup>FF</sup>▽
11. Teach the client to assume greater responsibility in managing nocturnal Enuresis (or assign the "Dry Bed Training Program" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). <sup>FF</sup>▽
12. Train the client and his/her parents how to implement a systematic operant conditioning program that combines positive reinforcement techniques with the use of glycerin suppositories or enemas if the client does not defecate voluntarily every day.
13. Teach the client to assume greater responsibility in developing bowel control and recognizing negative consequences that result from encopretic incidents (or assign the "Bowel Control Training Program" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
14. Encourage and challenge the client to assume active responsibility for achieving mastery of bladder and/or bowel control (e.g., keeping a record of wet and dry days, setting an alarm clock for voiding times, cleaning soiled underwear or linens).

8. Verbalize how anxiety or fears associated with toilet-training practices are unrealistic or irrational. (18, 19)
9. Identify the negative social consequences that may occur from peers if Enuresis or Encopresis continues. (20)
10. Parent(s) verbally recognize how rigid toilet-training practices or hostile, critical remarks contribute to the client's Enuresis or Encopresis. (21, 22, 23)
15. Challenge and confront the client's and/or parents' lack of motivation or compliance in following through with the recommended therapeutic interventions.
16. Inquire into what the client does differently on days when he/she demonstrates good bladder/bowel control and does not have any enuretic or encopretic incidents; process his/her responses and reinforce any effective strategies that are used to gain bladder/bowel control.
17. Assign the client and his/her parents to read material to educate them about bed-wetting and help the client assume an active role in overcoming nocturnal enuresis (e.g., *Dry All Night: The Picture Book Technique that Stops Bed Wetting* by Mack and Wilensky).
18. Explore the client's irrational cognitive messages that produce fear or anxiety associated with toilet training; replace the irrational messages with realistic messages.
19. Assist the client in realizing how his/her anxiety or fears associated with toilet training are irrational or unrealistic.
20. Identify and discuss negative social consequences that the client may experience from peers in order to increase his/her motivation to master bladder/bowel control.
21. Counsel the client's parents on effective, nonabusive toilet-training practices.
22. Conduct family therapy sessions to assess the dynamics that contribute to the emergence or

- reinforcement of the client's Enuresis, Encopresis, or smearing of feces.
11. Decrease the frequency and severity of hostile, critical remarks by the parents regarding the client's toilet training. (24, 25)
  12. Understand and verbally recognize the secondary gain that results from Enuresis or Encopresis. (26, 27, 28)
  23. Explore parent-child interactions to assess whether the parents' toilet-training practices are excessively rigid or whether the parents make frequent hostile, critical remarks about the client.
  24. Confront and challenge the parents about making overly critical or hostile remarks that contribute to the client's low self-esteem, shame and embarrassment, and anger.
  25. Assess parent-child interactions for the presence of a hostile-dependent cycle whereby the client's wetting or soiling angers the parents, the parents respond in an overly critical or hostile manner, the client seeks to punish the parents for their strong display or anger, and so on.
  26. Assist the client and his/her parents in developing an insight into the secondary gain (e.g., parental attention; avoidance of separation from the parents; physician or counselor attention) received from Enuresis or Encopresis.
  27. Use a strategic family therapy approach in which the therapist does not talk about Enuresis or Encopresis but discusses what might surface if this problem were resolved (i.e., camouflaged problems may be revealed).
  28. Use Ericksonian therapy intervention of prescribing the symptom, whereby the client is instructed to pick out a specific night of the

- week when he/she will deliberately wet the bed. (Paradoxical intervention allows the client to control Enuresis by making the unconscious behavior a conscious maneuver.)
13. Strengthen the relationship with the disengaged parent as demonstrated by increased time spent with the client. (29, 30, 31)
  14. Identify and express feelings associated with past separation, loss, trauma, or rejection experiences and how they are connected to current Encopresis/Enuresis. (32, 33, 34)
  29. Assign the disengaged parent the responsibility of overseeing or teaching the client effective toilet-training practices (e.g., keeping a record of wet and dry days, gently awakening the client for bladder voiding, reminding or teaching the client how to clean soiled underwear or linens).
  30. Give a directive to the disengaged parent to spend quality time with the client (e.g., working on homework together, going to the park, engaging in a sporting activity).
  31. Encourage the client and parents to engage in “free play” during family play therapy sessions to assess the quality of the parent-child relationships and gain an understanding of the family dynamics that contribute to the development of Enuresis or Encopresis.
  32. Determine whether the client’s Enuresis, Encopresis, or smearing of feces is associated with past separation, loss, traumatization, or rejection experiences.
  33. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying feelings associated with past separation, loss, trauma, or rejection experiences.
  34. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., explore and gain understanding of the etiology of unconscious conflicts,



15. Express feelings through artwork and mutual storytelling. (35)
16. Increase the frequency of positive self-descriptive statements that reflect improved self-esteem. (36, 37)
17. Appropriately express anger verbally and physically rather than channeling anger through Enuresis, Encopresis, or smearing of feces. (38, 39)
18. Increase the parents' empathetic responses to the client's thoughts, feelings, and needs. (40)
- fixations, or arrests; interpret resistance, transference, or core anxieties) to help the client work through and resolve issues contributing to bladder/bowel control problems.
35. Instruct the client to draw a picture that reflects how enuretic or encopretic incidents affect self-esteem.
36. Assist the client in identifying and listing his/her positive characteristics to help decrease feelings of shame and embarrassment; reinforce his/her positive self-statements.
37. Assign the client to make one positive self-statement daily and record that in a journal.
38. Teach the client effective communication and assertiveness skills to improve his/her ability to express thoughts and feelings through appropriate verbalizations.
39. Teach the client appropriate physical outlets that allow the expression of anger in a constructive manner, rather than through inappropriate wetting or soiling.
40. Direct the parents to use the Once Upon a Time Potty Book and Doll Set (Weinstock; available from Childsworld/Childsplay) to increase the preschool child's motivation to develop bladder/bowel control.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 307.6 Enuresis (Not Due to a General Medical Condition)
  - 787.6 Encopresis, With Constipation and Overflow Incontinence
  - 307.7 Encopresis, Without Constipation and Overflow Incontinence
  - 300.4 Dysthymic Disorder
  - 296.xx Major Depressive Disorder
  - 299.80 Pervasive Developmental Disorder NOS
  - 309.81 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
  - 313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder
  - 314.01 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type

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- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# FIRE SETTING

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Has set one or more fires in the last 6 months.
2. Has been regularly observed playing with fire, fireworks, or combustible substances.
3. Is around fire whenever possible.
4. Consistently has matches, lighters, candles, and so forth in his/her possession.
5. Has an easily discernible fascination and/or preoccupation with fire.
6. Does not experience tension or sexual arousal prior to fire-setting behavior, or gratification or relief when witnessing the fire.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Establish safety of self, the family, and the community.
2. Terminate the fascination and preoccupation with fire.
3. Redirect or rechannel fascination with fire into constructive arenas.
4. Establish the existence of a psychotic process or major affective disorder and procure placement in an appropriate treatment program.
5. Parents responsibly monitor and supervise the client's behaviors and whereabouts.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Parents consistently guide and supervise the client's behavior, including monitoring him/her for possessing articles connected with fire (e.g., matches, lighters). (1, 2, 3)
  
2. Identify the constructive and destructive aspects of fires. (4, 5)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Teach the parents to consistently structure and supervise the client's behavior.
2. Monitor the parents' efforts to structure, set limits on, and supervise the client, giving support, encouragement, and redirection as appropriate.
3. Assist the client and parents in developing ways to increase his/her impulse control through use of positive reinforcement at times of apparent control.
4. Assign and work with the client and parents to create two collages, one that emphasizes fire's positive aspects and one that focuses on fire's destructive aspects. Discuss with the client as the collage is presented.
5. Construct with the client and his/her parents a list of questions for the client to ask a firefighter or a nurse in a local burn unit. Then help arrange an interview with one of these individuals. Afterward, process the experience and information gathered.

3. Report a decrease in the impulse to set fires. (6, 7)
4. Demonstrate steps necessary to prevent destruction from fire. (8, 9)
6. Assign the family an operant-based intervention in which the parent allows the client to strike matches under supervision, noting a need for caution. A sum of money will be placed next to the pack and the client will receive a predetermined sum as well as warm praise for each match left unstruck. Monitor intervention and give redirection and feedback as needed.
7. Assign an intervention of stimulus satiation in which the client is given a box of matches with his/her parent(s) instructing the client how to safely strike. Allow the client to strike as many as he/she would like. Monitor intervention and redirect as needed.
8. Assist and coach parents in implementing steps necessary to prevent destruction from fire such as teaching a safe way to build a fire and an effective way to put it out or giving a monetary reward to the client for turning in any fire-setting material (or assign the exercise "Fire-Proofing Your Home and Family" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). Process the assignment in the next family session.
9. Ask the father (or male father figure) to teach the client how to safely build a fire. The father is to emphasize the need for strict control of and respect for the power of fire. Therapist will provide materials for a fire in session (matches, sticks, coffee can). Therapist will monitor and process the assignment.

5. Increase the frequency of positive interactions and connectedness between family members. (10, 11, 12)
6. The client and his/her family demonstrate the ability to identify, express, and tolerate unpleasant feelings. (12, 13)
7. Parents and caregivers identify and implement ways of satisfying the client's unmet emotional needs. (14, 15)
10. Use a family-system approach to address fire-setting behavior; require the entire family to attend an agreed-upon number of sessions during which the family's roles, ways of communicating, and conflicts will be explored and confronted.
11. Assign each family member to list the positive or supportive and negative or conflictual aspects of the family (or assign the exercise "When a Fire Has No Fuel" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). Process the assignment in the next family sessions.
12. Assist the family members in learning to identify, express, and tolerate their own feelings and those of other family members.
12. Assist the family members in learning to identify, express, and tolerate their own feelings and those of other family members.
13. Gently probe the client's emotions in order to help him/her become better able to identify and express his/her feelings.
14. Assess the client's unmet needs for attention, nurturance, and affirmation. Assist all caregivers (parents, siblings, teachers, babysitters, and extended family) in identifying actions (e.g., loud talk, acts of showing off, making up stories) in which they can engage to help satisfy the client's emotional needs.
15. Assess the degree of chaos and/or violence in family leading to the

8. Increase positive time spent with the father or another significant male figure in his/her life. (16, 17)
9. Verbalize feelings of rejection and anger. (18)
10. Identify instances of physical or sexual abuse. (19)
11. Cooperate with an evaluation for psychotropic medication or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). (20, 21)
12. Comply with all recommendations of the psychiatric or ADHD evaluation. (22, 23)
16. Ask father to identify three things he could do to relate more to the client. Then assign him to implement two of the three, and monitor the results.
17. Assist the mother or other caregiving person to obtain an older companion for the client through the Big Brother or Big Sister program.
18. Probe the client's feelings of hurt and anger over relationship rejection with peers and/or family. Interpret fire setting as an expression of rage.
19. Assess whether the client's fire setting is associated with his/her being a victim of sexual and/or physical abuse.
20. Assess whether the client's fire setting is associated with a psychotic process or major affective disorder that may need psychotropic medication treatment; refer him/her to a physician for evaluation, if necessary.
21. Assess the client for the presence of ADHD.
22. Assist and monitor the family's follow-through with all the recommendations from the psychiatric or ADHD evaluations.
23. Assist the family in placing the client in a residential treatment program for intense treatment of serious psychiatric disturbance, if indicated.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 312.xx Conduct Disorder
  - 314.9 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS
  - 309.3 Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct
  - 309.4 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct
  - 312.30 Impulse-Control Disorder NOS
  - 298.9 Psychotic Disorder NOS
  - 296.xx Major Depressive Disorder

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- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Repeatedly states the desire to be, or feels that he/she is, the opposite sex.
2. Preference for dressing in clothes typically worn by the other sex.
3. Prefers the roles of the opposite sex in make-believe play or fantasies.
4. Insists on participating in games and pastimes that are typical of the other sex.
5. Prefers playmates of the opposite sex.
6. Frequently passes as the opposite sex.
7. Insists that he/she was born the wrong sex.
8. Verbalizes a disgust with or rejection of his/her sexual anatomy.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Terminate the confusion regarding sexual identity and accept own gender and sexual anatomy.
2. Stop dressing as and playing like the opposite sex.
3. Accept the genitalia as a normal part of the body, and terminate the repulsion of or desire to change it.
4. Establish and maintain lasting (i.e., 6 months or longer) same-sex peer friendship.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Openly express feelings regarding sexual identity and identify the causes for rejection of gender identity. (1, 2, 3)
  
2. Identify and replace negative, distorted cognitive messages regarding gender identity. (4, 5)
  
3. Express comfort with or even pride in sexual identity. (6, 7, 8, 9)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help him/her increase the ability to identify and express feelings.
2. Explore the client's reasons for attraction to an opposite-sex identity.
3. Use play therapy techniques to explore the client's sexual attitudes and causes for the rejection of gender identity.
4. Use cognitive therapy techniques to identify negative messages the client gives to himself/herself about sexual identity.
5. Assist the client in identifying positive, realistic self-talk that can replace negative cognitions regarding gender identity.
6. Confront and reframe the client's self-disparaging comments about gender identity and sexual anatomy.
7. Assist the client in identifying positive aspects of his/her own sexual identity.

4. Parents explore their subtle and direct messages to the client that reinforce gender identity confusion. (10, 11)
5. Demonstrate an increased self-esteem as evidenced by positive statements made about talents, traits, and appearance. (7, 12)
6. Same-sex parent (or parent substitute) and the client agree to increase time spent together in activities. (13, 14, 15, 16)
7. Assist the client in identifying positive aspects of his/her own sexual identity.
8. Assign a mirror exercise in which the client talks positively to himself/herself regarding sexual identity.
9. Reinforce the client's positive self-descriptive statements.
10. Hold family therapy sessions to explore the dynamics that may reinforce the client's gender confusion.
11. Meet with the parents to explore their attitudes and behaviors that may contribute to the client's sexual identity confusion.
12. Assist the client in developing a list of his/her positive traits, talents, and physical characteristics.
13. Explore the client's feelings of hurt, anger, or distrust of the same-sex parent or parent substitute and the causes for these negative feelings.
14. Assign the same-sex parent to increase time and contact with the client in play and work activities while urging the opposite-sex parent to support the client in appropriate gender identification.
15. Assign homework designed to structure the client's time spent with the same-sex adult (e.g., assign "One-on-One" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
16. Help the client to obtain the volunteer services of a same-sex Big Brother or Big Sister.

7. Verbalize the desire to be with the same-sex parent or other significant same-sex adult in quiet and active times. (17, 18)
8. Opposite-sex parent encourage and reinforce gender-appropriate dress, play, and peer-group identification as well as a strong relationship between the client and the same-sex parent. (14, 19)
9. Increase time spent in socialization with same-sex peers. (20, 21)
10. Dress consistently in clothes that are typical of same-sex peers without objection. (21, 22)
11. List some positive role models for own sexual identity, and tell why they are respected. (23, 24)
12. Conduct a family therapy session in which the client can explore and express his/her feelings toward the same-sex parent; work toward resolution of any negativity in these feelings.
13. Encourage and reinforce the client for spending time with the same-sex parent or parent substitute.
14. Assign the same-sex parent to increase time and contact with the client in play and work activities while urging the opposite-sex parent to support the client in appropriate gender identification.
15. Encourage the parents in positively reinforcing appropriate gender identity, dress, and social behavior in the client.
16. Assign the client to initiate social (play) activities with same-sex peers.
17. Monitor and give positive feedback when the client's dress, socialization, and peer identity are appropriate.
18. Monitor and give positive feedback when the client's dress, socialization, and peer identity are appropriate.
19. Review whether the client's desire to cross-dress is related to times of high stress in the family or occurs when the client is feeling ignored.
20. Assign the client to list some positive, same-sex role models, and process the reasons for respecting these individuals.
21. Assign the client homework designed to structure role-model

- identification (or assign “I Want to Be Like . . .” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
12. Disclose any physical or sexual abuse. (3, 25)
3. Use play therapy techniques to explore the client’s sexual attitudes and causes for the rejection of gender identity.
25. Explore the possibility that the client was physically or sexually abused (see Physical/Emotional Abuse Victim and Sexual Abuse Victim chapters in this *Planner*).
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

**Axis I:**            302.6            Gender Identity Disorder in Children  
                          302.6            Gender Identity Disorder NOS

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**Axis II:**            V71.09            No Diagnosis

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# GRIEF/LOSS UNRESOLVED

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Loss of contact with a parent due to the parent's death.
2. Loss of contact with a parent figure due to termination of parental rights.
3. Loss of contact with a parent due to the parent's incarceration.
4. Loss of contact with a positive support network due to a geographic move.
5. Loss of meaningful contact with a parent figure due to the parent's emotional abandonment.
6. Strong emotional response experienced when the loss is mentioned.
7. Lack of appetite, nightmares, restlessness, inability to concentrate, irritability, tearfulness, or social withdrawal that began subsequent to a loss.
8. Marked drop in school grades, and an increase in angry outbursts, hyperactivity, or clinginess when separating from parents.
9. Feelings of guilt associated with the unreasonable belief in having done something to cause the loss or not having prevented it.
10. Avoidance of talking at length or in any depth about the loss.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Begin a healthy grieving process around the loss.
2. Complete the process of letting go of the lost significant other.
3. Work through the grieving and letting-go process and reach the point of emotionally reinvesting in life.
4. Successfully grieve the loss within a supportive emotional environment.
5. Resolve the loss and begin reinvesting in relationships with others and in age-appropriate activities.
6. Resolve feelings of guilt, depression, or anger that are associated with the loss and return to the previous level of functioning.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Develop a trusting relationship with the therapist as evidenced by the open communication of feelings and thoughts associated with the loss. (1, 2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance while asking him/her to identify and express feelings associated with the loss.
2. Read with the client a story about loss (e.g., *Where is Daddy?* by Gof; *Emma Says Goodbye* by Nystrom), and afterward discuss the story.
3. Educate the client and his/her parents about the stages of the grieving process, and teach the parents how to answer any of his/her questions.

2. Attend and freely participate in art and play therapy sessions. (4, 5, 6)
3. Tell the story of the loss. (7, 8, 9)
4. Using child-centered play therapy approaches (e.g., providing unconditional positive regard, reflecting feelings in a nonjudgmental manner, displaying trust in the child's capacity to act responsibly), assist the client in working through his/her loss.
5. Conduct individual play therapy sessions with the client to provide the environment for expressing and working through feelings connected to his/her loss.
6. Use various art therapy techniques with Play-Doh, clay, finger paints, and/or markers to help the client creatively express his/her feelings connected to his/her loss; ask him/her to give an explanation of his/her creation.
7. Use a mutual storytelling technique (Gardner) in which the client tells his/her story. The therapist interprets the story for its underlying meaning and then tells a story using the same characters in a similar setting, but weaves into the story a healthy way to adapt to and resolve the loss.
8. Use a before-and-after drawing technique (see the "Before and After Drawing Technique" by Cangelasi in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques* by Kaduson and Schaefer) to help guide the client in telling the story, through drawings, of how he/she was before and after the loss; work through the connected feelings.
9. Suggest that the client act out or tell about the loss by using puppets or felt figures on a board.



4. Identify feelings connected with the loss. (10, 11, 12)
5. Verbalize and experience feelings connected with the loss. (13, 14, 15)
6. Attend a grief support group. (16)
7. Verbalize questions about the loss, and work to obtain answers for each. (17, 18)
10. Assist the client in identifying his/her feelings by using the Five Faces technique (see *Helping Children Cope with Separation and Loss* by Jewett).
11. Play either the Goodbye Game (available from Childsworld/Childsworld) or The Good Mourning Game (Bisenius and Norris) with the client to assist him/her in exploring grief.
12. Ask the client to write a letter to the lost person describing his/her feelings and read this letter to the therapist.
13. Conduct a play therapy session around the use of "Art or Verbal Metaphor for Children Experiencing Loss" (see Short in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques* by Kaduson and Schaefer), in which the client is asked to talk about what his/her life was like prior to and after the loss using stories and drawings. Mirror, acknowledge, and validate the client's feelings.
14. Assist the client in identifying, labeling, and expressing feelings connected with the loss.
15. Assign the client to keep a daily grief journal of drawings representing thoughts and feelings associated with the loss; review the journal in therapy sessions.
16. Refer the client to a grief support group for children.
17. Expand the client's understanding of death by reading to him/her *Lifetimes* (Mellonie and Ingpen), and discuss all questions that arise from the reading.

8. Verbalize an increase in understanding the process of grieving and letting go. (19, 20)
9. Decrease the expression of feelings of guilt and blame for the loss. (21, 22, 23)
18. Assist the client in developing a list of questions about a specific loss; then try to direct him/her to resources (e.g., books, member of clergy, parent, counselor) for possible answers for each question.
19. Use *The Empty Place: A Child's Guide Through Grief* (Temes) to work the client through his/her grief process.
20. Read to the client *Don't Despair on Thursdays!* (Moser), and process the various suggestions given to handle the feelings connected to his/her grief.
21. Explore the client's thoughts and feelings of guilt and blame surrounding the loss, replacing irrational thoughts with realistic thoughts.
22. Use a Despart Fable (see *Helping Children Cope with Separation and Loss* by Jewett) or a similar variation to help the client communicate blame for the loss (e.g., the therapist states, "A child says softly to himself, 'Oh, I did wrong.' What do you suppose the child believes he/she did wrong?").
23. Help the client lift the self-imposed curse that he/she believes to be the cause for the loss by asking the person who is perceived as having imposed the curse to take it back or by using a pretend phone conversation in which the client apologizes for the behavior that he/she believes is the cause for the curse.

10. Identify positive things about the deceased loved one and/or the lost relationship and how these things may be remembered. (24, 25)
11. Verbalize and resolve feelings of anger or guilt focused on self, on God, or on the deceased loved one that block the grief process. (26, 27)
12. Say good-bye to the lost loved one. (28, 29)
13. Parents verbalize an increase in their understanding of the grief process. (3, 30, 31)
24. Ask the client to list positive things about the deceased and how he/she plans to remember each, then process the list.
25. Ask the client to bring to a session pictures or mementos connected with the loss and to talk about them with the therapist.
26. Encourage and support the client in sessions to look angry, then to act angry, and finally to verbalize the anger.
27. Use behavioral techniques (e.g., kneading clay, kicking a paper bag stuffed with newsprint, using foam bats to hit objects without damage) in order to encourage the client to release repressed feelings of anger; explore the target causes for anger.
28. Assign the client to write a good-bye letter to a significant other or to make a good-bye drawing, and then process the letter or drawing within the session (or assign the "Grief Letter" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis.)
29. Assign the client to visit the grave of the loved one with an adult to communicate feelings and say good-bye, perhaps by leaving a letter or drawing; process the experience.
3. Educate the client and his/her parents about the stages of the grieving process, and teach the parents how to answer any of his/her questions.

14. Parents increase their verbal openness about the loss. (32, 33)
15. Participate in memorial services, funeral services, or other grieving rituals. (34)
16. Parents and the client attend and participate in a formal session to say good-bye to the parents whose parental rights are being terminated. (35, 36)
30. Teach the parents specific ways to provide comfort, consolation, love, companionship, and support to the client in grief (e.g., bringing up the loss occasionally for discussion, encouraging the client to talk freely of the loss, suggesting photographs of the loved one be displayed, spending one-on-one time with the client in quiet activities that may foster sharing of feelings, spending time with the client in diversion activities).
31. Assign the parents to read books on grief to help them become familiar with the grieving process (e.g., *Learning to Say Good-bye* by LeShan; *Helping Children Cope with Separation and Loss* by Jewett).
32. Conduct family sessions in which each member of the client's family talks about his/her experience related to the loss.
33. Refer the client's parents to a grief/loss support group.
34. Encourage the parents to allow the client to participate in the rituals and customs of grieving if he/she is willing to be involved.
35. Conduct a session with the parents who are losing custody of the client to prepare them to say good-bye to him/her in a healthy, affirming way.
36. Facilitate a good-bye session with the client and the parents who are losing custody to give the client permission to move on with his/her life. If the parents who are

- losing custody or the current parents are not available, ask them to write a letter than can be read at the session, or conduct a role-playing session in which the client says good-bye to each parent.
17. Verbalize positive memories of the past and hopeful statements about the future. (37, 38, 39)
  37. Assist the client in making a record of his/her life in a book format to help visualize past, present, and future life. When it is completed, have the client keep a copy and give another to the current parents.
  38. Assign the client to collect pictures and other memorabilia of the lost loved one into an album (or assign the exercise "Create a Memory Album" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  39. Encourage the client to express positive memories of the lost loved one (or assign "Petey's Journey through Sadness" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

**Axis I:**            296.2x        Major Depressive Disorder, Single Episode  
                          296.3x        Major Depressive Disorder, Recurrent

V62.82 Bereavement  
309.0 Adjustment Disorder With Depressed Mood  
309.4 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of  
Emotions and Conduct  
300.4 Dysthymic Disorder

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**Axis II:**

V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# LOW SELF-ESTEEM

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Verbalizes self-disparaging remarks, seeing self as unattractive, worthless, stupid, a loser, a burden, unimportant, and so on.
2. Takes blame easily.
3. Inability to accept compliments.
4. Refuses to take risks associated with new experiences, as she/he expects failure.
5. Avoids social contact with adults and peers.
6. Seeks excessively to please or receive attention/praise of adults and/or peers.
7. Unable to identify or accept positive traits or talents about self.
8. Fears rejection from others, especially peer group.
9. Acts out in negative, attention-seeking ways.
10. Difficulty saying no to others; fears not being liked by others.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Elevate self-esteem.
2. Increase social interaction, assertiveness, confidence in self, and reasonable risk taking.
3. Build a consistently positive self-image.
4. Demonstrate improved self-esteem by accepting compliments, by identifying

positive characteristics about self, by being able to say no to others, and by eliminating self-disparaging remarks.

5. See self as lovable and capable.
6. Increase social skill level.

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**SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES**

1. Attend and actively participate in play therapy sessions. (1, 2, 3)

**THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS**

1. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., allow the client to take the lead with the therapist in exploring the source of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or developmental arrests) to assist the client in developing trust in the therapist and in letting go of negative thought patterns/beliefs or fears that impact his/her level of self-esteem.
2. Use puppets in a directed or nondirected way to allow the client to play out scenes involving self-esteem (e.g., making friends, stating conversations, trying something new, working out a conflict, expressing feelings, asking for something that he/she needs).
3. Conduct a session using an expressive clay technique, either directed (see *Clayscaper* by Hadley) or nondirected, to assist the client's expression and communication of significant issues and to facilitate increased self-esteem.



2. Verbalize an increased awareness of self-disparaging statements. (4, 5)
3. Decrease frequency of negative self-statements. (6, 7)
4. Decrease verbalized fear of rejection while increasing statements of self-acceptance. (8, 9)
5. Identify positive traits and talents about self. (10, 11, 12)
6. Identify and verbalize feelings. (13, 14, 15)
4. Confront and reframe the client's self-disparaging comments.
5. Assist the client in becoming aware of how he/she expresses or acts out (e.g., lack of eye contact, social withdrawal, expectation of failure or rejection) negative feelings about self.
6. Refer the client to a group therapy that is focused on ways to build self-esteem.
7. Probe the parents' interactions with the client in family sessions, and redirect or rechannel any patterns of discipline that are negative or critical of the client.
8. Ask the client to make one positive statement about himself/herself daily, and record it on a chart or in a journal.
9. Assist the client in developing positive self-talk as a way of boosting his/her confidence and positive self-image.
10. Develop with the client a list of positive affirmations about himself/herself, and ask that it be read three times daily.
11. Use the Positive Attitude Ball (available from Childsworld/Childsplay) or a similar aid to identify and affirm with the client positive things about him/her for the first 5 minutes of each session.
12. Reinforce verbally the client's use of positive statements of confidence or identification of positive attributes about himself/herself.
13. Use a therapeutic game (e.g., The Talking, Feeling, and Doing Game, available from Creative

Therapeutics; Let's See About Me, available from Childs-work/Childsplay; The Ungame, available from The Ungame Company) to promote the client becoming more aware of himself/herself and his/her feelings.

7. Increase eye contact with others. (5, 16, 17)
8. Identify actions that can be taken to improve self-image. (18, 19, 20)
14. Use a feelings chart, feelings felt board, or a card game to enhance the client's ability to identify specific feelings.
15. Educate the client in the basics of identifying and labeling feelings, and assist him/her in beginning to identify what he/she is feeling.
5. Assist the client in becoming aware of how he/she expresses or acts out (e.g., lack of eye contact, social withdrawal, expectation of failure or rejection) negative feelings about himself/herself.
16. Focus attention on the client's lack of eye contact; encourage and reinforce increased eye contact within sessions.
17. Ask the client to increase eye contact with teachers, parents, and other adults; review and process reports of attempts and the feelings associated with them.
18. Read with the client *Don't Feed the Monster on Tuesdays!* (Moser). Afterward, assist him/her in identifying things from the book that can be used to keep the monster of self-critical messages away. Then help the client make a chart containing self-esteem-building activities and have him/her record progress on each. Monitor and provide encouragement and affirmation for reported progress.

9. Identify and verbalize needs. (21, 22, 23)
10. Increase the frequency of speaking up with confidence in social situations. (24, 25, 26)
19. Ask the client to read *My Best Friend Is Me* (available from Childsworld/Childsplay) and then make a list of good qualities about himself/herself to share with therapist.
20. Encourage the client to try new activities and to see failure as a learning experience (or assign the exercises “Dixie Overcomes Her Fears” and “Learn from Your Mistakes” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
21. Assist the client in identifying and verbalizing his/her emotional needs; brainstorm ways to increase the chances of his/her needs being met.
22. Conduct a family session in which the client expresses his/her needs to family and vice versa.
23. Use therapeutic stories (e.g., *Dr. Gardner’s Fairy Tales for Today’s Children* by Gardner) to help the client identify feelings or needs and to build self-esteem.
24. Use role-playing and behavioral rehearsal to improve the client’s assertiveness and social skills.
25. Encourage the client to use the Pretending to Know How (Theiss) method in attempting tasks and facing new situations. Process the client’s results, acknowledging his/her competence in following through and reinforcing the self-confidence gained from each experience.
26. Assign the parents to read with the client *Good Friends Are Hard to Find* (Frankel) to help the client build social skills.

11. Identify instances of emotional, physical, or sexual abuse that have damaged self-esteem. (27)
12. Identify negative automatic thoughts and replace them with positive self-talk messages to build self-esteem. (28, 29, 30)
13. Take responsibility for daily self-care and household tasks that are developmentally age-appropriate. (31, 32)
14. Identify and discuss the feelings that are associated with successful task accomplishment. (32, 33)
27. Explore for incidents of abuse (emotional, physical, and sexual) and how they have impacted feelings about self (see Sexual Abuse Victim and/or Physical/Emotional Abuse Victim chapters in this *Planner*).
28. Help the client identify his/her distorted negative beliefs about himself/herself and the world.
29. Help the client to identify, and reinforce the use of, more realistic, positive messages about himself/herself and life events.
30. Use the Positive Thinking game (available from Childsworld/Childsplay) to promote healthy self-talk and thought patterns. Allow the client to take the game home to play with his/her parent(s).
31. Help the client find and implement daily self-care and household or academic responsibilities that are age-appropriate. Monitor follow-through and give positive feedback when warranted.
32. Have conversation(s) on phone with the client about some recent accomplishment, allowing him/her to initiate the call if he/she chooses and tell about the accomplishment. Give positive feedback, praise, compliments.
32. Have conversation(s) on phone with the client about some recent accomplishment, allowing him/her to initiate the call if he/she chooses and tell about the accomplishment. Give positive feedback, praise, compliments.

15. Positively acknowledge and verbally accept praise or compliments from others. (34, 35)
16. Parents attend a didactic series on positive parenting. (36)
17. Parents verbalize realistic expectations and discipline methods for the client. (37, 38)
33. Ask the client to participate in The Yarn Drawing Game (see *Directive Group Play Therapy* by Leben), in which a ball of yarn/string is shaped into words, numbers, objects, or a complete picture. The therapist will offer the directive that there is no wrong design to empower the client and will also give encouragement and perspective on the various designs created.
34. Use a projective exercise, such as “Magic Act” (Walker), whereby the client selects a colored piece of paper and uses at least three colors of paint to make dots, lines, or a picture. The paper is then folded lengthwise and flattened, with the therapist saying, “Magic picture, what will the client draw today?” The client unfolds the paper and tells what he/she sees in the design. The therapist will emphasize that there is no possible way to make a bad picture.
35. Use neurolinguistic programming or reframing techniques in which messages about self are changed to assist the client in accepting compliments from others.
36. Ask the parents to attend a didactic series on positive parenting, afterward processing how they can begin to implement some of these techniques.
37. Explore the parents’ expectations of the client. Assist, if necessary, in making them more realistic.
38. Train the parents in the three R’s (related, respectful, and reasonable) discipline techniques (see

*Raising Self-Reliant Children in a Self-Indulgent World* by Glenn and Nelson) in order to eliminate discipline that results in rebellion, revenge, or reduced self-esteem. Assist in implementation, and coach the parents as they develop and improve their skills using this method.

- 18. Parents identify specific activities for the client that will facilitate development of positive self-esteem. (39)
  - 19. Parents increase positive messages to the client. (36, 40)
  - 39. Ask the parents to involve the client in esteem-building activities (e.g., scouting, experiential camps, music, sports, youth groups, enrichment programs).
  - 36. Ask the parents to attend a didactic series on positive parenting, afterward processing how they can begin to implement some of these techniques.
  - 40. Encourage the parents to seek out opportunities to praise, reinforce, and recognize the client's minor or major accomplishments.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

<b>Axis I:</b>	300.4	Dysthymic Disorder
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
	300.23	Social Anxiety Disorder (Social Phobia)
	296.xx	Major Depressive Disorder
	307.1	Anorexia Nervosa
	309.21	Separation Anxiety Disorder

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300.02	Generalized Anxiety
995.54	Physical Abuse of Child (Victim)
V61.21	Sexual Abuse of Child
V61.21	Neglect of Child
995.52	Neglect of Child (Victim)
995.53	Sexual Abuse of Child (Victim)

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**Axis II:**

317	Mild Mental Retardation
V62.89	Borderline Intellectual Functioning
V71.09	No Diagnosis

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# LYING/MANIPULATIVE

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Repeated pattern of lying to satisfy personal needs or obtain material goods/desired objects.
2. Chronic problem with lying to escape consequences or punishment for misbehavior.
3. Frequent lying to avoid facing responsibilities or performing work/chores.
4. Increase in lying after experiencing a threat to or loss of self-esteem.
5. Numerous lies or exaggerations about deeds or performance in order to boost self-esteem or elevate status in the eyes of peers.
6. Willingness to manipulate or exploit others in order to satisfy personal needs or avoid consequences for misbehavior.
7. Repeated attempts to pit parents and/or peers against each other in order to gratify personal needs or escape punishment.
8. Threatening and intimidating behavior that seeks to meet personal needs at the expense of others.
9. Desire to seek thrills, excitement, or pleasure through acts of manipulation or deception.
10. Persistent refusal to accept responsibility for deceitful or manipulative behavior.
11. Underlying feelings of insecurity or low self-esteem that contribute to the need to lie, falsify information, or manipulate others.
12. Distinction between fantasy and reality is blurred by repeated lies or exaggerations.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Significantly reduce the frequency of lying.
  2. Eliminate manipulative and deceptive behavior.
  3. Consistently tell the truth, even when facing possible consequences for wrongful actions or irresponsible behavior.
  4. Verbalize an acceptance of responsibility for actions or behavior on a regular basis.
  5. Verbally identify needs to others, and consistently take steps to meet needs in a healthy, more adaptive manner.
  6. Elevate self-esteem, and maintain positive self-image, thus decreasing the need to lie to impress and deceive others.
  7. Establish and maintain trusting relationships that provide a sense of security and belonging.
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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Identify prior life events that have fostered lying and manipulative behavior. (1, 2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Gather a detailed developmental and family history of the client to gain insight into the emotional factors, family dynamics, or environmental stressors that contribute to the emergence of his/her lying and manipulative behavior.
2. Assist the client in developing an awareness of prior life events or significant relationships that encouraged or reinforced lying and

- manipulative behavior (e.g., parents or family members who lie regularly, overly rigid or punitive parenting, affiliation with peers or siblings who reinforced lying).
2. Verbally identify current situations and/or people that trigger lying and manipulative behavior. (4)
  3. Record incidents of lying, deception, or manipulation. (5, 6, 7)
  4. Recognize and list irrational or distorted thoughts that maintain lying and manipulative behavior. (8, 9, 10)
  3. Explore periods of time when the client demonstrated an increase in lying or acts of manipulation to identify factors that contributed to the emergence of such behavior.
  4. Help the client and his/her parents to identify current life situations or people that trigger lying and manipulative behavior (e.g., threat of being punished, failure experiences, facing criticism).
  5. Help the client identify examples of his/her deceitful and manipulative behavior.
  6. Assist the client in increasing his/her awareness of deceitful and manipulative behavior by instructing him/her to keep a log of interactions with individuals whom he/she has attempted to deceive or manipulate.
  7. Instruct the parents or caregivers to keep a log of times when the client has been caught lying or engaging in manipulative behavior; process entries to explore the factors that contribute to his/her willingness to lie or manipulate.
  8. Probe the client's thoughts that precede and follow lying or manipulative behavior; assist him/her to correct faulty thinking or irrational thoughts.
  9. Identify irrational or distorted thoughts that contribute to the

- emergence of lying or manipulative behavior (e.g., “I deserve this toy, so it doesn’t matter if I take advantage of anyone”; “Nobody will ever catch me lying”; “This person is weak and deserves to be taken advantage of”).
5. Identify negative consequences that deceitful/manipulative behavior has for self and others. (11, 12, 13)
  6. Verbally identify the benefits of honesty. (14)
  10. Counsel the client about replacing irrational or distorted thoughts with reality-based or more adaptive ways of thinking (e.g., “I could get caught lying, and it would only create more problems for me”; “It is best to be honest”; “My friends won’t want to play with me if I lie or take advantage of them”).
  11. Confront the client firmly about the impact of his/her lying or manipulative behavior, pointing out consequences for himself/herself and others.
  12. Direct the client to list the negative effects that lying and manipulative behavior has on himself/herself and others (e.g., creates mistrust, provokes anger and hurt in others, leads to social isolation).
  13. Use guided imagery techniques to help the client visualize the long-term effects that continued lying and acts of manipulation will have on his/her interpersonal relationships (e.g., termination of friendships, loss of respect, frequent arguments with parents and authority figures).
  14. Teach the client the value of honesty as a basis for building trust and mutual respect in all relationships.

7. Verbalize an increased sensitivity and/or empathy toward individuals being deceived or manipulated. (15, 16, 17)
8. Increase the frequency of honest and truthful verbalizations. (18, 19)
9. Parents develop clear rules and follow through with consequences for lying and manipulative behavior. (20, 21, 22, 23)
15. Inquire into how the client would likely feel if he/she were deceived or manipulated by others; process his/her responses and help him/her empathize with others whom he/she has deceived in the past.
16. Use role reversal or role-playing techniques to help the client become aware of how deceitful or manipulative behavior negatively impacts others.
17. Assign the client the task of observing instances between therapy sessions where others have lied to or manipulated others; instruct him/her to notice the feelings of individuals who have been taken advantage of or manipulated.
18. Teach the client mediational and self-control strategies (e.g., “stop, look, listen, and think”; thought-stoppage; assertive communication techniques) to help him/her resist the urge to lie or manipulate others in order to meet needs or avoid consequences.
19. Encourage the parents to praise and reinforce the client for accepting no or unfavorable responses to his/her requests without attempting to lie or manipulate.
20. Assist the parents in establishing clearly defined rules and consequences for lying and manipulative behavior; inform the client and have him/her repeat the consequences to demonstrate an understanding of the rules and expectations.

10. Verbalize an acceptance of responsibility for lying and manipulation by publicly acknowledging and apologizing for deceitful actions. (24, 25)
11. Parents refrain from responding in ways that reinforce the client's lying and manipulative behavior. (23, 26, 27)
21. Establish a contingency contract with the client and his/her parents that clearly outlines the consequences if he/she is caught lying or manipulating others; have him/her sign the contract, and ask the parents to post it in a visible place in the home.
22. Challenge the parents to remain firm and not give into the client's lies or attempts to manipulate; instruct the parents to assign additional consequences (e.g., time out, removal of privileges or desired objects) if he/she is caught attempting to lie or manipulate to get out of trouble for other misbehaviors.
23. Counsel the parents on how their failure to follow through consistently with limits or consequences reinforces the client's deceptive and manipulative behavior because it communicates a message to him/her that he/she can possibly control the situation or get away with his/her misbehavior.
24. Instruct the parents to require the client to undo lies and manipulation by publicly acknowledging his/her wrongdoings to the individual(s) to whom he/she has lied or manipulated.
25. Direct the client to apologize, either verbally or in writing, to individuals to whom he/she has lied or manipulated.
23. Counsel the parents on how their failure to follow through consistently with limits or consequences reinforces the client's deceptive and manipulative behavior because it communicates a message

- to him/her that he/she can possibly control the situation or get away with his/her misbehavior.
26. Counsel the parents and family members to withdraw attention from the client when he/she attempts to manipulate a situation in the home.
  27. Urge the parents to present a united front and prevent splitting by making each other aware of the client's attempts to deceive or manipulate (e.g., self-pity, somatic complaints, inappropriate jokes, lying); encourage the parents to reach a mutually agreed-upon consequence for the deceitful or manipulative behavior.
  28. Conduct family therapy sessions to explore the dynamics and stressors that promote or reinforce the client's deceptive or manipulative behavior (e.g., modeling of deception, severe criticism, harsh punishment, rejection of the client, substance abuse by the parent).
  29. Challenge and confront the parents to cease modeling inappropriate behavior to the client through their own acts of deception or manipulation.
  30. Explore the connection between the client's unmet needs or past rejection experiences and his/her history of lying and manipulation; assist him/her in identifying more adaptive ways to meet his/her needs for love, affection, or closeness other than through lying or manipulating others.
12. Parents and family members identify factors or stressors that promote or reinforce the client's deceptive and manipulative behavior. (28, 29)
  13. Verbalize an understanding of the connection between unmet needs or rejection experiences and a history of lying or manipulation. (30, 31, 32)

14. Identify negative or painful emotions that trigger lying and manipulative behavior. (33, 34)
15. Increase the frequency of positive social behaviors that help rebuild trust in relationships. (35, 36, 37, 38)
31. Encourage the client to express his/her feelings of rejection or deprivation; provide support to him/her in directly verbalizing his/her needs for love and affection to his/her parents and significant others.
32. Assist the client in identifying a list of resource people to whom he/she can turn for support and help in meeting unmet needs; encourage him/her to reach out to these individuals for support or help, rather than using deception or manipulation to meet these needs.
33. Assist the client in making a connection between his/her underlying painful emotions (e.g., depression, anxiety, insecurity, anger) and lying or manipulative behavior.
34. Teach the client effective communication and assertiveness skills to express his/her painful emotions to others in a more direct and constructive fashion.
35. Give the client the homework assignment of identifying 5 to 10 positive social behaviors that can help him/her rebuild trust; review the list and encourage him/her to engage in these behaviors.
36. Instruct the parents to observe and record from three to five prosocial or responsible behaviors by the client that help to rebuild trust; encourage the parents to praise and reinforce him/her.
37. Use puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals to create a story that teaches the value of honesty and/or models appropriate ways to rebuild

- trust; then ask the client to create a story with similar characters or themes.
16. Verbally recognize the connection between feelings of low self-esteem and the need to lie or exaggerate about performance or deeds. (39, 40, 41)
  17. Identify socially appropriate ways to use intelligence to meet needs. (42)
  38. Brainstorm with the client socially appropriate ways to be sneaky or manipulative (e.g., learn a magic trick; ask peers to solve riddles; design a trick play for basketball team); assign him/her the task of exercising the socially appropriate skill at least once before the next therapy session.
  39. Assist the client in realizing the connection between underlying feelings of low self-esteem and his/her desire to lie or exaggerate about performance or deeds; help him/her identify more effective ways to improve self-esteem, other than through lying and exaggerated claims.
  40. Point out to the client how lies and exaggerated claims are self-defeating as they interfere with his/her ability to establish and maintain close, trusting relationships.
  41. Instruct the client to draw pictures of symbols or objects that reflect his/her interests or strengths; encourage him/her to use talents and strengths to improve self-esteem and meet deeper needs for closeness and intimacy.
  42. Challenge the client to cease channeling intellectual abilities into self-defeating acts of deception and manipulation; encourage him/her to use intelligence in socially appropriate ways (e.g., learn to play chess; play the villain in a school play; make up a story for language arts class).



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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 313.81 Oppositional-Defiant Disorder
  - 312.81 Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type
  - 312.82 Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type
  - 312.9 Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
  - 314.01 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type
  - 309.3 Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct
  - V71.02 Child or Adolescent Antisocial Behavior
  - V61.20 Parent-Child Relational Problem
  - 300.4 Dysthymic Disorder

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_____	_____

- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

_____	_____
_____	_____

# MEDICAL CONDITION

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. A diagnosis of a chronic illness that is not life threatening but necessitates changes in living.
2. A diagnosis of an acute, serious illness that is life threatening.
3. A diagnosis of a chronic illness that eventually will lead to an early death.
4. Sad affect, social withdrawal, anxiety, loss of interest in activities, and low energy.
5. Suicidal ideation.
6. Denial of the seriousness of the medical condition.
7. Refusal to cooperate with recommended medical treatments.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Accept the illness and adapt life to necessary changes.
2. Resolve emotional crisis and face terminal illness's implications.
3. Work through the grieving process and face the reality of own death with peace.
4. Accept emotional support from those who care without pushing them away in anger.
5. Resolve depression, fear, and anxiety, finding peace of mind despite the illness.

6. Live life to the fullest extent possible even though time may be limited.
7. Cooperate with the medical treatment regimen without passive-aggressive or active resistance.

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### SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

- ▼ 1. Describe history, symptoms, and treatment of the medical condition. (1, 2)
  
- ▼ 2. Verbalize an understanding of the medical condition, and its consequences. (3)
  
- ▼ 3. Comply with the medication regimen and necessary medical procedures, reporting any side effects or problems to physicians or therapists. (2, 4, 5, 6)

### THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Gather a history of the facts regarding the client's medical condition, including symptoms, treatment, and prognosis. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
2. With the client's informed consent, contact the treating physician and family members for additional medical information regarding the client's diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
3. Encourage and facilitate the client in learning about the medical condition from which he or she suffers and its realistic course, including pain management options and chance for recovery. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
2. With the client's informed consent, contact the treating physician and family members for additional medical information regarding the client's diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis. ▼<sup>EB</sup>

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.



- ▼ 7. Identify and grieve the losses or limitations that have been experienced due to the medical condition. (10, 11, 12, 13)
- ▼ 8. Decrease time spent focused on the negative aspects of the medical condition. (14, 15)
- ▼ 9. Verbalize acceptance of the reality of the medical condition and its consequences while decreasing denial. (16, 17)
- 10. Ask the client to list his/her perception of changes, losses, or limitations that have resulted from the medical condition. ▼
- 11. Educate the client on the stages of the grieving process and answer any questions (or suggest that the child read *Don't Despair on Thursdays!* by Moser). ▼
- 12. Suggest that the client's parents read a book on grief and loss (e.g., *Good Grief* by Westberg; *How Can It Be All Right When Everything Is All Wrong?* by Smedes; *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* by Kushner) to help them understand and support their child in the grieving process. ▼
- 13. Assign the client to keep a daily grief journal to be shared in therapy sessions. ▼
- 14. Suggest that the client set aside a specific time-limited period each day to focus on mourning the medical condition; after the time period is up, have the client resume regular daily activities with agreement to put off thoughts until next scheduled time. ▼
- 15. Challenge the client to focus his/her thoughts on the positive aspects of his/her life and time remaining, rather than on the losses associated with his/her medical condition; reinforce instances of such a positive focus. ▼
- 16. Gently confront the client's denial of the seriousness of his/her condition and of the need for compliance with medical treatment procedures. ▼
- 17. Reinforce the client's acceptance of his/her medical condition. ▼

- ▼10. Share fearful or depressed feelings regarding the medical condition and develop a plan for addressing them. (18, 19, 20)
- ▼11. Attend a support group of others diagnosed with a similar illness, if desired. (21)
- ▼12. Parents and family members attend a support group, if desired. (22)
- ▼13. Engage in social, productive, and recreational activities that are possible despite the medical condition. (23, 24)
- ▼14. Learn and implement stress-management skills. (25, 26, 27)
- 18. Explore and process the client's fears associated with deterioration of physical health, death, and dying. ▼
- 19. Normalize the client's feelings of grief, sadness, or anxiety associated with his/her medical condition; encourage verbal expression of these emotions. ▼
- 20. Assess the client for and treat his/her depression and anxiety using relevant cognitive, physiological, and/or behavioral aspects of treatments for those conditions (see Depression and Anxiety chapters in this *Planner*). ▼
- 21. Refer the client to a support group of others living with a similar medical condition. ▼
- 22. Refer family members to a community-based support group associated with the client's medical condition. ▼
- 23. Sort out with the client activities that can still be enjoyed alone and with others. ▼
- 24. Solicit a commitment from the client to increase his/her activity level by engaging in enjoyable and challenging activities (or assign "Show Your Strengths" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson and McInnis); reinforce such engagement. ▼
- 25. Teach the client deep muscle relaxation and deep breathing methods along with positive imagery to induce relaxation. ▼
- 26. Utilize electromyography (EMG) biofeedback to monitor, increase, and reinforce the client's depth of relaxation. ▼

- ▼15. Identify and replace negative self-talk and catastrophizing that is associated with the medical condition. (28, 29)
- ▼16. Implement positive imagery as a means of triggering peace of mind and reducing tension. (30)
- ▼17. Client and family identify the sources of emotional support that have been beneficial and additional sources that could be sought. (31, 32)
- ▼18. Family members share any conflicts that have developed between them. (33, 34, 35)
- 27. Develop and encourage a routine of physical exercise for the client. ▼
- 28. Assist the client in identifying the cognitive distortions and negative automatic thoughts that contribute to his/her negative attitude and hopeless feelings associated with the medical condition (or assign “Bad Thoughts Lead to Depressed Feelings” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- 29. Generate with the client a list of positive, realistic self-talk that can replace cognitive distortions and catastrophizing regarding his/her medical condition and its treatment. ▼
- 30. Teach the client the use of positive, relaxing, healing imagery to reduce stress and promote peace of mind. ▼
- 31. Probe and evaluate the client’s, siblings’, and parents’ sources of emotional support. ▼
- 32. Encourage the parents and siblings to reach out for support from each other, church leaders, extended family, hospital social services, community support groups, and personal religious beliefs. ▼
- 33. Explore how each parent is dealing with the stress related to the client’s illness and whether conflicts have developed between the parents because of differing response styles. ▼
- 34. Assess family conflicts using conflict resolution approach to addressing them. ▼





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- 309.0 Adjustment Disorder With Depressed Mood
- 309.24 Adjustment Disorder With Anxiety
- 309.28 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Anxiety and Depressed Mood
- 309.3 Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct
- 309.4 Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct
- 296.xx Major Depressive Disorder
- 311 Depressive Disorder NOS
- 300.02 Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- 300.00 Anxiety Disorder NOS

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**Axis II:**

V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# MENTAL RETARDATION

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Significantly subaverage intellectual functioning as demonstrated by an IQ score of approximately 70 or below on an individually administered intelligence test.
2. Significant impairments in academic functioning, communication, self-care, home living, social skills, and leisure activities.
3. Difficulty understanding and following complex directions in home, school, or community settings.
4. Short- and long-term memory impairment.
5. Concrete thinking or impaired abstract reasoning abilities.
6. Impoverished social skills as manifested by frequent use of poor judgment, limited understanding of the antecedents and consequences of social actions, and lack of reciprocity in peer interactions.
7. Lack of insight and repeated failure to learn from experience or past mistakes.
8. Low self-esteem as evidenced by frequent self-derogatory remarks (e.g., "I'm so stupid").
9. Recurrent pattern of acting out or engaging in disruptive behaviors without considering the consequences of the actions.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Achieve all academic goals identified on the client's individualized educational plan (IEP).
2. Function at an appropriate level of independence in home, residential, educational, or community settings.
3. Develop an awareness and acceptance of intellectual and cognitive limitations but consistently verbalize feelings of self-worth.
4. Parents and/or caregivers develop an awareness and acceptance of the client's intellectual and cognitive capabilities so that they place appropriate expectations on his/her functioning.
5. Consistently comply and follow through with simple directions in a daily routine at home, in school, or in a residential setting.
6. Significantly reduce the frequency and severity of socially inappropriate or acting out behaviors.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Complete a comprehensive intellectual and cognitive assessment. (1)
2. Complete psychological testing. (2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Arrange for a comprehensive intellectual and cognitive assessment to determine the presence of Mental Retardation and gain greater insight into the client's learning strengths and weaknesses; provide feedback to the client, parents, and school officials.
2. Arrange for psychological testing to assess whether emotional factors of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are interfering with the client's intellectual and academic

3. Complete neuropsychological testing. (3)
  4. Complete an evaluation by physical and occupational therapists. (4)
  5. Complete a speech/language evaluation. (5)
  6. The client and his/her parents comply with recommendations made by a multidisciplinary evaluation team at school regarding educational interventions. (6, 7)
  7. Move to an appropriate residential setting. (8)
- functioning; provide feedback to the client and parents.
3. Arrange for a neurological examination or neuropsychological testing to rule out possible organic factors that may be contributing to the client's intellectual or cognitive deficits.
  4. Refer the client to physical and occupational therapists to assess perceptual or sensory-motor deficits and determine the need for ongoing physical and/or occupational therapy.
  5. Refer the client to a speech/language pathologist to assess deficits and determine the need for appropriate therapy.
  6. Attend an individualized educational planning committee (IEPC) meeting with the client's parents, teachers, and other appropriate professionals to determine his/her eligibility for special-education services, design educational interventions, and establish goals.
  7. Consult with the client, his/her parents, teachers, and other appropriate school officials about designing effective learning programs or interventions that build on the client's strengths and compensate for weaknesses.
  8. Consult with the client's parents, school officials, or mental health professionals about the client's need for placement in a foster home, group home, or residential program.

8. Parents maintain regular communication with the client's teachers and other appropriate school officials. (9)
9. Parents, teachers, and caregivers implement a token economy in the classroom or placement setting. (10)
10. Parents increase praise and other positive reinforcement toward the client in regard to his/her academic performance or social behaviors. (11, 12, 13)
11. Parents and family cease verbalizations of denial about the client's intellectual and cognitive deficits. (14, 15)
12. Parents recognize and verbally acknowledge their unrealistic expectations of or excessive pressure on the client. (16, 17)
9. Encourage the parents to maintain regular communication with the client's teachers or school officials to monitor his/her academic, behavioral, emotional, and social progress.
10. Design a token economy for the classroom or residential program to reinforce on-task behaviors, completion of school assignments, good impulse control, and positive social skills.
11. Conduct filial play therapy sessions (i.e., parents are present) to increase the parents' awareness of the client's thoughts and feelings and to strengthen the parent-child bond.
12. Encourage the parents to provide frequent praise and other reinforcement for the client's positive social behaviors and academic performance.
13. Design a reward system or contingency contract to reinforce the client's adaptive or prosocial behaviors.
14. Educate the parents about the symptoms and characteristics of Mental Retardation.
15. Confront and challenge the parents' denial surrounding their child's intellectual deficits so they cooperate with recommendations regarding placement and educational interventions.
16. Conduct family therapy sessions to assess whether the parents are placing excessive pressure on the client to function at a level that he/she is not capable of achieving.

13. Parents recognize and verbally acknowledge that their pattern of overprotectiveness interferes with the client's intellectual, emotional, and social development. (18, 19)
14. Increase participation in family activities or outings. (20, 21, 22, 23)
17. Confront and challenge the parents about placing excessive pressure on the client.
18. Observe parent-child interactions to assess whether the parents' overprotectiveness or infantilization of the client interferes with his/her intellectual, emotional, or social development.
19. Assist the parents or caregivers in developing realistic expectations of the client's intellectual capabilities and level of adaptive functioning.
20. Encourage the parents and family members to regularly include the client in outings or activities (e.g., attend sporting events, go ice skating, visit a child's museum).
21. Instruct family members to observe positive behaviors by the client between therapy sessions. Reinforce positive behaviors and encourage the client to continue to exhibit these behaviors.
22. Place the client in charge of a routine or basic task at home to increase his/her self-esteem and feelings of self-worth in the family.
23. Assign homework designed to promote the client's feelings of acceptance and a sense of belonging in the family system, school setting, or community (or assign the "You Belong Here" exercise from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

15. Perform chores at home, school, or residential program on a daily or regular basis. (24, 25, 26)
16. Parents agree to and implement an allowance program that helps the client learn to manage money more effectively. (27)
17. Take a bath or shower, dress self independently, comb hair, wash hands before meals, and brush teeth on a daily basis. (28)
18. Parents consistently implement behavior management techniques to reduce the frequency and severity of temper outbursts or disruptive and aggressive behaviors. (29, 30)
24. Assign the client a task in the family (e.g., pick up toys, make bed, help put away clothes) that is appropriate for his/her level of functioning and provides him/her with a sense of responsibility or belonging.
25. Instruct the client to complete a family kinetic drawing to assess how he/she perceives his/her role or place in the family system.
26. Consult with school officials or the residential staff about the client performing a job (e.g., raising the flag, helping to run video equipment) to build self-esteem and provide him/her with a sense of responsibility.
27. Counsel the parents about setting up an allowance plan that seeks to increase the client's responsibilities and help him/her learn simple money-management skills.
28. Design and implement a reward system to reinforce desired self-care behaviors such as combing hair, washing dishes, or cleaning the bedroom (or assign the parents to use the "Activities of Daily Living" program from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
29. Teach the parents effective behavior management techniques (e.g., time outs, removal of privileges) to decrease the frequency and severity of the client's temper outbursts, acting out, and aggressive behaviors.

19. Decrease frequency of impulsive, disruptive, or aggressive behaviors. (31, 32)
20. Recognize and verbally identify appropriate and inappropriate social behaviors. (33)
21. Increase the frequency of identifying and expressing feelings. (34, 35, 36, 37, 38)
30. Encourage the parents to utilize natural, logical consequences for the client's inappropriate social or maladaptive behaviors.
31. Teach the client basic mediational and self-control strategies (e.g., "stop, look, listen, and think") to delay gratification and inhibit impulses.
32. Train the client in the use of guided imagery or relaxation techniques to calm himself/herself down and develop greater control of anger.
33. Utilize role-playing and modeling in individual sessions to teach the client positive social skills. Reinforce new or emerging prosocial behaviors.
34. Educate the client about how to identify and label different emotions.
35. Tell the client to draw faces of basic emotions, then have him/her share times when he/she experienced the different emotions.
36. Teach the client effective communication skills (i.e., proper listening, good eye contact, "I statements") to improve his/her ability to express thoughts, feelings, and needs more clearly.
37. Use puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals to model socially appropriate ways of expressing emotions or relating to other.
38. Use Feelings Poster (available from Childsworld/Childsplay) to help the client identify and express different emotions.



- 22. Express feelings of sadness, anxiety, and insecurity that are related to cognitive and intellectual limitations. (39, 40)
- 23. Increase the frequency of positive self-statements. (41, 42)
- 24. Express feelings through artwork. (35, 43)
- 39. Assist the client in coming to an understanding and acceptance of the limitations surrounding his/her intellectual deficits and adaptive functioning.
- 40. Explore the client's feelings of depression, anxiety, and insecurity that are related to cognitive or intellectual limitations. Provide encouragement and support for the client.
- 41. Encourage the client to participate in the Special Olympics to build self-esteem.
- 42. Explore times when the client achieved success or accomplished a goal; reinforce positive steps that the client took to successfully accomplish goals.
- 35. Tell the client to draw faces of basic emotions, then have him/her share times when he/she experienced the different emotions.
- 43. Use art therapy (e.g., drawing, painting, sculpting) with the client in foster care or residential program to help him/her express basic emotions related to issues of separation, loss, or abandonment by parental figures.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

**Axis I:**            299.00     Autistic Disorder  
                          299.80     Rett’s Disorder  
                          299.80     Asperger’s Disorder  
                          299.10     Childhood Disintegrative Disorder

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**Axis II:**            317         Mild Mental Retardation  
                          318.0       Moderate Mental Retardation  
                          318.1       Severe Mental Retardation  
                          318.2       Profound Mental Retardation  
                          319         Mental Retardation, Severity Unspecified  
                          V62.89     Borderline Intellectual Functioning  
                          V71.09     No Diagnosis

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# OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE DISORDER (OCD)

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Recurrent and persistent ideas, thoughts, or impulses that are viewed as intrusive, senseless, and time-consuming, or that interfere with the client's daily routine, school performance, or social relationships.
2. Failed attempts to ignore or control these thoughts or impulses or neutralize them with other thoughts and actions.
3. Recognition that obsessive thoughts are a product of his/her own mind.
4. Excessive concerns about dirt or unfounded fears of contracting a dreadful disease or illness.
5. Obsessions related to troubling aggressive or sexual thoughts, urges, or images.
6. Persistent and troubling thoughts about religious issues; excessive concern about morality and right or wrong.
7. Repetitive and intentional behaviors that are done in response to obsessive thoughts or increased feelings of anxiety or fearfulness.
8. Repetitive and excessive behavior that is done to neutralize or prevent discomfort or some dreadful situation; however, that behavior is not connected in any realistic way with what it is designed to neutralize or prevent.
9. Recognition of repetitive behaviors as excessive and unreasonable.
10. Cleaning and washing compulsions (e.g., excessive hand washing, bathing, showering, cleaning of household products).
11. Hoarding or collecting compulsions.
12. Checking compulsions (e.g., repeatedly checking to see if door is locked, rechecking homework to make sure it is done correctly, checking to make sure that no one has been harmed).
13. Compulsions about having to arrange objects or things in proper order (e.g., stacking coins in certain order, laying out clothes each evening at same time, wearing only certain clothes on certain days).

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Significantly reduce time involved with or interference from obsessions.
2. Significantly reduce frequency of compulsive or ritualistic behaviors.
3. Function daily at a consistent level with minimal interference from obsessions and compulsions.
4. Resolve key life conflicts and the emotional stress that fuels obsessive-compulsive behavior patterns.
5. Let go of key thoughts, beliefs, and past life events in order to maximize time free from obsessions and compulsions.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the nature, history, and severity of obsessive thoughts and/or compulsive behavior. (1)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Assess the nature, severity, and history of the obsessive-compulsive problems using clinical interview with the client and the parents (or assign the exercise “Concerns, Feelings, and Hopes about OCD” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

2. Comply with psychological testing evaluation to assess the nature and severity of the obsessive-compulsive problem. (2)
- ▽ 3. Cooperate with an evaluation by a physician for psychotropic medication. (3, 4)
- ▽ 4. Participate in individual, small group, or family exposure and ritual prevention therapy for obsessions and compulsions. (5)
- ▽ 5. Verbalize an understanding of the rationale for treatment of OCD. (6, 7)
2. Arrange for psychological testing to further evaluate the nature and severity of the client's obsessive-compulsive problem (e.g., *The Children's Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale* by Scahill and colleagues, 1997).
3. Arrange for an evaluation for a prescription of psychotropic medications (e.g., serotonergic medications). ▽
4. Monitor the client for prescription compliance, side effects, and overall effectiveness of the medication; consult with the prescribing physician at regular intervals. ▽
5. Enroll the client in intensive (e.g., daily) or nonintensive (e.g., weekly), individual, small (closed enrollment) group, or family exposure and ritual-prevention therapy for OCD (e.g., *Treatment of OCD in Children and Adolescents* by Wagner; *OCD in Children and Adolescents* by March and Mulle). ▽
6. Assign the parents to read psychoeducational chapters of books or treatment manuals on the rationale for exposure and ritual prevention therapy and/or cognitive restructuring for OCD (e.g., *Up and Down the Worry Hill* by Wagner; *Brain Lock: Free Yourself from Obsessive-Compulsive Behavior* by Schwartz; *Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: Help for Children and Adolescents* by Waltz). ▽

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▽ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.



and records responses (or assign the parents to help the client through the exercise “Reducing the Strength of Compulsive Behaviors” in the *Adult Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma); review during next session, reinforcing success and providing corrective feedback toward improvement (see *Up and Down the Worry Hill* by Wagner).

- ▼ 9. Implement relapse prevention strategies for managing possible future anxiety symptoms. (13, 14, 15, 16)
13. Discuss with the client the distinction between a lapse and relapse, associating a lapse with an initial and reversible return of symptoms, fear, or urges to avoid and relapse with the decision to return to fearful and avoidant patterns. ▼
14. Identify and rehearse with the client the management of future situations or circumstances in which lapses could occur. ▼
15. Instruct the client to routinely use strategies learned in therapy (e.g., continued exposure to previously feared external or internal cues that arise) to prevent relapse into obsessive-compulsive patterns. ▼
16. Schedule periodic “maintenance” sessions to help the client maintain therapeutic gains and adjust to life without OCD (see *A Relapse Prevention Program for Treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder* by Hiss, Foa, and Kozak for a description of relapse prevention strategies for OCD). ▼
- ▼ 10. Implement the use of the “thought-stopping” technique to reduce the frequency of obsessive thoughts. (17, 18)
17. Teach the client to interrupt obsessive thoughts using the “thought-stopping” technique of shouting STOP to himself/herself

- silently while picturing a red traffic signal and then thinking about a calming scene. ▽
18. Assign the client to implement the “thought-stopping” technique on a daily basis between sessions (or assign the parents to help their child through the exercise “Making Use of the Thought-Stopping Technique” in the *Adult Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma); review the results. ▽
  19. Design a reward system to reinforce client for successfully resisting the urge to engage in compulsive behavior or talk about and openly share obsessive thoughts with others. ▽
  20. Encourage and instruct client to involve support person(s) or a “coach” who can help him/her resist urge to engage in compulsive behavior or take mind off obsessive thoughts. ▽
  21. Refer the client and parents to support group(s) to help maintain and support the gains made in therapy. ▽
  22. Hold family therapy sessions to identify specific, positive ways that the parents can help the client manage his/her obsessions or compulsions (see *Cognitive-Behavioral Family Treatment of Childhood Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder* by Waters, Barrett, and March). ▽
  23. Encourage and instruct parents to remain calm, patient, and supportive when faced with the
- ▽11. Increase motivation to resist urge to engage in compulsive behavior or talk about obsessive thoughts. (19)
  - ▽12. Identify support persons or resources who can help the client manage obsessions/compulsions. (20, 21)
  - ▽13. Parents provide appropriate support and establish effective boundaries surrounding the client’s OCD symptoms. (22, 23, 24, 25, 26)



- client's obsessions or compulsions; discourage parents from reacting strongly with anger or frustration. ▽
24. Assist the family in overcoming the tendency to reinforce the client's OCD; assign "Refocusing" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis. ▽
25. Teach family members problem-solving and communication skills to assist the client's progress through therapy. ▽
26. Design a reward system that reinforces the client for actions that help maintain his/her therapeutic gains. ▽
27. Conduct family therapy sessions to assess the factors contributing to the emergence, maintenance, or exacerbation of OCD symptoms. ▽
28. Teach the parents how being overly protective or reassuring reinforces the client's OCD symptoms and interferes with his/her ability to manage the troubling or distressing thoughts, urges, or images. ▽
29. Encourage, support, and assist the client in identifying and expressing feelings related to key unresolved life issues.
30. Develop and design an Ericksonian task (e.g., if obsessed with a loss, give the client the task to visit, send a card, or bring flowers to someone who has lost someone) for the client that is centered
- ▽14. Parents identify how they reinforce the client's OCD symptoms. (27, 28)
15. Verbalize and clarify feelings connected to key life concepts. (29)
16. Implement the Ericksonian task designed to interfere with OCD. (30)

- on the obsession or compulsion and assess the results with the client.
- 17. Engage in a strategic ordeal to overcome OCD impulses. (31)
  - 18. Identify family dynamics that contribute to the emergence, maintenance, or exacerbation of OCD symptoms. (32, 33)
  - 31. Create and sell a strategic ordeal that offers a guaranteed cure to help the client with the obsession or compulsion (e.g., instruct client to perform an aversive chore each time an obsessive thought or compulsive behavior occurs). Note that Haley emphasizes that the “cure” offers an intervention to achieve a goal and is not a promise to cure the client in beginning of therapy (see *Ordeal Therapy* by Haley).
  - 32. Obtain detailed family history to identify other family members who have experienced OCD symptoms.
  - 33. Conduct family therapy sessions to address the dynamics contributing to the emergence, maintenance, or exacerbation of OCD symptoms.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

<b>Axis I:</b>	300.3	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
	300.00	Anxiety Disorder NOS
	300.02	Generalized Anxiety Disorder

**210 THE CHILD PSYCHOTHERAPY TREATMENT PLANNER**

296.xx Major Depressive Disorder

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**Axis II:** V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# OPPOSITIONAL DEFIANT

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Displays a pattern of negativistic, hostile, and defiant behavior toward most adults.
2. Often acts as if parents, teachers, and other authority figures are the “enemy.”
3. Erupts in temper tantrums (e.g., screaming, crying, throwing objects, thrashing on ground, refusing to move) in defiance of direction from an adult caregiver.
4. Consistently argues with adults.
5. Often defies or refuses to comply with requests and rules, even when they are reasonable.
6. Deliberately annoys people and is easily annoyed by others.
7. Often blames others for own mistakes or misbehavior.
8. Consistently is angry and resentful.
9. Often is spiteful or vindictive.
10. Has experienced significant impairment in social or academic functioning.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Display a marked reduction in the intensity and frequency of hostile and defiant behaviors toward adults.

2. Terminate temper tantrums and replace with controlled, respectful compliance with directions from authority figures.
3. Replace hostile, defiant behaviors toward adults with those of respect and cooperation.
4. Resolution of the conflict that underlies the anger, hostility, and defiance.
5. Reach a level of reduced tension, increased satisfaction, and improved communication with family and/or other authority figures.
6. Parents learn and implement good child behavioral management skills.

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**SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES**

1. Identify situations, thoughts, and feelings that trigger angry feelings, problem behaviors, and the targets of those actions. (1)
2. Cooperate with a medical evaluation to assess possible organic contributors to poor anger control. (2)
3. Complete psychological testing. (3)

**THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS**

1. Thoroughly assess the various stimuli (e.g., situations, people, thoughts) that have triggered the client's anger and the thoughts, feelings, and actions that have characterized his/her anger responses.
2. Refer the client to a physician for a complete physical exam to rule out organic contributors (e.g., brain damage, tumor, elevated testosterone levels) to poor anger control.
3. Conduct or arrange for psychological testing to help in assessing whether a comorbid condition (e.g., depression, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder [ADHD]) is contributing to anger control problems; follow-up accordingly with client and parents regarding treatment options.

- ▼ 4. Cooperate with a physician evaluation for possible treatment with psychotropic medications and take medications consistently, if prescribed. (4, 5)
- ▼ 5. Recognize and verbalize how feelings are connected to misbehavior. (6)
- ▼ 6. Increase the number of statements that reflect the acceptance of responsibility for misbehavior. (7, 8, 9)
- 4. Assess the client for the need for psychotropic medication to assist in anger and behavioral control, referring him/her, if indicated, to a physician for an evaluation for prescription medication. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
- 5. Monitor the client's prescription compliance, effectiveness, and side effects; provide feedback to the prescribing physician. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
- 6. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help increase his/her ability to identify and express feelings instead of acting them out; assist the client in making a connection between his/her feelings and reactive behaviors (or assign "Risk Factors Leading to Child Behavior Problems" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼<sup>EB</sup>
- 7. Firmly confront the client's oppositional behavior and attitude, pointing out consequences for himself/herself and others. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
- 8. Confront statements in which the client lies and/or blames others for his/her misbehaviors and fails to accept responsibility for his/her actions. ▼<sup>EB</sup>
- 9. Explore and process the factors that contribute to the client's pattern of blaming others (e.g., harsh punishment experiences, family pattern of blaming others). ▼<sup>EB</sup>

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▼<sup>EB</sup> indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- ▼ 7. Agree to learn alternative ways to think about and manage anger and misbehavior. (10, 11)
- ▼ 8. Learn and implement calming strategies as part of a new way to manage reactions to frustration. (12)
- ▼ 9. Identify, challenge, and replace self-talk that leads to anger and misbehavior with self-talk that facilitates more constructive reactions. (13)
- ▼ 10. Learn and implement thought-stopping to manage intrusive unwanted thoughts that trigger anger and acting out. (14)
- 10. Assist the client in reconceptualizing anger and opposition as involving different components (cognitive, physiological, affective, and behavioral) that go through predictable phases (e.g., demanding expectations not being met leading to increased arousal and anger leading to acting out) that can be managed. ▼
- 11. Assist the client in identifying the positive consequences of managing anger and misbehavior (e.g., respect from others and self, cooperation from others, improved physical health); ask the client to agree to learn new ways to conceptualize and manage anger and misbehavior. ▼
- 12. Teach the client calming techniques (e.g., muscle relaxation, paced breathing, calming imagery) as part of a tailored strategy for responding appropriately to angry feelings when they occur. ▼
- 13. Explore the client's self-talk that mediates his/her angry feelings and actions (e.g., demanding expectations reflected in should, must, or have to statements); identify and challenge biases, assisting him/her in generating appraisals and self-talk that corrects for the biases and facilitates a more flexible and temperate response to frustration. ▼
- 14. Teach the client the "thought-stopping" technique to manage intrusive unwanted thoughts that trigger anger and acting out and assign implementation on a daily basis between sessions; review implementation, reinforcing success

- and providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▽
- ▽11. Verbalize feelings of frustration, disagreement, and anger in a controlled, assertive way. (15)
  - ▽12. Implement problem-solving and/or conflict resolution skills to manage interpersonal problems constructively. (16)
  - ▽13. Practice using new calming, communication, conflict resolution, and thinking skills in group or individual therapy. (17, 18)
  - 15. Use instruction, videotaped or live modeling, and/or role-playing to help develop the client's anger control skills, such as calming, self-statement, assertion skills; if indicated, refer him/her to an anger control group for further instruction. ▽
  - 16. Teach the client conflict resolution skills such as empathy, active listening, "I messages," respectful communication, assertiveness without aggression, and compromise (or assign "Filing a Complaint" or "If I could Run My Family" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); use modeling, role-playing, and behavior rehearsal to work through several current conflicts. ▽
  - 17. Assist the client in constructing and consolidating a client-tailored strategy for managing anger that combines any of the somatic, cognitive, communication, problem-solving, and/or conflict resolution skills relevant to his/her needs. ▽
  - 18. Use any of several techniques (e.g., relaxation, imagery, behavioral rehearsal, modeling, role-playing, feedback of videotaped practice) in increasingly challenging situations to help the client consolidate the use of his/her new anger management skills. ▽



- ▼14. Practice using new calming, communication, conflict resolution, and thinking skills in homework exercises. (19)
- ▼15. Decrease the number, intensity, and duration of angry outbursts, while increasing the use of new skills for managing anger. (20)
- ▼16. Identify social supports that will help facilitate the implementation of new skills. (21)
- ▼17. Parents learn and implement Parent Management Training skills to recognize and manage problem behavior of the client. (22, 23, 24, 25, 26)
19. Assign the client homework exercises to help him/her practice newly learned calming, assertion, conflict resolution, or cognitive restructuring skills as needed; review and process toward the goal of consolidation. ▼
20. Monitor the client's reports of angry outbursts toward the goal of decreasing their frequency, intensity, and duration through the client's use of new anger management skills (or assign "Anger Control" or "Child Anger Checklist" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McNis); review progress, reinforcing success and providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
21. Encourage the client to discuss and/or use his/her new anger and conduct management skills with trusted peers, family, or otherwise significant others who are likely to support his/her change. ▼
22. Use a Parent Management Training approach beginning with teaching the parents how parent and child behavioral interactions can encourage or discourage positive or negative behavior and that changing key elements of those interactions (e.g., prompting and reinforcing positive behaviors) can be used to promote positive change (e.g., see *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* by Forehand and Long; *Living with Children* by Patterson). ▼
23. Teach the parents how to specifically define and identify problem

behaviors, identify their reactions to the behavior, determine whether the reaction encourages or discourages the behavior, and generate alternatives to the problem behavior. ▼

24. Teach parents how to implement key parenting practices consistently, including establishing realistic age-appropriate rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, prompting of positive behavior in the environment, use of positive reinforcement to encourage behavior (e.g., praise), use of clear direct instruction, time out, and other loss-of-privilege practices for problem behavior (or assign “Switching from Defense to Offense” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
  25. Assign the parents home exercises in which they implement and record results of implementation exercises (or assign “Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review in session, providing corrective feedback toward improved, appropriate, and consistent use of skills. ▼
  26. Use Webster-Stratton videotapes to teach parenting techniques (see Webster-Stratton, 1994, 1996). ▼
  27. Conduct Parent-Child Interaction Therapy in which child-directed and parent-directed sessions focus on teaching appropriate child behavior, and parental behavioral
- ▼18. Parents and client participate in play sessions in which they use their new rules for appropriate conduct. (27, 28)

- management skills (e.g., clear commands, consistent consequences, positive reinforcement) are developed (see *Parent-Child Interaction Therapy* by Bell and Eyberg). ▽
28. Teach parents to use the time out technique as a consequence for inappropriate behavior; if possible, use a “signal seat” that has a battery-operated buzzer that serves as both a timer and an alert that the child is not staying in the seat (see Hamilton and MacQuiddy, 1984). ▽
- ▽19. Increase compliance with rules at home and school. (29)
29. Design a reward system and/or contingency contract for the client and meet with school officials to reinforce identified positive behaviors at home and school and deter impulsive or rebellious behaviors. ▽
- ▽20. Parents verbalize appropriate boundaries for discipline to prevent further occurrences of abuse and to ensure the safety of the client and his/her siblings. (30, 31)
30. Explore the client’s family background for a history of neglect and physical or sexual abuse that may contribute to his/her behavioral problems; confront the client’s parents to cease physically abusive or overly punitive methods of discipline. ▽
31. Implement the steps necessary to protect the client and siblings from further abuse (e.g., report abuse to the appropriate agencies; remove the client or perpetrator from the home). ▽
- ▽21. Increase the frequency of civil, respectful interactions with parents/adults. (32)
32. Teach the client the principle of reciprocity, asking him/her to agree to treat everyone in a respectful manner for a 1-week period to see if others will reciprocate by treating him/her with more respect. ▽

- ▼22. Demonstrate the ability to play by the rules in a cooperative fashion. (33)
- ▼23. Increase the frequency of responsible and positive social behaviors. (34, 35)
- 24. Identify and verbally express feelings associated with past neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment. (36)
- 25. Parents participate in marital therapy. (37)
- 33. Play a game (e.g., checkers), first with the client determining the rules (and the therapist holding the client to those rules) and then with rules determined by the therapist. Process the experience and give positive verbal praise to the client for following established rules. ▼
- 34. Direct the client to engage in three altruistic or benevolent acts (e.g., read to a developmentally disabled student, mow grandmother's lawn) before the next session to increase his/her empathy and sensitivity to the needs of others. ▼
- 35. Place the client in charge of tasks at home (e.g., preparing and cooking a special dish for a family get-together, building shelves in the garage, changing oil in the car) to demonstrate confidence in his/her ability to act responsibly (or assign "Share a Family Meal" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- 36. Encourage and support the client in expressing feelings associated with neglect, abuse, separation, or abandonment and help process (e.g., assign the task of writing a letter to an absent parent, use the empty-chair technique, assign "The Lesson of Salmon Rock . . . Fighting Leads to Loneliness" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
- 37. Assess the marital dyad for possible substance abuse, conflict, or triangulation that shifts the

focus from marriage issues to the client's acting out behaviors; refer for appropriate treatment, if needed.

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### DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

- Axis I:**
- 312.81 Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type
  - 312.82 Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type
  - 313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder
  - 312.9 Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
  - 314.01 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
  - 314.9 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS
  - 312.34 Intermittent Explosive Disorder
  - V71.02 Child Antisocial Behavior
  - V61.20 Parent-Child Relational Problem

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- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# PARENTING

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Expression of feelings of inadequacy in setting effective limits with their child.
2. Frequently struggle to control their emotional reactions to their child's misbehavior.
3. Increasing conflict between spouses over how to parent/discipline their child.
4. A pattern of lax supervision and inadequate limit setting.
5. A pattern of overindulgence of the child's wishes and demands.
6. A pattern of harsh, rigid, and demeaning behavior toward the child.
7. A pattern of physically and emotionally abusive parenting.
8. One parent is perceived as overindulgent while the other is seen as too harsh.
9. One parent expresses resentment over feeling like the only one who is responsible for the child's supervision, nurture, and discipline.
10. Lack of knowledge regarding reasonable expectations for a child's behavior at a given developmental level.
11. Have been told by others (e.g., school officials, juvenile court, friends) that they need to do something to control their child's negative behavior pattern.
12. Have exhausted their ideas and resources in attempt to deal with their child's behavior.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Achieve a level of competent, effective parenting.
2. Reach a realistic view of and approach to parenting and the child's developmental level.
3. Terminate ineffective and/or abusive parenting and implement positive, effective techniques.
4. Establish and maintain a healthy functioning parental team.
5. Resolve childhood issues that prevent effective parenting.
6. Achieve a level of greater family connectedness.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Provide information on the marital relationship, child behavior expectations, and style of parenting. (1)
2. Identify specific marital conflicts and work toward their resolution. (2, 3)
3. Complete recommended evaluation instruments and receive the results. (4, 5, 6)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Engage the parents through the use of empathy and normalization of their struggles with parenting and obtain information on their marital relationship, child behavior expectations, and parenting style.
2. Analyze the data received from the parents about their relationship and parenting and establish or rule out the presence of marital conflicts.
3. Conduct or refer the parents to marital/relationship therapy to resolve the conflicts that are preventing them from being effective parents.
4. Administer or arrange for the parents to complete assessment instruments to evaluate their

- parenting strengths and weaknesses (e.g., the Parenting Stress Index [PSI], the Parent-Child Relationship Inventory [PCRI]).
4. Express feelings of frustration, helplessness, and inadequacy that each experiences in the parenting role. (7, 8, 9)
  5. Identify unresolved childhood issues that affect parenting and work toward their resolution. (10, 11)
  6. Identify the child's personality/temperament type that causes challenges and develop specific strategies to more effectively deal with that personality/temperament type. (12, 13, 14)
  5. Share results of assessment instruments with the parents and identify issues to begin working on to strengthen the parenting team.
  6. Use testing results to identify parental strengths and begin to build the confidence and effectiveness level of the parental team.
  7. Create a compassionate, empathetic environment where the parents become comfortable enough to let their guard down and express the frustrations of parenting.
  8. Educate the parents on the full scope of parenting by using humor and normalization.
  9. Help the parents reduce their unrealistic expectations of themselves.
  10. Explore each parent's story of his/her childhood to identify any unresolved issues that are present and to identify how these issues are now affecting the ability to effectively parent.
  11. Assist the parents in working through issues from childhood that are unresolved.
  12. Have the parents read *The Challenging Child* (Greenspan) and then identify which type of difficult behavior pattern their child exhibits; encourage implementation of several of the parenting methods suggested for that type of child.



- ▼ 7. Decrease reactivity to the child's behaviors. (15, 16, 17)
13. Expand the parents' repertoire of intervention options by having them read material on parenting difficult children (e.g., *The Difficult Child* by Turecki and Tonner; *The Explosive Child* by Greene; *How to Handle a Hard-to-Handle Kid* by Edwards).
14. Support, empower, monitor, and encourage the parents in implementing new strategies for parenting their child, giving feedback and redirection as needed.
15. Evaluate the level of the parental team's reactivity to the child's behavior and then help them to learn to respond in a more modulated, thoughtful, planned manner (or assign "Picking Your Battles" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
16. Help the parents become aware of the "hot buttons" they have that the child can push to get a quick negative response and how this overreactive response reduces their effectiveness as parents. ▼
17. Role-play reactive situations with the parents to help them learn to thoughtfully respond instead of automatically reacting to their child's demands or negative behaviors. ▼
- ▼ 8. Parents learn and implement Parent Management Training skills to recognize and manage problem behavior of the client. (18, 19, 20, 21, 22)
18. Use a Parent Management Training approach beginning with teaching the parents how parent and child behavioral interactions can encourage or discourage positive or negative behavior and

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

that changing key elements of those interactions (e.g., prompting and reinforcing positive behaviors) can be used to promote positive change (e.g., *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* by Forehand and Long; *Living with Children* by Patterson). ▽

19. Teach the parents how to specifically define and identify problem behaviors, identify their reactions to the behavior, determine whether the reaction encourages or discourages the behavior, and generate alternatives to the problem behavior. ▽
20. Teach parents how to implement key parenting practices consistently, including establishing realistic age-appropriate rules for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, prompting of positive behavior in the environment, use of positive reinforcement to encourage behavior (e.g., praise), use of clear direct instruction, time out, and other loss-of-privilege practices for problem behavior. ▽
21. Assign the parents home exercises in which they implement and record results of implementation exercises (or assign “Clear Rules, Positive Reinforcement, Appropriate Consequences” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review in session, providing corrective feedback toward improved, appropriate, and consistent use of skills. ▽
22. Use Webster-Stratton videotapes to teach parenting techniques (see Webster-Stratton, 1994, 1996). ▽

- ▼ 9. Parents and client participate in play sessions in which they use their new rules for appropriate conduct. (23, 24)
- ▼ 10. Parents implement a reward system designed to increase the client's compliance with rules at home and school. (25)
- ▼ 11. Parents enact appropriate boundaries for discipline, terminating all abusive behaviors. (26, 27)
- 23. Conduct Parent-Child Interaction Therapy in which child-directed and parent-directed sessions focus on teaching appropriate child behavior, and parental behavioral management skills (e.g., clear commands, consistent consequences, positive reinforcement) are developed (see *Parent-Child Interaction Therapy* by Bell and Eyberg). ▼
- 24. Teach parents to use the time out technique as a consequence for inappropriate behavior; if possible, use a "signal seat" that has a battery-operated buzzer that serves as both a timer and an alert that the child is not staying in the seat (see *Self-Administered Behavioral Parent Training* by Hamilton and MacQuiddy). ▼
- 25. Design a reward system and/or contingency contract for the client and assign parents to meet with school officials to reinforce identified positive behaviors at home and school and deter impulsive or disruptive behaviors. ▼
- 26. Explore the client's family background for a history of neglect and physical or sexual abuse that may contribute to his/her behavioral problems; confront the client's parents to cease physically abusive or overly punitive methods of discipline and to ensure the safety of the client and his/her siblings. ▼
- 27. Implement the steps necessary to protect the client or siblings from further abuse (e.g., report abuse to the appropriate agencies; remove the client or perpetrator from the home). ▼

- ▼12. Parents verbalize a sense of increased skill, effectiveness, and confidence in their parenting. (28, 29, 30)
- ▼13. Partners express verbal support of each other in the parenting process. (31)
- ▼14. Decrease outside pressures, demands, and distractions that drain energy and time from the family. (32, 33)
28. Educate the parents on the numerous key differences between boys and girls, such as rate of development, perspectives, impulse control, and anger, and how to handle these differences in the parenting process. ▼
29. Have the children complete the “Parent Report Card” (Berg-Gross) and then give feedback to the parents; support areas of parenting strength and identify weaknesses that need to be bolstered. ▼
30. Assist the parental team in identifying areas of parenting weaknesses; help the parents improve their skills and boost their confidence and follow-through (or assign “Being a Consistent Parent” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
31. Help the parents identify and implement specific ways they can support each other as parents and in realizing the ways children work to keep the parents from cooperating in order to get their way. ▼
32. Give the parents permission to not involve their child and themselves in too numerous activities, organizations, or sports. ▼
33. Ask the parents to provide a weekly schedule of their entire family’s activities and then evaluate the schedule with them, looking for which activities are valuable and which can possibly be eliminated to create a more focused and relaxed time to parent. ▼

- ▽15. Develop skills to talk openly and effectively with the children. (34, 35)
- 16. Parents verbalize a termination of their perfectionist expectations of the child. (36, 37)
- 17. Parents and child report an increased feeling of connectedness between them. (38)
- 34. Use modeling and role-play to teach the parents to listen more than talk to their children and to use open-ended questions that encourage openness, sharing, and ongoing dialogue. ▽
- 35. Ask the parents to read material on parent-child communication (e.g., *How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk* by Faber and Mazlish; *Parent Effectiveness Training* by Gordon); help them to implement the new communication style in daily dialogue with their children and to see the positive responses each child had to it.
- 36. Point out to the parents any unreasonable and perfectionist expectations of their child they hold and help them to modify these expectations.
- 37. Help the parents identify the negative consequences/outcomes that perfectionist expectations have on a child and on the relationship between the parents and the child.
- 38. Assist the parents in removing and resolving any barriers that prevent or limit connectedness between family members and in identifying activities that will promote connectedness such as games or one-on-one time (or assign “Share a Family Meal” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

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## DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

<b>Axis I:</b>	309.3	Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Conduct
	309.4	Adjustment Disorder With Mixed Disturbance of Emotions and Conduct
	V61.21	Neglect of Child
	V61.20	Parent-Child Relational Problem
	V61.1	Partner Relational Problem
	V61.21	Physical Abuse of Child
	V61.21	Sexual Abuse of Child
	313.81	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
	312.9	Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
	312.82	Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type
	314.01	Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type

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<b>Axis II:</b>	301.7	Antisocial Personality Disorder
	301.6	Dependent Personality Disorder
	301.81	Narcissistic Personality Disorder
	301.83	Borderline Personality Disorder
	799.9	Diagnosis Deferred
	V71.09	No Diagnosis

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# PEER/SIBLING CONFLICT

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Frequent, overt, intense fighting (verbal and/or physical) with peers and/or siblings.
2. Projects responsibility for conflicts onto others.
3. Believes that he/she is treated unfairly and/or that parents favor sibling(s) over himself/herself.
4. Peer and/or sibling relationships are characterized by bullying, defiance, revenge, taunting, and incessant teasing.
5. Has virtually no friends, or a few who exhibit similar socially disapproved behavior.
6. Exhibits a general pattern of behavior that is impulsive, intimidating, and unmalleable.
7. Behaviors toward peers are aggressive and lack a discernible empathy for others.
8. Parents are hostile toward the client, demonstrating a familial pattern of rejection, quarreling, and lack of respect or affection.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Compete, cooperate, and resolve conflict appropriately with peers and siblings.
2. Develop healthy mechanisms for handling anxiety, tension, frustration, and anger.
3. Obtain the skills required to build positive peer relationships.
4. Terminate aggressive behavior and replace with assertiveness and empathy.
5. Form respectful, trusting peer and sibling relationships.
6. Parents acquire the necessary parenting skills to model respect, empathy, nurturance, and lack of aggression.
7. Demonstrate consistent prosocial behaviors with all peers and siblings.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe relationship with siblings and friends. (1, 2)
  
2. Attend and freely participate in play therapy session. (3, 4, 5, 6)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build level of trust with client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help increase the client's ability to identify and express feelings.
2. Explore the client's perception of the nature of his/her relationships with siblings and peers; assess the degree of denial regarding conflict and projection of the responsibility for conflict onto others.
3. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., explore and gain understanding of the



- etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or arrests; interpret resistance, transference, or core anxieties) to help the client work through and resolve issues with the sibling and/or peers.
3. Decrease the frequency and intensity of aggressive actions toward peers or siblings. (7, 8, 9, 10)
  4. Employ ACT model (Landreth) in play therapy sessions to *acknowledge* the client's feelings, to *communicate* limits, and to *target* more appropriate alternatives to ongoing conflicts and aggression with peers and/or siblings.
  5. Interpret the feelings expressed in play therapy and relate them to anger and aggressive behaviors toward siblings and/or peers.
  6. Create scenarios with puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals that model and/or suggest constructive ways to handle/manage conflicts with siblings or peers.
  7. Guide the parents in utilizing the Playing Baby game (see Schaefer in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques* by Kaduson and Schaefer) in which the child is given an allotted time each day (30 minutes) to be a baby and have mother/parents cater to his/her every need. After the allotted time, client is again treated in an age-appropriate manner as a regular member of the family.
  8. Utilize the "Tearing Paper" exercise (see Daves in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques*), in which the therapist places several phone books and Sunday papers in the center of the room and instructs the family to tear

the paper into small pieces and throw them in the air. The only two conditions are that they must clean up and not throw paper at one another. During cleanup, the therapist reinforces verbally their follow-through in cleaning up and processes how it felt for family/siblings to release energy in this way and how could they do it in other situations at home.

9. Teach the client the Stamping Feet and Bubble Popping method (see Wunderlich in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques*) of releasing angry and frustrating feelings that are part of everyday life and emphasize that what is important is how we choose to handle them. Then talk about how the “anger goes through his/her fingers into the air.”
  10. Instruct the parents and teachers in social learning techniques of ignoring the client’s aggressive acts, except when there is danger of physical injury, while making a concerted effort to attend to and praise all nonaggressive, cooperative, and peaceful behavior.
  11. Educate the client about feelings, focusing on how others feel when they are the focus of aggressive actions and then asking how the client would like to be treated by others.
  12. Ask the client to list the problems that he/she has with siblings and to suggest concrete solutions (or assign the client and parents the exercise “Negotiating a Peace
4. Identify verbally and in writing how he/she would like to be treated by others. (11, 12, 13)

- Treaty” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
5. Recognize and verbalize the feelings of others as well as her/his own. (14, 15, 16)
  6. Increase socially appropriate behavior with peers and siblings. (17, 18, 19)
  13. Play The Helping, Sharing, and Caring Game (Gardner) with the client and/or family to develop and expand feelings of respect for self and others.
  14. Use therapeutic stories (e.g., *Dr. Gardner's Fairy Tales for Today's Children* by Gardner) to increase awareness of feelings and ways to cooperate with others.
  15. Refer the client to a peer therapy group whose objectives are to increase social sensitivity and behavioral flexibility through the use of group exercises (strength bombardment, trusting, walking, expressing negative feelings, etc.).
  16. Use The Talking, Feeling, and Doing game (available from Creative Therapeutics) to increase the client's awareness of self and others.
  17. Use The Anger Control Game (Berg) or a similar game to expose the client to new, constructive ways to manage aggressive feelings.
  18. Play with the client The Social Conflict Game (Berg) to assist him/her in developing behavior skills to decrease interpersonal antisocialism with others.
  19. Conduct or refer the client to a behavioral contracting group therapy in which contracts for positive

- peer interaction are developed each week and reviewed. Positive reinforcers are verbal feedback and small concrete rewards.
7. Participate in peer group activities in a cooperative manner. (20, 21)
  8. Parents facilitate the client's social network building. (22)
  9. Identify feelings associated with the perception that parent(s) have special feelings of favoritism toward a sibling. (23)
  10. Respond positively to praise and encouragement as evidenced by smiling and expressing gratitude. (24)
  11. Parents increase verbal and physical demonstrations of affection and praise to the client. (25)
  12. Verbalize an understanding of the pain that underlies the anger. (26)
  20. Direct the parents to involve the client in cooperative activities (sports, scouts, etc.).
  21. Refer the client to an alternative summer camp that focuses on self-esteem and cooperation with peers.
  22. Have the parents read *Helping Your Child Make Friends* (Nevick). Then assist them in implementing several of the suggestions with the client to build his/her skills in connecting with others.
  23. Help the client work through his/her perception that his/her parents have a favorite child (or assign the "Joseph, His Amazing Technicolor Coat, and More" exercise from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  24. Use role-playing, modeling, and behavior rehearsal to teach the client to become open and responsive to praise and encouragement.
  25. Assist the parents in developing their ability to verbalize affection and appropriate praise to client in family sessions.
  26. Probe causes for the client's anger in enduring rejection experiences with family and friends.

13. Family members decrease the frequency of quarreling and messages of rejection. (27, 28, 29, 30)
14. Parents attend a didactic series on positive parenting. (31)
15. Parents implement a behavior modification plan designed to increase the frequency of cooperative social behaviors. (32, 33)
27. Ask the parents to read *How to End the Sibling Wars* (Bieniek), and then coach them into implementing several of the suggestions. The therapist will follow up by monitoring, encouraging, and redirecting as needed.
28. Work with the parents in family sessions to reduce parental aggression, messages of rejection, and quarreling within the family.
29. Assign the parents to read *Siblings without Rivalry* (Faber and Mazlish) and process key concepts with the therapist. Then have the parents choose two suggestions from the reading and implement them with their children.
30. Assign the parents to read *Between Parent and Child* (Ginott), especially the chapters “Jealousy” and “Children in Need of Professional Help.” Process the reading with the therapist, identifying key changes in family structure or personal interactions that will need to occur to decrease the level of rivalry.
31. Refer the parents to a positive parenting class.
32. Assist the parents in developing and implementing a behavior modification plan in which the client’s positive interaction with peers and siblings is reinforced immediately with tokens that can be exchanged for preestablished rewards. Monitor and give feedback as indicated.



**238 THE CHILD PSYCHOTHERAPY TREATMENT PLANNER**

314.9 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder NOS  
V62.81 Relational Problem NOS  
V71.02 Child or Adolescent Antisocial Behavior  
315.00 Reading Disorder  
315.9 Learning Disorder NOS

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**Axis II:**

V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# PHYSICAL/EMOTIONAL ABUSE VICTIM

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Confirmed self-report or account by others of having been assaulted (e.g., hitting, burning, kicking, slapping, torture) by an older person.
2. Bruises or wounds as evidence of victimization.
3. Self-reports of being injured by a supposed caregiver coupled with feelings of fear and social withdrawal.
4. Significant increase in the frequency and severity of aggressive behaviors toward peers or adults.
5. Recurrent and intrusive distressing recollections of the abuse.
6. Feelings of anger, rage, or fear when in contact with the perpetrator.
7. Frequent and prolonged periods of depression, irritability, anxiety, and/or apathetic withdrawal.
8. Appearance of regressive behaviors (e.g., thumb-sucking, baby talk, bed-wetting).
9. Sleep disturbances (e.g., difficulty falling asleep, refusal to sleep alone, night terrors, recurrent distressing nightmares).
10. Running away from home to avoid further physical assaults.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Terminate the physical abuse.
2. Escape from the environment where the abuse is occurring and move to a safe haven.



3. Rebuild sense of self-worth and overcome the overwhelming sense of fear, shame, and sadness.
4. Resolve feelings of fear and depression while improving communication and the boundaries of respect within the family.
5. Caregivers establish limits on the punishment of the client such that no physical harm can occur and respect for his/her rights is maintained.
6. Client and his/her family eliminate denial, putting the responsibility for the abuse on the perpetrator and allowing the victim to feel supported.
7. Reduce displays of aggression that reflect abuse and keep others at an emotional distance.
8. Build self-esteem and a sense of empowerment as manifested by an increased number of positive self-descriptive statements and greater participation in extracurricular activities.

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### SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Tell the entire account of the most recent abuse. (1, 2, 3)

### THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help him/her increase the ability to identify and express facts and feelings about the abuse.
2. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying the facts associated with the abuse.
3. Use individual play therapy sessions to provide the client with the opportunity to reveal facts and feelings regarding the abuse.

2. Identify the nature, frequency, and duration of the abuse. (2, 4, 5)
3. Agree to actions taken to protect self and provide boundaries against any future abuse or retaliation. (6, 7, 8)
4. Identify and express the feelings connected to the abuse. (9)
5. Terminate verbalizations of denial or making excuses for the perpetrator. (10, 11, 12, 13)
2. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying the facts associated with the abuse.
4. Report physical abuse to the appropriate child protection agency, criminal justice officials, or medical professionals.
5. Consult with the family, a physician, criminal justice officials, or child protection case managers to assess the veracity of the physical abuse charges.
6. Assess whether the perpetrator or the client should be removed from the client's home.
7. Implement the necessary steps (e.g., removal of the client from the home, removal of the perpetrator from the home) to protect the client and other children in the home from further physical abuse.
8. Reassure the client repeatedly of concern and caring on the part of the therapist and others who will protect him/her from any further abuse.
9. Explore, encourage, and support the client in expressing and clarifying his/her feelings toward the perpetrator and self (or assign the homework exercise "My Thoughts and Feelings" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
10. Actively confront and challenge denial within the perpetrator and the entire family system.
11. Confront the client about making excuses for the perpetrator's abuse and accepting blame for it.

6. Perpetrator takes responsibility for the abuse. (14)
7. Perpetrator asks for forgiveness and pledges respect for disciplinary boundaries. (15)
8. Perpetrator agrees to seek treatment. (16, 17, 18)
9. Parents and caregivers verbalize the establishment of appropriate disciplinary boundaries to ensure protection of the client. (19, 20)
10. Family members identify the stressors or other factors that may trigger violence. (21, 22)
12. Reassure the client that he/she did not deserve the abuse but that he/she deserves respect and a controlled response even in punishment situations.
13. Reinforce any and all client statements that put responsibility clearly on the perpetrator for the abuse, regardless of any misbehavior by the client.
14. Hold a family therapy session in which the client and/or therapist confronts the perpetrator with the abuse.
15. Conduct a family therapy session in which the perpetrator apologizes to the client and/or other family member(s) for the abuse.
16. Require the perpetrator to participate in a child abusers' psychotherapy group.
17. Refer the perpetrator for a psychological evaluation and treatment.
18. Evaluate the possibility of substance abuse with the perpetrator or within the family; refer the perpetrator and/or family member(s) for substance abuse treatment, if indicated.
19. Counsel the client's family about appropriate disciplinary boundaries.
20. Ask the parents/caregivers to list appropriate means of discipline or correction; reinforce reasonable actions and appropriate boundaries that reflect respect for the rights and feelings of the child.
21. Construct a multigenerational family genogram that identifies physical abuse within the extended family to help the perpetrator recognize the cycle of violence.

11. Nonabusive parent and other key family members verbalize support and acceptance of the client. (23)
12. Reduce the expressions of rage and aggressiveness that stem from feelings of helplessness related to physical abuse. (24, 25)
13. Decrease the statements of being a victim while increasing the statements that reflect personal empowerment. (26, 27)
14. Increase the frequency of positive self-descriptive statements. (28, 29)
15. Express forgiveness of the perpetrator and others connected with the abuse while insisting on respect for his/her own right to safety in the future. (15, 30, 31)
22. Assess the client's family dynamics and explore for the stress factors or precipitating events that contributed to the emergence of the abuse.
23. Elicit and reinforce support and nurturance of the client from the nonabusive parent and other key family members.
24. Assign the client to write a letter expressing feelings of hurt, fear, and anger to the perpetrator; process the letter.
25. Interpret the client's generalized expressions of anger and aggression as triggered by feelings toward the perpetrator.
26. Empower the client by identifying sources of help against abuse (e.g., phone numbers to call, a safe place to run to, asking for temporary alternate protective placement).
27. Assist the client in writing his/her thoughts and feelings regarding the abuse (or assign the exercise "Letter of Empowerment" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
28. Assist the client in identifying a basis for self-worth by reviewing his/her talents, importance to others, and intrinsic spiritual value.
29. Reinforce positive statements that the client has made about himself/herself and the future.
15. Conduct a family therapy session in which the perpetrator apologizes to the client and/or other family member(s) for the abuse.
30. Assign the client to write a forgiveness letter and/or complete

- a forgiveness exercise in which he/she verbalizes forgiveness to the perpetrator and/or significant family member(s) while asserting the right to safety. Process this letter.
16. Increase socialization with peers and family. (32, 33, 34)
  17. Verbalize an understanding of the loss of trust in all relationships that results from abuse by a parent. (35)
  18. Increase the level of trust of others as shown by increased socialization and a greater number of friendships. (36, 37)
  19. Verbalize how the abuse has affected feelings toward self. (38, 39)
  31. Assign the client a letting-go exercise in which a symbol of the abuse is disposed of or destroyed. Process this experience.
  32. Encourage the client to make plans for the future that involve interacting with his/her peers and family.
  33. Encourage the client to participate in positive peer groups or extracurricular activities.
  34. Refer the client to a victim support group with other children to assist him/her in realizing that he/she is not alone in this experience.
  35. Facilitate the client expressing loss of trust in adults and relate this loss to the perpetrator's abusive behavior and the lack of protection provided.
  36. Assist the client in making discriminating judgments that allow for the trust of some people rather than a distrust of all.
  37. Teach the client the share-check method of building trust, in which a degree of shared information is related to a proven level of trustworthiness.
  38. Assign the client to draw pictures that represent how he/she feels about himself/herself.
  39. Ask the client to draw pictures of his/her own face that represent

20. Express feelings in play therapy sessions. (40)
40. Use child-centered play therapy approaches (e.g., demonstrate genuine interest, provide unconditional positive regard, reflect feelings, profess trust in the client's inner direction) to promote resolution of fear, grief, and rage.
- how he/she felt about himself/herself before, during, and after the abuse occurred.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:** 309.81 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder  
308.3 Acute Stress Disorder  
995.54 Physical Abuse of Child (Victim)  
300.4 Dysthymic Disorder  
296.xx Major Depressive Disorder  
300.02 Generalized Anxiety Disorder  
307.47 Nightmare Disorder  
313.81 Oppositional Defiant Disorder  
312.81 Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type  
300.6 Depersonalization Disorder  
300.15 Dissociative Disorder NOS

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- Axis II:** V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD)

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Exposure to threats of death or serious injury, or subjection to actual injury, that resulted in an intense emotional response of fear, helplessness, or horror.
2. Intrusive, distressing thoughts or images that recall the traumatic event.
3. Disturbing dreams associated with the traumatic event.
4. A sense that the event is recurring, as in illusions or flashbacks.
5. Intense distress when exposed to reminders of the traumatic event.
6. Physiological reactivity when exposed to internal or external cues that symbolize the traumatic event.
7. Avoidance of thoughts, feelings, or conversations about the traumatic event.
8. Avoidance of activities, places, or people associated with the traumatic event.
9. Inability to recall some important aspect of the traumatic event.
10. Lack of interest and participation in formerly meaningful activities.
11. A sense of detachment from others.
12. Inability to experience the full range of emotions, including love.
13. A pessimistic, fatalistic attitude regarding the future.
14. Sleep disturbance.
15. Irritability or angry outbursts.
16. Lack of concentration.
17. Hypervigilance.
18. Exaggerated startle response.
19. Symptoms have been present for more than 1 month.
20. Sad or guilty affect and other signs of depression.
21. Verbally and/or physically violent threats or behavior.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Recall the traumatic event without becoming overwhelmed with negative emotions.
2. Interact normally with friends and family without irrational fears or intrusive thoughts that control behavior.
3. Return to pretrauma level of functioning without avoiding people, places, thoughts, or feelings associated with the traumatic event.
4. Display a full range of emotions without experiencing loss of control.
5. Develop and implement effective coping skills that allow for carrying out normal responsibilities and participating in relationships and social activities.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the history and nature of PTSD symptoms. (1, 2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Establish rapport with the client toward building a therapeutic alliance.
2. Assess the client's frequency, intensity, duration, and history of PTSD symptoms and their impact on functioning (or assign the



- “PTSD Incident Report” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis; or “Describe Your PTSD Symptoms” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner II* by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis; or see *The Anxiety Disorders Interview Schedule for Children—Parent Version* or *Child Version* by Silverman and Albano).
2. Complete psychological tests designed to assess and/or track the nature and severity of PTSD symptoms. (3)
  3. Describe the traumatic event in as much detail as possible. (4)
  4. Verbalize the symptoms of depression, including any suicidal ideation. (5)
  - ▼ 5. Cooperate with an evaluation by a physician for psychotropic medication. (6, 7)
  3. Administer or refer the client for administration of psychological testing to assess for the presence or strength of PTSD symptoms (e.g., Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale—Child and Adolescent Version [CAPS-C] by Nader, Blake, Kriegler, and Pynoos).
  4. Gently and sensitively explore the client’s recollection of the facts of the traumatic incident and his/her emotional reactions at the time (or utilize “Describe the Trauma and Your Feelings” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner II* by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  5. Assess the client’s depth of depression and suicide potential and treat appropriately, taking the necessary safety precautions as indicated (see Depression chapter in this *Planner*).
  6. Assess the client’s need for medication (e.g., selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors) and arrange for prescription if appropriate. ▼

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.



- inoculation, cognitive restructuring, and/or exposure-based therapy in chapters of books or treatment manuals on PTSD (e.g., *The PTSD Workbook* by Williams and Poijula). ▽
- ▽ 9. Learn and implement calming and coping strategies to managing emotional reactions related to trauma. (13)
- ▽ 10. Learn and implement anger management techniques. (14)
- ▽ 11. Identify, challenge, and replace fearful self-talk with reality-based, positive self-talk. (15, 16)
13. Teach the client strategies from Anxiety Management Training or Stress Inoculation Training such as relaxation, breathing control, covert modeling (i.e., imagining the successful use of the strategies), and/or role-playing (i.e., with therapist or trusted other) for managing fears until a sense of mastery is evident (see *Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy* by Francis and Beidel; or *Clinical Handbook for Treating PTSD* by Meichenbaum). ▽
14. Teach the client anger management techniques (see *Overcoming Situational and General Anger* by Deffenbacher and McKay; or the Anger Management chapter in this *Planner*). ▽
15. Explore the client's schema and self-talk that mediate his/her trauma-related fears; identify and challenge biases; assist him/her in generating appraisals that correct for the biases and build confidence. ▽
16. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she identifies fearful self-talk and creates reality-based alternatives; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure. ▽

- ▼12. Participate in imaginal and in vivo exposure to trauma-related memories until talking or thinking about the trauma does not cause marked distress. (17, 18, 19)
17. Direct and assist the client in constructing a detailed narrative description of the trauma(s) for imaginal exposure (or assign “Finding My Triggers” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); construct a fear and avoidance hierarchy of feared and avoided trauma-related stimuli for in vivo exposure. ▼
18. Have the client undergo imaginal exposure to the trauma by having him/her describe a traumatic experience at an increasing but client-chosen level of detail; repeat until associated anxiety reduces and stabilizes, recording the session and having the client listen to it between sessions (see *Cognitive Behavioral Treatment for Pediatric Posttraumatic Stress Disorder* by Amaya-Jackson and colleagues); review and reinforce progress, problem-solve obstacles. ▼
19. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she repeats the narrative exposure or does in vivo exposure to environmental stimuli as rehearsed in therapy; ask him/her to record responses; review and reinforce progress. ▼
- ▼13. Learn and implement thought-stopping to manage intrusive unwanted thoughts. (20)
20. Teach the client thought-stopping in which he/she internally voices the word STOP and/or imagines something representing the concept of stopping (e.g., a stop sign or light) immediately upon noticing unwanted trauma or otherwise negative unwanted thoughts. ▼

- ▼14. Implement relapse prevention strategies for managing possible future trauma-related symptoms. (21, 22, 23, 24)
- ▼15. Family members learn skills that strengthen and support the client's positive behavior change. (25, 26, 27)
21. Discuss with the client the distinction between a lapse and relapse, associating a lapse with an initial and reversible return of symptoms, fear, or urges to avoid and relapse with the decision to return to fearful and avoidant patterns. ▼  
▼
22. Identify and rehearse with the client the management of future situations or circumstances in which lapses could occur. ▼  
▼
23. Instruct the client to routinely use strategies learned in therapy (e.g., cognitive restructuring, social skills, exposure) while building social interactions and relationships. ▼  
▼
24. Develop a "coping card" or other reminder on which coping strategies and other important information (e.g., "Pace your breathing," "Focus on the task at hand," "You can manage it," "It will go away") are recorded for the client's later use. ▼  
▼
25. Involve the family in the treatment of the client, teaching them developmentally appropriate treatment goals, how to give support as the client faces his/her fears, and how to prevent reinforcing the client's fear and avoidance; offer encouragement, support, and redirection as required. ▼  
▼
26. Assist the family members in recognizing and managing their own difficult emotional reactions to the client's experience of trauma. ▼  
▼

16. Cooperate with eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR) technique to reduce emotional reaction to the traumatic event. (28)
17. Implement a regular exercise regimen as a stress release technique. (29)
18. Express facts and feelings surrounding the trauma through play therapy and mutual storytelling. (30, 31, 32)
27. Encourage the family to model constructive skills they have learned and model and praise the therapeutic skills the client is learning (e.g., calming, cognitive restructuring, nonavoidance of unrealistic fears). ▽
28. Utilize EMDR technique to reduce the client's emotional reactivity to the traumatic event (see *Through the Eyes of a Child: EMDR with Children* by Tinker and Wilson).
29. Develop and encourage a routine of physical exercise for the client.
30. Use child-centered play therapy principles (e.g., provide unconditional positive regard, offer nonjudgmental reflection of feelings, display trust in the child's capacity for growth) to help the client identify and express feelings surrounding the traumatic incident.
31. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., allow the child to take the lead; explore etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or developmental arrests; interpret resistance, transference, and core anxieties) to help the client express and work through feelings surrounding the traumatic incident.
32. Utilize a mutual storytelling technique whereby the client and therapist alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals. Therapist first models constructive steps to take

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| <p>19. Express facts and feelings through painting or drawing. (33)</p> <p>20. Sleep without being disturbed by dreams of the trauma. (34)</p> <p>21. Verbalize hopeful and positive statements regarding the future. (35)</p> <p>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>_____<br/>_____</p> | <p>to protect self and feel empowered; the client follows by creating a story with similar characters or themes.</p> <p>33. Provide the client with materials and ask him/her to draw/paint pictures depicting the trauma and of himself/herself depicting emotions associated with the trauma.</p> <p>34. Monitor the client's sleep pattern and encourage use of relaxation, positive imagery, and sleep hygiene as aids to sleep (see Sleep Disturbance chapter in this <i>Planner</i>).</p> <p>35. Reinforce the client's positive, reality-based cognitive messages that enhance self-confidence and increase adaptive action.</p> <p>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>_____<br/>_____</p> <p>_____<br/>_____</p> |
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## DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

- Axis I:**
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|--------|----------------------------------|
| 309.81 | Posttraumatic Stress Disorder    |
| 309.xx | Adjustment Disorder              |
| 995.54 | Physical Abuse of Child (Victim) |
| 995.53 | Sexual Abuse of Child (Victim)   |
| 308.3  | Acute Stress Disorder            |
| 296.xx | Major Depressive Disorder        |
- \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Axis II:**
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|--------|--------------|
| V71.09 | No Diagnosis |
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# SCHOOL REFUSAL

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Persistent reluctance or refusal to attend school because of a desire to remain at home with the parents.
2. Marked emotional distress and repeated complaints (e.g., crying, temper outbursts, pleading with parents not to go to school) when anticipating separation from home to attend school or after arrival at school.
3. Frequent somatic complaints (e.g., headaches, stomachaches, nausea) associated with attending school or in anticipation of school attendance.
4. Excessive clinging or shadowing of parents when anticipating leaving home for school or after arriving at school.
5. Frequent negative comments about school and/or repeated questioning of the necessity of going to school.
6. Persistent and unrealistic expression of fear that a future calamity will cause a separation from his/her parents if he/she attends school (e.g., he/she or parent(s) will be lost, kidnapped, killed, or the victim of an accident).
7. Verbalizations of low self-esteem and lack of confidence that contribute to the fear of attending school and being separated from the parents.
8. Verbalization of a fear of failure, ridicule, or anxiety regarding academic achievement accompanying the refusal to attend school.
9. Excessive shrinking from or avoidance of contact with unfamiliar people for extended periods of time.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Attend school on a consistent, full-time basis.
2. Eliminate anxiety and the expression of fears prior to leaving home and after arriving at school.
3. Cease temper outbursts, regressive behaviors, complaints, and pleading associated with attending school.
4. Eliminate somatic complaints associated with attending school.
5. Resolve the core conflicts or traumas contributing to the emergence of the school refusal.
6. Increase the frequency of independent behaviors.
7. Parents establish and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries, setting firm, consistent limits when the client exhibits temper tantrums and passive-aggressive behaviors associated with attending school.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Establish a therapeutic alliance and express feelings associated with attending school. (1)
2. Complete psychological testing and an assessment interview. (2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to increase his/her ability to identify and express feelings regarding school attendance and any known reasons for them.
2. Arrange for psychological testing of the client to assess the severity of anxiety, depression, or gross psychopathology and to gain greater insight into the underlying dynamics contributing to school refusal; provide feedback to the client and parents.

3. Complete psychoeducational testing. (3)
4. Comply with a systematic desensitization program and attend school for increasingly longer periods of time. (4)
5. Parents implement a reward system, contingency contract, or token economy focused on school attendance by the client. (5, 6)
6. Parents and school officials implement a contingency plan to deal with temper tantrums, crying spells, or excessive clinging after arriving at school. (7, 8, 9)
3. Arrange for psychoeducational testing of the client to rule out the presence of learning disabilities that may interfere with school attendance; provide feedback to the client, parents, and school officials.
4. Design and implement a systematic desensitization program to help the client manage his/her anxiety and gradually attend school for longer periods of time.
5. Develop a reward system or contingency contract to reinforce the client's attending school for increasingly longer periods of time.
6. Design and implement a token economy to reinforce the client's school attendance.
7. Consult with the parents and school officials to develop a plan to manage the client's emotional distress and negative outbursts after arriving at school (e.g., the parent ceases lengthy good-byes, the client goes to the principal's office to calm down).
8. Consult with the teacher in the initial stages of treatment about planning an immediate assignment that will provide the client with an increased chance of success.
9. Use the teacher's aide or a positive peer role model to provide one-on-one attention for the client and decrease the fear and anxiety about attending school.

7. Verbally acknowledge how the fears related to attending school are irrational or unrealistic. (10, 11)
8. Implement relaxation and guided imagery to reduce anxiety. (12)
9. Increase positive statements about accomplishments and experiences at school. (13)
10. Decrease the frequency of verbalized somatic complaints. (14, 15, 16)
11. Increase the time spent between the client and the disengaged parent in play, school, or work activities. (17, 18)
10. Explore the irrational, negative cognitive messages that produce the client's anxiety or fear; assist him/her in identifying the irrational or unrealistic nature of these fears.
11. Assist the client in developing reality-based positive cognitive messages that increase his/her self-confidence to cope with anxiety or fear.
12. Teach the client relaxation techniques or guided imagery to reduce his/her anxiety and fears.
13. Assist the client in identifying and acknowledging his/her accomplishments and positive experiences in school.
14. Consult with the parents and school officials to develop a contingency plan to manage the client's somatic complaints (e.g., ignore them, take the client's temperature matter-of-factly, redirect the client to task, send the client to the nurse's office).
15. Refocus the client's discussion from physical complaints to emotional conflicts and the expression of feelings.
16. Conduct family therapy sessions to assess the dynamics, including secondary gain that may be contributing to the emergence of the somatic complaints associated with school refusal.
17. Ask the client to draw a picture of a house; then instruct him/her to pretend that he/she lives in the house and describe what it is like to live there; process the

- client's responses to assess family dynamics, focusing on role of the disengaged parent.
12. Parents reinforce the client's autonomous behaviors and set limits on overly dependent behaviors. (19, 20, 21)
  13. Parents cease sending inconsistent messages about school attendance and begin to set firm, consistent limits on excessive clinging, pleading, crying, and temper tantrums. (19, 22, 23)
  18. Give a directive to the disengaged parent to transport the client to school in the morning; contact the parent's employer, if necessary, to gain permission for this.
  19. Encourage the parents to reinforce the client's autonomous behaviors (e.g., attending school, working alone on school assignments) and set limits on overly dependent behaviors (e.g., client insisting that the parent enter the classroom).
  20. Stress to the parents the importance of remaining calm and not communicating anxiety to the client.
  21. Praise and reinforce the parents for taking positive steps to help the client overcome his/her fears or anxieties about attending school.
  19. Encourage the parents to reinforce the client's autonomous behaviors (e.g., attending school, working alone on school assignments) and set limits on overly dependent behaviors (e.g., client insisting that the parent enter the classroom).
  22. Counsel the parents about setting firm, consistent limits on the client's temper outbursts, manipulative behaviors, or excessive clinging.
  23. Instruct the parents to write a letter to the client that sends a clear message about the importance

- of attending school and reminds him/her of coping strategies that he/she can use to calm fears or anxieties. Place the letter in a notebook and have the client read the letter at appropriate times during school day when he/she begins to feel afraid or anxious (or assign the parents to complete the “Letter of Encouragement” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
14. Enmeshed or overly protective parent identifies overly dependent behaviors. (24, 25)
  15. Identify positive coping strategies to help decrease anxiety, fears, and emotional distress. (26, 27)
  24. Identify how enmeshed or overly protective parents reinforce the client’s dependency and irrational fears.
  25. Use a paradoxical intervention (e.g., instruct the enmeshed parent to spoon-feed the client each morning) to work around the family’s resistance and disengage the client from an overly protective parent.
  26. Explore for days or periods of time in which the client was able to attend school without exhibiting significant distress. Identify and reinforce coping strategies that the client used to attend school without displaying excessive fear or anxiety.
  27. Anticipate possible stressors or events (e.g., illness, school holidays, vacations) that might cause fears and anxiety about attending school to reappear. Identify coping strategies and contingency plans (e.g., relaxation techniques, positive self-talk, disengaged parent transporting the client to school) that the client and family can use to overcome fears or anxiety.

16. Identify and express the feelings connected with past unresolved separation, loss, or trauma. (28, 29, 30)
17. Implement assertiveness skills to reduce social anxiety and cope with ridicule. (31, 32, 33)
18. Increase the frequency and duration of time spent in independent play or activities away from the parents or home. (34, 35, 36)
28. Assess whether the client's anxiety and fear about attending school are associated with a previously unresolved separation, loss, trauma, or unrealistic danger.
29. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying his/her feelings associated with a past separation, loss, trauma, or realistic danger.
30. Assign the older child to write a letter to express his/her feelings about a past separation, loss, trauma, or danger; process it with the therapist.
31. Train the client in assertiveness to reduce social anxiety and/or fear of ridicule.
32. Use Stand Up for Yourself (Shapiro) game in therapy sessions to help teach the client assertiveness skills that can be used at school.
33. Assign readings to teach the client effective ways to deal with aggressive or intimidating peers at school (e.g., *Why Is Everybody Always Picking on Me? A Guide to Understanding Bullies for Young People* by Webster-Doyle; *How to Handle Bullies, Teasers, and Other Meanies* by Cohen-Posey).
34. Encourage the client's assertive participation in extracurricular and positive peer group activities.
35. Give the client a directive to spend a specified period of time with his/her peers after school or on weekends.
36. Give the client a directive to initiate three social contacts per week with unfamiliar people or when placed in new social settings.

19. Express feelings about attending school through play, mutual storytelling, and art. (37, 38, 39, 40)
20. Parent(s) follow through with recommendations regarding medication and therapeutic interventions. (41)
37. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., allow the child to take the lead; explore the etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixation, or developmental arrests; interpret resistance, transference, and core anxieties) to help the client work through and resolve issues contributing to school refusal.
38. Use mutual storytelling technique: The client and therapist alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals. The therapist first models appropriate ways to overcome fears or anxieties to face separation or academic challenges; then the client follows by creating a story with similar characters or themes.
39. Direct the client to draw a picture or create a sculpture about what he/she fears will happen when he/she goes to school; discuss whether his/her fears are realistic or unrealistic.
40. Use the Angry Tower technique (see Saxe in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques* by Kaduson and Schaefer) to help the client identify and express underlying feelings of anger that contribute to school refusal: Build a tower out of plastic containers or buckets; place doll on top of tower (doll represents object of anger); instruct the client to throw small fabric ball at the tower while verbalizing feelings of anger.
41. Assess overly enmeshed parent for the possibility of having either an anxiety or depressive disorder that may be contributing to the client's

refusal to attend school. Refer the parent for a medication evaluation and/or individual therapy if it is found that the parent has an anxiety or a depressive disorder.

21. Cooperate with a medical evaluation and take medication as prescribed by the physician. (42, 43)

42. Refer the client for a medical examination to rule out genuine health problems that may contribute to his/her school refusal and somatic complaints.

43. Arrange for the client to be evaluated for psychotropic medication; monitor for medication prescription compliance, side effects, and effectiveness.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:      309.21      Separation Anxiety Disorder
- 300.02      Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- 300.23      Social Anxiety Disorder (Social Phobia)
- 296.xx      Major Depressive Disorder
- 300.4      Dysthymic Disorder
- 300.81      Somatization Disorder
- 300.81      Undifferentiated Somatoform Disorder
- 309.81      Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

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Axis II:      V71.09      No Diagnosis

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# SEPARATION ANXIETY

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Excessive emotional distress and repeated complaints (e.g., crying, regressive behaviors, pleading with parents to stay, temper tantrums) when anticipating separation from home or close attachment figures.
2. Persistent and unrealistic worry about possible harm occurring to close attachment figures or excessive fear that they will leave and not return.
3. Persistent and unrealistic fears expressed that a future calamity will separate the client from a close attachment figure (e.g., the client or his/her parent will be lost, kidnapped, killed, the victim of an accident).
4. Repeated complaints and heightened distress (e.g., pleading to go home, demanding to see or call a parent) after separation from home or the attachment figure has occurred.
5. Persistent fear of avoidance of being alone as manifested by excessive clinging and shadowing of a close attachment figure.
6. Frequent reluctance or refusal to go to sleep without being near a close attachment figure; refusal to sleep away from home.
7. Recurrent nightmares centering on the theme of separation.
8. Frequent somatic complaints (e.g., headaches, stomachaches, nausea) when separation from home or the attachment figure is anticipated or has occurred.
9. Excessive need for reassurance about safety and protection from possible harm or danger.
10. Low self-esteem and lack of self-confidence that contribute to the fear of being alone or participating in social activities.
11. Excessive shrinking from unfamiliar or new situations.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Eliminate the anxiety and expression of fears when a separation is anticipated or occurs.
  2. Tolerate separation from attachment figures without exhibiting heightened emotional distress, regressive behaviors, temper outbursts, or pleading.
  3. Eliminate the somatic complaints associated with separation.
  4. Manage nighttime fears effectively as evidenced by remaining calm, sleeping in own bed, and not attempting to go into the attachment figure's room at night.
  5. Resolve the core conflicts or traumas contributing to the emergence of the separation anxiety.
  6. Participate in extracurricular or peer group activities and spend time in independent play on a regular, consistent basis.
  7. Parents establish and maintain appropriate parent-child boundaries and set firm, consistent limits when the client exhibits temper outbursts or manipulative behaviors around separation points.
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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the history and nature of the phobia(s), complete with impact on functioning and attempt to overcome it. (1, 2)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build a level of trust with the client that will promote the open showing of thoughts and feelings, especially fearful ones (or assign "Expressions of Fear Through Art" from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

- 2. Cooperate with an evaluation by a physician for psychotropic medication. (3, 4)
  - 3. Verbalize an understanding of information about separation fears and their treatment. (5, 6, 7)
- 2. Assess the client's fear and avoidance, including the focus of fear, types of avoidance (e.g., distraction, escape, dependence on others), development, and disability (e.g., *The Anxiety Disorders Interview Schedule for Children—Parent Version* or *Child Version* by Silverman and Albano).
      - 3. Arrange for an evaluation for a prescription of psychotropic medications if the client requests it or if the client is likely to be noncompliant with gradual exposure. <sup>EB</sup>▽
      - 4. Monitor the client for prescription compliance, side effects, and overall effectiveness of the medication; consult with the prescribing physician at regular intervals. <sup>EB</sup>▽
      - 5. Discuss how separation fears are common and natural, but unfounded, are not a sign of weakness, but cause unnecessary distress and disability. <sup>EB</sup>▽
      - 6. Discuss how separation fears are maintained by a “phobic cycle” of unwarranted fear and avoidance that precludes positive, therapeutically corrective experiences being away from attachment figures, and how treatment breaks the cycle by encouraging these experiences (e.g., *Separation Anxiety in Children and Adolescents* by Eisen and Schaefer). <sup>EB</sup>▽
      - 7. Use a storytelling technique to help the client identify his/her fears, their origins, and their

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▽<sup>EB</sup> indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- resolution (or read and process “Maurice Faces His Fears” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▽
- ▽ 4. Verbalize an understanding of how thoughts, physical feelings, and behavioral actions contribute to anxiety and its treatment. (8, 9)
  - ▽ 5. Learn and implement calming skills to reduce and manage anxiety symptoms. (10, 11, 12)
  - ▽ 6. Identify, challenge, and replace fearful self-talk with positive, realistic, and empowering self-talk. (13, 14, 15)
  - 8. Discuss how separation fears involve perceiving unrealistic threats, underestimating coping skills, feeling fear, and avoiding what is threatening, that interact to maintain the problem (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▽
  - 9. Discuss how exposure serves as an arena to lessen fear, build confidence, and feel safer by building a new history of success experiences (e.g., *Separation Anxiety in Children and Adolescents* by Eisen and Schaefer). ▽
  - 10. Teach the client anxiety management skills (e.g., staying focused on behavioral goals, muscular relaxation, evenly paced diaphragmatic breathing, positive self-talk) to address anxiety symptoms that may emerge during encounters with phobic objects or situations. ▽
  - 11. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she practices daily calming skills; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure. ▽
  - 12. Use biofeedback techniques to facilitate the client’s success at learning calming skills. ▽
  - 13. Explore the client’s schema and self-talk that mediates his/her fear response; challenge the biases; assist him/her in replacing the distorted messages with reality-based, positive self-talk. ▽

- ▼ 7. Participate in gradual repeated exposure to feared or avoided separation situations. (16, 17, 18, 19, 20)
14. Use behavioral techniques (e.g., modeling, corrective feedback, imaginal rehearsal, social reinforcement) to train the client in positive self-talk that prepares him/her to endure anxiety symptoms without serious consequences. ▼
15. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she identifies fearful self-talk and creates reality-based alternatives (or assign “Tools for Anxiety” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner II*, by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis); review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure. ▼
16. Direct and assist the client in construction of a hierarchy of separation anxiety-producing situations. ▼
17. Select initial exposures that have a high likelihood of being a successful experience for the client; develop a plan for managing the symptoms and rehearse the plan (or assign “Gradually Facing a Phobic Fear” in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
18. Assign parents to read about situational exposure in books or treatment manuals on separation anxiety (e.g., *Separation Anxiety in Children and Adolescents* by Eisen and Schaefer; *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼
19. Conduct practice exposures in session with the client or client and attachment figures using

- graduated tasks, modeling, and reinforcement of the client's success. ▽
20. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she does situational exposures and records responses (see *Separation Anxiety in Children and Adolescents* by Eisen and Schaefer); review and reinforce success or provide corrective feedback toward improvement. ▽
  21. Conduct Family Anxiety Management sessions (see *FRIENDS Program for Children* series by Barrett, Lowry-Webster, and Turner) in which the family is taught how to prompt and reward courageous behavior, empathetically ignore excessive complaining and other avoidant behaviors, manage their own anxieties, and model the behavior being taught in session. ▽
  22. Assist the family in overcoming the tendency to reinforce the separation anxiety; as the anxiety decreases, teach them constructive ways to reward the client's progress. ▽
  23. Teach family members problem-solving and communication skills to assist the client's progress through therapy. ▽
  24. Counsel the parents about setting firm, consistent limits on the client's temper tantrums and excessive clinging or whining. ▽
  25. Design a reward system or establish a contingency contract that reinforces the client for being able to manage separation from his/her parents without displaying excessive emotional distress. ▽
- ▽ 8. Family members demonstrate support for the client as he/she tolerates more exposure to the separation. (21, 22, 23)
  - ▽ 9. Reduce the frequency and severity of crying, clinging, temper tantrums, and verbalized fears when separated from attachment figures. (24, 25, 26)

- ▼10. Increase the client's participation in extracurricular or positive peer group activities away from home. (27, 28)
- ▼11. Increase the frequency and duration of time spent in independent play away from major attachment figures. (29, 30, 31, 32)
26. Inquire into what the client does differently on days that he/she is able to separate from parents without displaying excessive clinging, pleading, crying, or protesting; process the client's response and reinforce any positive coping mechanisms that are used to manage separations (or assign "Parents' Time Away" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
27. Encourage participation in extracurricular or peer group activities (or assign "Show Your Strengths" in *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
28. Utilize behavioral rehearsal and role-play of peer group interaction to teach the client social skills and reduce social anxiety (or assign "Greeting Your Peers" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
29. Encourage the client to invite a friend for an overnight visit and/or set up an overnight visit at a friend's home; process any fears that arise and reinforce independence. ▼
30. Direct the client to spend gradually longer periods of time in independent play or with friends after school. ▼
31. Encourage the client to safely explore his/her immediate neighborhood in order to foster autonomy (or assign "Explore Your World" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼

- ▼12. Implement relapse prevention strategies for managing possible future anxiety symptoms. (33, 34, 35, 36)
- ▼13. Parents comply and follow through with recommendations regarding therapy and/or medication evaluations. (37, 38)
32. Direct the parents to go on a weekly outing without the client. Begin with a 30- to 45-minute outing and gradually increase duration; teach the client effective coping strategies (e.g., relaxation techniques, deep breathing, calling a friend, playing with sibling) to help him/her reduce separation anxiety while parents are away on outing. ▼
33. Discuss with the client the distinction between a lapse and relapse, associating a lapse with a temporary and reversible return of symptoms, fear, or urges to avoid and relapse with the decision to return to fearful and avoidant patterns. ▼
34. Identify and rehearse with the client the management of future situations or circumstances in which lapses could occur. ▼
35. Instruct the client to routinely use strategies learned in therapy (e.g., cognitive restructuring, exposure), building them into his/her life as much as possible. ▼
36. Develop a “coping card” on which coping strategies and other important information (e.g., “You’re safe,” “Pace your breathing,” “Focus on the task at hand,” “You can manage it,” “Stay in the situation,” “Let the anxiety pass”) are written for the client’s later use. ▼
37. Assess overly enmeshed parent for the possibility of having either an anxiety or affective disorder; refer parent for medication evaluation and/or individual therapy if he/she is exhibiting symptoms of either an anxiety or affective disorder. ▼



14. Identify and express feelings connected with past separation, loss, abuse, or trauma. (39, 40, 41)
15. Express feelings and fears in play therapy, mutual storytelling, and art. (42, 43, 44)
38. Assess the marital dyad for possible conflict and triangulation of the client into discord. Refer parents for marital counseling if discord is present. ▼
39. Assess whether the client's anxiety and fears are associated with a separation, loss, abuse, trauma, or unrealistic danger.
40. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying the feelings associated with the separation, loss, trauma, or unrealistic danger.
41. Assign the client to write a letter to express his/her feelings about a past separation, loss, trauma, or danger; process the letter with therapist.
42. Use child-centered play therapy principles (e.g., display genuine interest and unconditional positive regard, reflect feelings in nonjudgmental manner, demonstrate trust in the client's capacity to grow) to promote greater awareness of self and increase motivation to overcome fears about separation.
43. Utilize mutual storytelling technique: The client and therapist alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals; the therapist first models appropriate ways to overcome fears or anxieties; then the client follows by creating a story with similar characters or themes.
44. Direct the client to draw a picture or create a sculpture about what he/she fears will happen upon separation from major attachment figures; assess whether the client's fears are irrational or unrealistic.

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| <p>16. Increase assertive behaviors to deal more effectively and directly with stress, conflict, or responsibilities. (45, 46)</p>                 | <p>45. Play The Stand Up for Yourself Game (Shapiro) in therapy sessions to teach the client assertiveness skills.</p> |
| <p>46. Refer the client to group therapy to help him/her develop positive social skills, overcome social anxieties, and become more assertive.</p> |  |
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| 309.21 | Separation Anxiety Disorder             |
| 300.02 | Generalized Anxiety Disorder            |
| 300.23 | Social Anxiety Disorder (Social Phobia) |
| 296.xx | Major Depressive Disorder               |
| 300.81 | Somatization Disorder                   |
| 301.47 | Nightmare Disorder                      |
| 307.46 | Sleep Terror Disorder                   |
| 309.81 | Posttraumatic Stress Disorder           |


- Axis II:**
- |        |              |
|--------|--------------|
| V71.09 | No Diagnosis |
|--------|--------------|


# SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIM

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Self-report of being sexually abused.
2. Physical signs of sexual abuse (e.g., red or swollen genitalia, blood in the underwear, constant rashes, a tear in the vagina or rectum, venereal disease, hickeys on the body).
3. Strong interest in or curiosity about advanced knowledge of sexuality.
4. Sexual themes or sexualized behaviors emerge in play or artwork.
5. Recurrent and intrusive distressing recollections or nightmares of the abuse.
6. Acting or feeling as if the sexual abuse were recurring (including delusions, hallucinations, or dissociative flashback experiences).
7. Unexplainable feelings of anger, rage, or fear when coming into contact with the perpetrator or after exposure to sexual topics.
8. Pronounced disturbance of mood and affect (e.g., frequent and prolonged periods of depression, irritability, anxiety, fearfulness).
9. Appearance of regressive behaviors (e.g., thumb-sucking, baby talk, bed-wetting).
10. Marked distrust in others as manifested by social withdrawal and problems with establishing and maintaining close relationships.
11. Feelings of guilt, shame, and low self-esteem.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Obtain protection from all further sexual victimization.
2. Work successfully through the issue of sexual abuse with consequent understanding and control of feelings and behavior.
3. Resolve the issues surrounding the sexual abuse, resulting in an ability to establish and maintain close interpersonal relationships.
4. Establish appropriate boundaries and generational lines in the family to greatly minimize the risk of sexual abuse ever occurring in the future.
5. Achieve healing within the family system as evidenced by the verbal expression of forgiveness and a willingness to let go and move on.
6. Eliminate denial in self and the family, placing responsibility for the abuse on the perpetrator and allowing the survivor to feel supported.
7. Eliminate all inappropriate sexual behaviors.
8. Build self-esteem and a sense of empowerment as manifested by an increased number of positive self-descriptive statements and greater participation in extracurricular activities.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Tell the entire story of the abuse. (1, 2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build the level of trust with the client through consistent eye contact, active listening, unconditional positive regard, and warm acceptance to help increase his/her ability to identify and express feelings connected to the abuse.
2. Explore, encourage, and support the client in verbally expressing the facts and clarifying his/her feelings associated with the abuse.

2. Identify the nature, frequency, and duration of the abuse. (4, 5, 6)
3. Decrease secrecy in the family by informing key members about the abuse. (7, 8)
4. Implement steps to protect the client from further sexual abuse. (9, 10, 11, 12)
3. Using anatomically detailed dolls or puppets, have the client tell and show how he/she was abused. Take great caution not to lead the client's description of the abuse.
4. Report the client's sexual abuse to the appropriate child protection agency, criminal justice officials, or medical professionals.
5. Consult with a physician, criminal justice officials, or child protection case managers to assess the veracity of the sexual abuse charges.
6. Consult with the physician, criminal justice officials, or child protection case managers to develop appropriate treatment interventions for the client.
7. Facilitate conjoint sessions to reveal the client's sexual abuse to key family members or caregivers.
8. Actively confront and challenge denial of the client's sexual abuse within the family system.
9. Assess whether the perpetrator should be removed from the home.
10. Implement the necessary steps to protect the client and other children in the home from future sexual abuse.
11. Assess whether the client is safe to remain in the home or should be removed.
12. Empower the client by reinforcing steps necessary to protect himself/herself.

5. Parents establish and adhere to appropriate intimacy boundaries within the family. (13)
6. Identify family dynamics or stressors that contributed to the emergence of sexual abuse. (14, 15, 16, 17)
7. Identify and express feelings connected to the abuse. (18, 19, 20, 21)
13. Counsel the client's family members about appropriate intimacy and privacy boundaries.
14. Assess the family dynamics and identify the stress factors or precipitating events that contributed to the emergence of the client's abuse.
15. Assign the client to draw a diagram of the house where the abuse occurred, indicating where everyone slept, and share the diagram with the therapist.
16. Ask the client to draw a picture of a house, then instruct him/her to pretend that he/she lives in that house and describe what it is like to live there; process the client's responses to assess family dynamics and allow for his/her expression of feelings related to abuse.
17. Construct a multigenerational family genogram that identifies sexual abuse within the extended family to help the client realize that he/she is not the only one abused and to help the perpetrator recognize the cycle of boundary violation.
18. Instruct older child to write a letter to the perpetrator that describes his/her feelings about the abuse; process the letter.
19. Employ art therapy (e.g., drawing, painting, sculpting) to help the client identify and express feelings he/she had toward perpetrator.
20. Use the Angry Tower technique (see Saxe in *101 Favorite Play Therapy Techniques* by Kaduson and Schaefer) to help the client

- express feelings of anger about sexual abuse: Build tower out of plastic containers; place small doll on top of tower (doll represents object of anger); instruct the client to throw small fabric ball at tower while verbalizing feelings of anger connected to the abuse.
8. Decrease expressed feelings of shame and guilt and affirm self as not being responsible for the abuse. (22)
  9. Verbalize the way sexual abuse has impacted life and feelings about self. (23, 24)
  10. Increase the willingness to talk about sexual abuse in the family. (7, 25)
  21. Use guided fantasy and imagery techniques to help the client express suppressed thoughts, feelings, and unmet needs associated with sexual abuse.
  22. Explore and resolve the client's feelings of guilt and shame connected to the sexual abuse (or assign the "You Are Not Alone" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  23. Instruct the client to create a drawing or sculpture that reflects how sexual abuse impacted his/her life and feelings about himself/herself.
  24. Assess the client for the presence of symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and treat appropriately if positive for this syndrome (see PTSD chapter in this *Planner*).
  7. Facilitate conjoint sessions to reveal the client's sexual abuse to key family members or caregivers.
  25. Assign the parents and family members reading material to increase their knowledge of sexually addictive behavior and learn ways to help the client recover from sexual abuse (e.g., *Out of the Shadows: Understanding Sexual Addictions* by Carnes; *Allies in Healing* by Davis).

11. Nonabusive parent follows through with recommendations to spend greater quality time with client. (26, 27)
12. Verbally identify the perpetrator as being responsible for the sexual abuse. (28, 29)
13. Perpetrator agrees to seek treatment. (30)
14. Verbalize a desire to begin the process of forgiveness of the perpetrator and others connected with the abuse. (31)
15. Identify and express feelings about sexual abuse in play therapy and mutual storytelling. (27, 32, 33)
26. Give directive to disengaged, non-abusive parent to spend more time with the client in leisure, school, or household activities.
27. Direct the client and the disengaged, nonabusive parent to create a mutual story through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals, first in filial play therapy sessions and later at home, to facilitate a closer parent-child relationship.
28. Hold a therapy session in which the client and/or the therapist confronts the perpetrator with the abuse.
29. Hold a session in which the perpetrator takes full responsibility for the sexual abuse and apologizes to the client and/or other family members.
30. Require the perpetrator to participate in a sexual offenders' group.
31. Assign the client to write a forgiveness letter and/or complete a forgiveness exercise in which he/she verbalizes forgiveness to the perpetrator and/or significant family members; process the letter.
27. Direct the client and the disengaged, nonabusive parent to create a mutual story through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals, first in filial play therapy sessions and later at home, to facilitate a closer parent-child relationship.
32. Use child-centered play therapy principles (e.g., provide unconditional positive regard, offer



- nonjudgmental reflection of feelings, display trust in the child's capacity for growth) to help the client identify and express feelings surrounding sexual abuse.
16. Identify and express feelings through artwork and therapeutic games. (34, 35, 36)
  33. Use mutual storytelling technique: The client and therapist alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals; the therapist first models constructive steps to take to protect self and feel empowered; then the client follows by creating a story with similar characters or themes.
  34. Ask the client to draw pictures of different emotions and then instruct him/her to identify times when he/she experienced the different emotions surrounding the sexual abuse (or assign the "Feelings and Faces" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  35. Employ the Color Your Life technique (O'Connor) to improve the client's ability to identify and verbalize feelings related to sexual abuse: Ask the client to match colors to different emotions (e.g., red-angry, blue-sad, black-very sad, yellow-happy) and then fill up a blank page with colors that reflect his/her feelings about sexual abuse.
  36. Play Survivor's Journey (available through Courage to Change), a therapeutic game for working with survivors of sexual abuse to help the client feel empowered.

17. Verbally identify self as a survivor of sexual abuse. (37, 38)
18. Increase outside family contacts and social networks. (38, 39)
19. Decrease frequency of sexualized or seductive behaviors in interactions with others. (40, 41)
20. Decrease anxiety associated with testifying in court. (42)
21. Take medication as prescribed by the physician. (43)
37. Assign readings to the client to help him/her express and work through feelings connected to sexual abuse (e.g., *A Very Touching Book . . . For Little People and Big People* by Hindman; *I Can't Talk About It* by Sanford; *It's Not Your Fault* by Jance).
38. Refer the client to a survivor group with other children to assist him/her in realizing that he/she is not alone in having experienced sexual abuse.
38. Refer the client to a survivor group with other children to assist him/her in realizing that he/she is not alone in having experienced sexual abuse.
39. Develop a list of resource people outside of the family to whom the client can turn for support and nurturance.
40. Assist the client in making a connection between underlying painful emotions (e.g., fear, hurt, sadness, anxiety) and sexualized or seductive behaviors.
41. Help the client identify more adaptive ways to meet his/her needs other than through sexualized or seductive behaviors.
42. Use role-playing and modeling in session to prepare the client for court and decrease anxiety about testifying.
43. Refer the client for a psychotropic medication evaluation; monitor medication compliance, effectiveness, and side effects.

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### DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS

**Axis I:**            309.81      Posttraumatic Stress Disorder  
                         308.3      Acute Stress Disorder  
                         296.xx      Major Depressive Disorder  
                         309.21      Separation Anxiety Disorder  
                         995.53      Sexual Abuse of Child (Victim)  
                         307.47      Nightmare Disorder  
                         300.15      Dissociative Disorder NOS

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**Axis II:**            V71.09      No Diagnosis

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# SLEEP DISTURBANCE

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Emotional distress and demands (e.g., crying, leaving bed to awaken parents, demanding to sleep with parents) that accompanies difficulty falling asleep or remaining asleep.
2. Difficulty falling asleep or remaining asleep without significant demands made on the parents.
3. Distress (e.g., crying, calling for parents, racing heart, fear of returning to sleep) resulting from repeated awakening, with detailed recall of extremely frightening dreams involving threats to self or significant others.
4. Repeated incidents of leaving bed and walking about in an apparent sleep state but with eyes open, face blank, lack of response to communication efforts, and amnesia of the incident upon awakening.
5. Abrupt awakening with a panicky scream followed by intense anxiety and autonomic arousal, no detailed dream recall, and unresponsiveness to the efforts of others to give comfort during the episode.
6. Prolonged sleep and/or excessive daytime napping without feeling adequately rested or refreshed but instead continually tired.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Fall asleep calmly and stay asleep without any undue reassuring parental presence required.

2. Feel refreshed and energetic during waking hours.
3. Cease anxiety-producing dreams that cause awakening.
4. End abrupt awakening in terror and return to a peaceful, restful sleep pattern.
5. Restore restful sleep with a reduction of sleepwalking incidents.

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### SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe current sleep pattern. (1, 2, 3)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Cooperate with a physical exam. (4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Verbalize feelings of depression or anxiety and share the possible causes. (5, 6)

### THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Explore and assess the client's presleep and actual sleep patterns.
2. Ask the client and/or parents to keep a written record of presleep activity, sleep time, awakening occurrences, and parental responses to the child; provide a form to chart data.
3. Review the record of the client's presleep and sleep activity to assess for overstimulation, parental reinforcement, and contributing stressors.
4. Refer the client to a physician to rule out any medical or pharmacological causes for the sleep disturbance.
5. Assess the role of depression as a cause of the client's sleep disturbances and treat if necessary (see Depression chapter in this *Planner*).
6. Explore the client's general level of anxiety and treat if necessary (see Anxiety chapter in this *Planner*).

4. Take psychotropic medication as prescribed to assess its effect on sleep. (7, 8)
5. Describe stressful experiences and emotional trauma that continue to disturb sleep. (9, 10, 11)
6. Parents and family members identify sources of conflict or stress within the home. (12, 13)
7. Parents develop a practice of setting firm limits on the client's manipulative behavior at bedtime. (14, 15, 16)
7. Arrange for an evaluation regarding the need for antidepressant medication for the client to enhance restful sleep.
8. Monitor the client for psychotropic medication prescription compliance, effectiveness, and side effects.
9. Explore for recent traumatic events that have resulted in interference with the client's sleep.
10. Explore for the possibility of sexual abuse to the client that has not been revealed (see Sexual Abuse Victim chapter in this *Planner*).
11. Probe the nature of the client's disturbing dreams and their relationship to current or past life stress.
12. Hold family therapy sessions to assess the level of tension and conflict and its effect on the client's sleep. Assist family members in identifying effective coping strategies to reduce tension and conflict.
13. Meet with the parents alone to assess the degree of stress in their relationship and its possible impact on the child's sleep behavior; refer the parents for conjoint sessions if necessary.
14. Meet with the parents to help them set firm limits on the client's manipulative behavior at bedtime.
15. Devise a reward system and/or contingency contract to reinforce the client for sleeping in his/her own bed and ceasing entering into parents' bedroom at night.

8. Parents consistently adhere to a bedtime routine as developed in a family therapy session. (17, 18)
9. Follow a sleep-induction schedule of events. (19)
10. Remain alone in the bedroom without expressions of fear. (20, 21, 22)
16. Brainstorm with the parents a potential list of negative consequences (e.g., earlier bedtime next evening, removal of privileges such as TV or video games) the client will receive if he/she engages in manipulative behavior to avoid going to bed on time. Encourage the parents to select a specific consequence and follow through consistently if the client engages in misbehavior.
17. Meet with the client and his/her parents to establish a bedtime routine that is calming and attentive, but firm, consistent, and not lengthy; involve him/her in the development process.
18. Assign the parents to keep a written record of adherence to the client's bedtime routine; review the record at future sessions and reinforce successful implementation while redirecting failures.
19. Reinforce the client's consistent adherence to a calming sleep-induction routine.
20. Assess the client's fears associated with being alone in the bedroom in terms of their nature, severity, and origin.
21. Help the client and parents establish a nightly ritual that will help to reduce the client's fears and induce calm before going to sleep (e.g., parents tell a bedtime story; build a fortress of stuffed animals around the client's bed; have mother spray perfume on daughter's wrist to remind her of parent's close proximity).

11. Replace irrational thoughts with positive self-talk. (23)
12. Practice deep-muscle relaxation exercises. (24, 25, 26)
13. Utilize biofeedback training to deepen relaxation skills. (27)
14. Express feelings in play therapy. (28, 29)
22. Encourage the parents to allow the family pet to sleep in room with the client at night to reduce nighttime fears and anxiety.
23. Confront the client's irrational fears and teach cognitive strategies (e.g., positive, realistic self-talk) to reduce them.
24. Train the client in deep-muscle relaxation exercises with and/or without audiotape instruction.
25. Use relaxation tapes to train the client in calming himself/herself as preparation for sleep (e.g., *Relaxation Imagery for Children* by Weinstock, available from Childsworld/Childsplay; *Magic Island: Relaxation for Kids* by Mehling, Highstein, and Delamarter, available from *Courage to Change*).
26. Teach the client to reduce anxiety and fear after awakening from nightmares by visualizing how a dream can end on a positive note (e.g., visualize mother or father coming to rescue, client calls the police who arrest the intruder, robber, or perpetrator in the dream).
27. Administer electromyographic (EMG) biofeedback to monitor, train, and reinforce the client's successful relaxation response.
28. Use play therapy techniques to assess and resolve the client's emotional conflicts.
29. Interpret the client's play behavior as reflective of his/her feelings toward family members.



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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 309.21 Separation Anxiety Disorder
  - 312.9 Disruptive Behavior Disorder NOS
  - 307.42 Primary Insomnia
  - 307.44 Primary Hypersomnia
  - 307.45 Circadian Rhythm Sleep Disorder
  - 307.47 Nightmare Disorder
  - 307.46 Sleep Terror Disorder
  - 307.46 Sleepwalking Disorder
  - 309.81 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
  - 296.xx Major Depressive Disorder
  - 300.4 Dysthymic Disorder
  - 296.xx Bipolar I Disorder
  - 296.89 Bipolar II Disorder
  - 296.80 Bipolar Disorder NOS
  - 301.13 Cyclothymic Disorder

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- Axis II:**
- V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# SOCIAL PHOBIA/SHYNESS

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Hiding, limited, or no eye contact, and/or a refusal or reticence to respond verbally to social overtures from others.
2. Excessive shrinking from or avoidance of contact with unfamiliar people for an extended period of time (i.e., 6 months or longer).
3. Social isolation and/or excessive involvement in isolated activities (e.g., reading, listening to music in his/her room, playing video games).
4. Extremely limited or no close friendships outside of the immediate family members.
5. Hypersensitivity to criticism, disapproval, or perceived signs of rejection from others.
6. Excessive need for reassurance of being liked by others before demonstrating a willingness to get involved with them.
7. Marked reluctance to engage in new activities or take personal risks because of the potential for embarrassment or humiliation.
8. Negative self-image as evidenced by frequent self-disparaging remarks, unfavorable comparisons to others, and a perception of self as being socially unattractive.
9. Lack of assertiveness because of a fear of being met with criticism, disapproval, or rejection.
10. Heightened physiological distress in social settings manifested by increased heart rate, profuse sweating, dry mouth, muscular tension, and trembling.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Eliminate anxiety, shyness, and timidity in social settings.
2. Initiate or respond to social contact with unfamiliar people or when placed in new social settings.
3. Interact socially with peers on a consistent basis without excessive fear or anxiety.
4. Achieve a healthy balance between time spent in solitary activity and social interaction with others.
5. Develop the essential social skills that will enhance the quality of interpersonal relationships.
6. Elevate self-esteem and feelings of security in interpersonal, peer, and adult relationships.

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## SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the history and nature of social fears and avoidance. (1, 2, 3)

## THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Establish rapport with the client toward building a therapeutic alliance.
2. Assess the client's fear and avoidance, including the focus of fear, types of avoidance (e.g., distraction, escape, dependence on others), development, and disability (e.g., *The Anxiety Disorders Interview Schedule for Children—Parent Version* or *Child Version* by Silverman and Albano).
3. Assess the nature of any stimulus, thoughts, or situations that precipitate the client's social fear and/or avoidance.

2. Complete psychological tests designed to assess the nature and severity of social anxiety and avoidance. (4)
- ▼ 3. Cooperate with an evaluation by a physician for psychotropic medication. (5, 6)
- ▼ 4. Participate in a small group therapy for social anxiety, with or without parents, or individual therapy if the group is unavailable. (7)
- ▼ 5. Verbalize an accurate understanding of the vicious cycle of social anxiety and avoidance. (8, 9)
- ▼ 6. Verbalize an understanding of the rationale for treatment of social anxiety. (9, 10)
4. Administer a measure of social anxiety to further assess the depth and breadth of social fears and avoidance (e.g., *Social Phobia and Anxiety Inventory for Children* by Beidel, Turner, and Morris).
5. Arrange for an evaluation for a prescription of psychotropic medications. ▼
6. Monitor the client for prescription compliance, side effects, and overall effectiveness of the medication; consult with the prescribing physician at regular intervals. ▼
7. Enroll clients, with parents if desired, in a small (closed enrollment) group for social anxiety or individual therapy if a group cannot be formed (see *Behavioral Treatment of Childhood Social Phobia* by Beidel, Turner, and Morris; *The Treatment of Childhood Social Phobia* by Spence, Donovan, and Brechman-Toussaint). ▼
8. Discuss how social anxiety derives from cognitive biases that overestimate negative evaluation by others, underestimate one's ability to manage, cause distress, and often lead to unnecessary avoidance. ▼
9. Assign the parents to read psychoeducational material on social anxiety and its treatment (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼
9. Assign the client and/or parents to read psychoeducational material on social anxiety and

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▼ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- its treatment (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▽
- ▽ 7. Learn and implement calming and coping strategies to manage anxiety symptoms and focus attention usefully during moments of social anxiety. (11)
  - ▽ 8. Identify, challenge, and replace fearful self-talk with reality-based, positive self-talk. (12, 13)
  - ▽ 9. Participate in gradual repeated exposure to feared social situations. (14, 15)
  - 10. Discuss how cognitive restructuring and exposure serve as an arena to desensitize learned fear, build social skills and confidence, and reality test biased thoughts. ▽
  - 11. Teach the client relaxation and attentional focusing skills (e.g., staying focused externally and on behavioral goals, muscular relaxation, evenly paced diaphragmatic breathing, ride the wave of anxiety) to manage social anxiety symptoms. ▽
  - 12. Explore the client's schema and self-talk that mediate his/her social fear response; challenge the biases; assist him/her in generating appraisals that correct for the biases and build confidence. ▽
  - 13. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she identifies fearful self-talk and creates reality-based alternatives; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure (see *The Shyness and Social Anxiety Workbook* by Antony and Swinson; *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▽
  - 14. Direct and assist the client in construction of a hierarchy of anxiety-producing situations associated with the phobic response. ▽
  - 15. Select initial in vivo or role-played exposures that have a high likelihood of being a successful experience for the client; do cognitive restructuring within and

- after the exposure and use behavioral strategies (e.g., modeling, rehearsal, social reinforcement) to facilitate the exposure (e.g., *The C.A.T. Project Therapist Manual* by Kendall, Choudhury, Hudson, and Webb). ▽
- ▽10. Participate in gradual repeated exposure to feared social situations in daily life situations. (16)
- ▽11. Learn and implement social skills to reduce anxiety and build confidence in social interactions. (17)
- ▽12. Learn and implement relapse prevention strategies for managing possible future anxiety symptoms. (18, 19, 20, 21)
16. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she does an exposure exercise in a daily life situation and records responses; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback toward improvement. ▽
17. Use instruction, modeling, and role-playing to build the client's general social and/or communication skills (e.g., *Social Effectiveness Therapy for Children and Adolescents* by Beidel, Turner, and Morris). ▽
18. Discuss with the client the distinction between a lapse and relapse, associating a lapse with an initial and reversible return of symptoms, fear, or urges to avoid and relapse with the decision to return to fearful and avoidant patterns. ▽
19. Identify and rehearse with the client the management of future situations or circumstances in which lapses could occur. ▽
20. Instruct the client to routinely use strategies learned in therapy (e.g., cognitive restructuring, social skills, exposure) while building social interactions and relationships. ▽
21. Develop a "coping card" on which coping strategies and other important information (e.g., "Pace your breathing," "Focus on the task at hand," "You can manage it," "It will go away") are written for the client's later use. ▽

- ▼13. Family members learn skills that strengthen and support the client's positive behavior change. (22, 23, 24)
- ▼14. Increase participation in interpersonal or peer group activities. (25, 26)
- ▼15. Identify strengths and interests that can be used to initiate social contacts and develop peer friendships. (27, 28)
22. Conduct Family Anxiety Management sessions (see *FRIENDS Program for Children* series by Barrett, Lowry-Webster, and Turner) in which the family is taught how to prompt and reward courageous behavior, empathetically ignore excessive complaining and other avoidant behaviors, manage their own anxieties, and model the behavior being taught in session. ▼
23. Teach the family problem-solving and conflict resolution skills for managing problems among themselves and between them and the client. ▼
24. Encourage the family to model constructive skills they have learned and model and praise the therapeutic skills the client is learning (e.g., calming, cognitive restructuring, nonavoidance of unrealistic fears). ▼
25. Encourage the client to participate in extracurricular or positive peer group activities. ▼
26. Instruct the client to invite a friend for an overnight visit and/or set up an overnight visit at a friend's home; process any fears and anxiety that arise. ▼
27. Ask the client to list how he/she is like his/her peers; use this list to encourage contact with peers who share interests and abilities (or assign "Greeting Peers" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
28. Assist the client in identifying 5–10 of his/her strengths or interests and then instruct the client to utilize three strengths or interests

- in the upcoming week to initiate social contacts or develop peer friendships (or assign the “Show Your Strengths” exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). <sup>▼</sup>
16. Increase participation in school-related activities. (29)
  17. Verbalize how current social anxiety and insecurities are associated with past rejection experiences and criticism from significant others. (30, 31)
  18. Express fears and anxiety in individual play therapy sessions or through mutual storytelling. (32, 33, 34)
  29. Consult with school officials about ways to increase the client’s socialization (e.g., raising the flag with group of peers, tutoring a more popular peer, pairing the client with popular peer on classroom assignments).
  30. Explore for a history of rejection experiences, harsh criticism, abandonment, or trauma that fostered the client’s low self-esteem and social anxiety.
  31. Encourage and support the client in verbally expressing and clarifying feelings associated with past rejection experiences, harsh criticism, abandonment, or trauma.
  32. Use child-centered play therapy principles (e.g., provide unconditional positive regard, display genuine interest, reflect feelings and fears, demonstrate trust in child’s capacity for self-growth) to help the client overcome his/her social anxieties and feel more confident in social situations.
  33. Employ the Ericksonian play therapy technique whereby the therapist speaks through a “wise doll” (or puppet) to an audience or other dolls (or puppet) to teach the client positive social skills that can be used to overcome shyness.
  34. Use puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals to model positive social



- skills (e.g., greeting others, introducing self, verbalizing positive statements about self and others) that help the client feel more confident in social interactions.
19. Identify and express feelings in art. (35, 36)
35. Instruct the client to draw a picture or create a sculpture that reflects how he/she feels around unfamiliar people when placed in new social settings.
36. Instruct the client to draw objects or symbols on a large piece of paper or poster board that symbolize his/her positive attributes; then discuss how the client can use strengths to establish peer friendships.
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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**      300.23      Social Anxiety Disorder (Social Phobia)  
                   300.02      Generalized Anxiety Disorder  
                   309.21      Separation Anxiety Disorder  
                   300.4        Dysthymic Disorder  
                   296.xx      Major Depressive Disorder  
                   300.7        Body Dysmorphic Disorder

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- Axis II:**      V71.09      No Diagnosis

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# SPECIFIC PHOBIA

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Describes a persistent and unreasonable fear of a specific object or situation that promotes avoidance behaviors because an encounter with the phobic stimulus provokes an immediate anxiety response.
2. Avoids the phobic stimulus/feared environment or endures it with distress, resulting in interference of normal routines.
3. Acknowledges a persistence of fear despite recognition that the fear is unreasonable.
4. Sleep disturbed by dreams of the feared stimulus.
5. Dramatic fear reaction out of proportion to the phobic stimulus.
6. Parental reinforcement of the phobia by catering to the client's fear.

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## LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Reduce fear of the specific stimulus object or situation that previously provoked phobic anxiety.
2. Reduce phobic avoidance of the specific object or situation, leading to comfort and independence in moving around in public environment.
3. Eliminate interference in normal routines and remove distress from feared object or situation.
4. Live phobia-free while responding appropriately to life's fears.
5. Resolve the conflict underlying the phobia.

6. Learn to overcome fears of noise, darkness, people, wild animals, and crowds.

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### SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the history and nature of the phobia(s), complete with impact on functioning and attempt to overcome it. (1, 2)
2. Complete psychological tests designed to assess features of the phobia. (3)
- ▽ 3. Cooperate with an evaluation by a physician for psychotropic medication. (4, 5)

### THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

1. Actively build a level of trust with the client that will promote the open showing of thoughts and feelings, especially fearful ones (or assign “Expressions of Fear Through Art” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
2. Assess the client’s fear and avoidance, including the focus of fear, types of avoidance (e.g., distraction, escape, dependence on others), development, and disability (e.g., *The Anxiety Disorders Interview Schedule for Children—Parent Version* or *Child Version* by Silverman and Albano).
3. Administer a client-report measure (e.g., from *Measures for Specific Phobia* by Antony) to further assess the depth and breadth of phobic responses.
4. Arrange for an evaluation for a prescription of psychotropic medications if the client requests it or if the client is likely to be noncompliant with gradual exposure. ▽

▽ indicates that the Objective/Intervention is consistent with those found in evidence-based treatments.

- 5. Monitor the client for prescription compliance, side effects, and overall effectiveness of the medication; consult with the prescribing physician at regular intervals. ▼
    - 6. Discuss how phobias are very common, a natural but irrational expression of our fight or flight response, are not a sign of weakness, but cause unnecessary distress and disability. ▼
    - 7. Discuss how phobic fear is maintained by a “phobic cycle” of unwarranted fear and avoidance that precludes positive, corrective experiences with the feared object or situation, and how treatment breaks the cycle by encouraging these experiences (see *Mastery of Your Specific Phobia—Therapist Guide* by Craske, Antony, and Barlow, or *Specific Phobias* by Bruce and Sanderson). ▼
    - 8. Use a storytelling technique to help the client identify his/her fears, their origins, and their resolution (or read and process “Maurice Faces His Fears” from the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- ▼ 4. Verbalize an understanding of information about phobias and their treatment. (6, 7, 8)
- ▼ 5. Verbalize an understanding of how thoughts, physical feelings, and behavioral actions contribute to anxiety and its treatment. (9, 10)
- 9. Discuss how phobias involve perceiving unrealistic threats, bodily expressions of fear, and avoidance of what is threatening that interact to maintain the problem. ▼
- 10. Discuss how exposure serves as an arena to desensitize learned fear, build confidence, and feel safer by building a new history of success

- experiences (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall; *Freeing Your Child from Anxiety* by Chansky). ▽
- ▽ 6. Learn and implement calming skills to reduce and manage anxiety symptoms. (11, 12, 13)
  - ▽ 7. Learn and implement applied tension skills to prevent fainting in response to blood, injection, or injury. (14, 15)
  - 11. Teach the client anxiety management skills (e.g., staying focused on behavioral goals, muscular relaxation, evenly paced diaphragmatic breathing, positive self-talk) to address anxiety symptoms that may emerge during encounters with phobic objects or situations. ▽
  - 12. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she practices daily calming skills; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure. ▽
  - 13. Use biofeedback techniques to facilitate the client's success at learning calming skills. ▽
  - 14. Teach the client applied tension in which he/she tenses neck and upper torso muscles to curtail blood flow out of the brain to help prevent fainting during encounters with phobic objects or situations involving blood, injection, or injury (see "Applied tension, exposure in vivo, and tension-only in the treatment of blood phobia" in *Behaviour Research and Therapy* by Ost, Fellenius, and Sterner). ▽
  - 15. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she practices daily applied tension skills; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure. ▽

- ▼ 8. Identify, challenge, and replace fearful self-talk with positive, realistic, and empowering self-talk. (16, 17, 18)
- ▼ 9. Participate in gradual repeated exposure to feared or avoided phobic objects or situations. (19, 20, 21, 22, 23)
- 16. Explore the client's schema and self-talk that mediate his/her fear response; challenge the biases; assist him/her in replacing the distorted messages with reality-based, positive self-talk. ▼
- 17. Use behavioral techniques (e.g., modeling, corrective feedback, imaginal rehearsal, social reinforcement) to train the client in positive self-talk that prepares him/her to endure anxiety symptoms without serious consequences. ▼
- 18. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she identifies fearful self-talk and creates reality-based alternatives; review and reinforce success, providing corrective feedback for failure. ▼
- 19. Direct and assist the client in construction of a hierarchy of anxiety-producing situations associated with the phobic response. ▼
- 20. Select initial exposures that have a high likelihood of being a successful experience for the client; develop a plan for managing the symptoms and rehearse the plan (or assign "Gradually Facing a Phobic Fear" in the *Adolescent Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). ▼
- 21. Assign the parents to read about situational exposure in books or treatment manuals on specific phobias (e.g., *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼

- ▼10. Family members demonstrate support for the client as he/she tolerates more exposure to the phobic stimulus. (24, 25, 26, 27)
22. Conduct exposures with the client using graduated tasks, modeling, and reinforcement of the client's success until they can do the exposures unassisted. ▼
23. Assign the client a homework exercise in which he/she does situational exposures and records responses (see *Mastery of Your Specific Phobia—Client Manual* by Antony, Craske, and Barlow; or *Living with Fear* by Marks); review and reinforce success or provide corrective feedback toward improvement. ▼
24. Conduct Family Anxiety Management sessions (see *FRIENDS Program for Children* series by Barrett, Lowry-Webster, and Turner) in which the family is taught how to prompt and reward courageous behavior, empathetically ignore excessive complaining and other avoidant behaviors, manage their own anxieties, and model the behavior being taught in session. ▼
25. Assist the family in overcoming the tendency to reinforce the client's phobia; as the phobia decreases, teach them constructive ways to reward the client's progress. ▼
26. Teach family members problem-solving and communication skills to assist the client's progress through therapy. ▼
27. Assign the parents to read and discuss with the client psychoeducational material from books or treatment manuals (e.g., see *Helping Your Anxious Child* by Rapee, Spence, Cobham, and Wignall). ▼

- ▼11. Implement relapse prevention strategies for managing possible future anxiety symptoms. (28, 29, 30, 31)
- 12. Collect pleasant pictures or stories regarding the phobic stimulus and share them in therapy sessions. (32, 33)
- 13. Identify the symbolic significance of the phobic stimulus as a basis for fear. (34)
- 28. Discuss with the client the distinction between a lapse and relapse, associating a lapse with a temporary and reversible return of symptoms, fear, or urges to avoid and relapse with the decision to return to fearful and avoidant patterns. ▼
- 29. Identify and rehearse with the client the management of future situations or circumstances in which lapses could occur. ▼
- 30. Instruct the client to routinely use strategies learned in therapy (e.g., cognitive restructuring, exposure), building them into his/her life as much as possible. ▼
- 31. Develop a “coping card” on which coping strategies and other important information (e.g., “You’re safe,” “Pace your breathing,” “Focus on the task at hand,” “You can manage it,” “Stay in the situation,” “Let the anxiety pass”) are written for the client’s later use. ▼
- 32. Use pleasant pictures, readings, or storytelling about the feared object or situation as a means of desensitizing the client to the fear-producing stimulus.
- 33. Use humor, jokes, riddles, and stories to enable the client to see his/her situation/fears as not as serious as believed and to help instill hope without disrespecting or minimizing his/her fears.
- 34. Probe, discuss, and interpret the possible symbolic meaning of the client’s phobic stimulus object or situation.



- 14. Verbalize the separate realities of the irrationally feared object or situation and an emotionally painful experience from the past. (35)
- 15. Verbalize the feelings associated with a past emotionally painful situation that is connected to the phobia. (36, 37)
- 35. Clarify and differentiate between the client's current irrational fear and past emotionally painful experiences that are evoked by the phobic stimulus.
- 36. Encourage the client to share feelings from the past through active listening, unconditional positive regard, and questioning.
- 37. Reinforce the client's insight into the past emotional pain and its connection to present anxiety.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

**Axis I:**            300.00      Anxiety Disorder NOS  
                      300.29      Specific Phobia

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**Axis II:**            V71.09      No Diagnosis

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# SPEECH/LANGUAGE DISORDERS

## BEHAVIORAL DEFINITIONS

1. Expressive language abilities, as measured by standardized tests, substantially below the expected level.
2. Expressive language deficits, as demonstrated by markedly limited vocabulary, frequent errors in tense, and difficulty recalling words or producing sentences of developmentally appropriate length or complexity.
3. Receptive and expressive language abilities significantly below the expected level as measured by a standardized test.
4. Receptive language deficits, as manifested by difficulty understanding simple words or sentences; certain types of words, such as spatial terms; or longer, complex statements.
5. Deficits in expressive and/or receptive language development that significantly interfere with academic achievement or social communication.
6. Consistent failure to produce developmentally expected speech sounds that significantly interferes with academic achievement or social communication.
7. Repeated stuttering as demonstrated by impairment in the normal fluency and time patterning of speech.
8. Selective mutism as characterized by a consistent failure to speak in specific social situations (e.g., school) despite speaking in other situations.
9. Social withdrawal and isolation in the peer group, school, or social settings where speaking is required.
10. Recurrent pattern of engaging in acting out, aggressive, or negative attention-seeking behaviors when encountering frustration with speech or language problems.

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**LONG-TERM GOALS**

1. Accept the need for and actively cooperate with speech therapy.
2. Achieve the speech and language goals identified in the individualized educational plan (IEP).
3. Improve the expressive and receptive language abilities to the level of capability.
4. Achieve mastery of the expected speech sounds that are appropriate for the age and dialect.
5. Eliminate stuttering; speak fluently and at a normal rate on a regular, consistent basis.
6. Develop an awareness and acceptance of speech/language problems so that there is consistent participation in discussions in the peer group, school, or social settings.
7. Parents establish realistic expectations of their child's speech/language abilities.
8. Resolve the core conflict that contributes to the emergence of selective mutism so that the client speaks consistently in social situations.

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**SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES**

1. Complete a speech/language evaluation to determine eligibility for special-education services. (1)
2. Cooperate with a hearing or medical examination. (2)

**THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS**

1. Refer the client for a speech/language evaluation to assess the presence of a disorder and determine his/her eligibility for special-education services.
2. Refer the client for a hearing and/or medical examination to rule out health problems that

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|--|---|
| <p>3. Complete neuropsychological testing. (3)</p>   | <p>may be interfering with his/her speech/language development.</p>   |
| <p>4. Comply with a psychoeducational evaluation. (4)</p>  | <p>3. Arrange for a neurological examination or neuropsychological evaluation to rule out the presence of organic factors that may contribute to the client's speech/language problem.</p>  |
| <p>5. Complete psychological testing. (5)</p>  | <p>4. Arrange for a psychoeducational evaluation to assess the client's intellectual abilities and rule out the presence of other possible learning disorders.</p>  |
| <p>6. Take prescribed medication as directed by the physician. (6)</p>   | <p>5. Arrange for psychological testing to determine whether emotional factors or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are interfering with the client's speech/language development.</p>  |
| <p>7. Comply with the recommendations made by a multidisciplinary evaluation team at school regarding speech/language or educational interventions. (7, 8)</p> | <p>6. Arrange for a medication evaluation if it is determined that an emotional problem and/or ADHD are interfering with speech/language development.</p>   |
|  | <p>7. Attend an IEP committee meeting with the client's parents, teachers, and the speech/language pathologist to determine the client's eligibility for special-education services; design intervention strategies that build on the client's strengths and compensate for weaknesses.</p> |
|  | <p>8. Consult with the client, his/her parents, teachers, and the speech/language pathologist about designing effective intervention strategies that build on the client's strengths and compensate for weaknesses.</p>   |

8. Comply with speech therapy and cooperate with the recommendations or interventions offered by the speech/language pathologist. (9)
9. Parents maintain regular communication with teachers and speech/language pathologist. (10)
10. Parents cease verbalizations of denial in the family system about the client's speech/language problem. (11, 12)
11. Parents comply and follow through with reward system to reinforce the client for improvements in speech/language development. (13, 14)
12. Parents increase the time spent with the client in activities that build and facilitate speech/language development. (15, 16, 17)
9. Refer the client to a private speech/language pathologist for extra assistance in improving speech/language abilities.
10. Encourage the parents to maintain regular communication with the client's teachers and the speech/language pathologist to help facilitate speech/language development.
11. Educate the parents about the signs and symptoms of the client's speech/language disorder.
12. Challenge the parents' denial surrounding the client's speech/language problem so that the parents cooperate with the recommendations regarding placement and interventions for the client.
13. Consult with speech/language pathologist about designing a reward system to reinforce the client for achieving goals in speech therapy and mastering new speech behaviors.
14. Encourage the parents to give frequent positive reinforcement to the client for his/her speech/language development.
15. Ask the parents to have the client read to them for 15 minutes four times weekly and then ask the client to retell the story to build his/her vocabulary, using a reward system to maintain the client's interest and motivation (or assign the "Home-Based Reading and Language Program" in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).

13. Parents recognize and verbally acknowledge their unrealistic expectations for or excessive pressure on the client to develop speech/language abilities. (18, 19, 20)
14. Parents recognize and terminate their tendency to speak for the client in social settings. (21, 22)
16. Give a directive for the client and his/her family to go on a weekly outing; afterward, require the client to share his/her feelings about the outing to increase his/her expressive and receptive language abilities (or assign the "Tell All About It" exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Treatment Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
17. Instruct the parents to sing songs (e.g., nursery rhymes, lullabies, popular songs, songs related to the client's interest) with the client to help him/her feel more comfortable with his/her verbalizations in the home.
18. Observe parent-child interactions to assess how family communication patterns affect the client's speech/language development.
19. Assist the client and his/her parents to develop an understanding and acceptance of the limitations surrounding the speech/language disorder.
20. Confront and challenge the parents about placing excessive or unrealistic pressure on the client to "talk right."
21. Explore parent-child interactions to determine whether the parents often speak or fill in pauses for the client to protect him/her from feeling anxious or insecure about speech.
22. Encourage the parents to allow the client to take the lead more often in initiating and sustaining conversations.

15. Improve the lines of communication in the family system. (22, 23)
16. Increase the frequency of social interactions in which the client takes the lead in initiating or sustaining conversations. (24, 25, 26, 27)
17. Decrease level of anxiety associated with speech/language problems. (28, 29, 30)
22. Encourage the parents to allow the client to take the lead more often in initiating and sustaining conversations.
23. Teach effective communication skills (e.g., active listening, reflecting feelings, "I statements") to facilitate the client's speech/language development.
24. Gently confront the client's pattern of withdrawing in social settings to avoid experiencing anxiety about speech problems.
25. Assign the client the task of contributing one comment to classroom discussion each day to increase his/her confidence in speaking before others.
26. Assign the client the task of sharing toys or objects during show-and-tell to increase his/her expressive language abilities.
27. Consult with speech/language pathologist and teachers about designing a program in which the client orally reads passages of gradually increasing length or difficulty in classroom. Praise and reinforce the client's effort.
28. Teach the client positive coping mechanisms (e.g., deep-breathing and muscle relaxation techniques, positive self-talk, cognitive restructuring) that can be used when he/she encounters frustration with speech/language problems.
29. Encourage the client to verbalize his/her insecurities about speech/language problems (or assign the client to read and

- complete the exercise “Shauna’s Song” in the *Child Psychotherapy Homework Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
18. Decrease the frequency and severity of aggressive acting out and negative attention-seeking behaviors due to speech/language frustration. (31)
  19. Decrease the frequency and severity of dysfluent speech. (32, 33, 34)
  30. Use the mutual storytelling technique whereby the client and therapist alternate telling stories through the use of puppets, dolls, or stuffed animals: The therapist first models constructive ways to handle anxiety or frustrations surrounding speech/language problems, then the client follows by telling a story with similar characters or themes.
  31. Teach the client self-control strategies (e.g., cognitive restructuring, positive self-talk, “stop, look, listen, and think”) to inhibit the impulse to act out when encountering frustration with speech/language problems.
  32. Teach the client effective anxiety-reduction techniques (relaxation, positive self-talk, cognitive restructuring) to decrease anticipatory anxiety in social settings and help control stuttering.
  33. Assign the client to initiate three social contacts per day with peers to help him/her face and work through anxieties and insecurities related to stuttering in the presence of peers (see the “Greeting Peers” exercise in the *Child Psychotherapy Treatment Planner*, 2nd ed. by Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis).
  34. Use role-playing and positive coping strategies (e.g., positive self-talk, cognitive restructuring) to extinguish the client’s anxiety



- that triggers stuttering in various social settings (e.g., reading in front of class, talking on the phone, introducing self to unfamiliar peer).
20. Comply with systematic desensitization program to decrease the rate of speech and control stuttering. (35)
  21. Express feelings in individual play therapy sessions and artwork. (36, 37)
  22. Verbalize an understanding of how selective mutism is associated with past loss, trauma, or victimization. (38, 39)
  35. Consult with a speech/language pathologist about designing an in vivo desensitization program (e.g., using deep-muscle relaxation while exposing the client to gradually more anxiety-producing situations) to help the client overcome anxiety associated with stuttering.
  36. Employ psychoanalytic play therapy approaches (e.g., allow child to take lead; explore etiology of unconscious conflicts, fixations, or developmental arrests; interpret resistance, transference, and core anxieties) to help the client work through his/her feelings surrounding past loss, trauma, or victimization that contributes to selective mutism.
  37. Use art therapy (drawing, painting, sculpting) in early stages of therapy to establish rapport and help the client with selective mutism begin to express his/her feelings through artwork.
  38. Assess the family dynamics that contribute to the client's refusal to use speech in some situations.
  39. Explore the client's background history of loss, trauma, or victimization that contributed to the emergence of selective mutism.

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**DIAGNOSTIC SUGGESTIONS**

- Axis I:**
- 315.31 Expressive Language Disorder
  - 315.32 Mixed Receptive-Expressive Language Disorder
  - 315.39 Phonological Disorder
  - 307.0 Stuttering
  - 307.9 Communication Disorder NOS
  - 313.23 Selective Mutism
  - 309.21 Separation Anxiety Disorder
  - 300.23 Social Phobia

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- Axis II:**
- 317 Mild Mental Retardation
  - V62.89 Borderline Intellectual Functioning
  - V71.09 No Diagnosis

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# Appendix A

## BIBLIOTHERAPY SUGGESTIONS

Many references are made throughout the chapters to a therapeutic homework resource that was developed by the authors as a corollary to the *Child Psychotherapy Treatment Planner* (Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). This frequently cited homework resource book is:

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## Appendix B

### PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES FOR EVIDENCE-BASED CHAPTERS

Many references are made throughout the chapters to a therapeutic homework resource that was developed by the authors as a corollary to the *Child Psychotherapy Treatment Planner* (Jongsma, Peterson, and McInnis). This frequently cited homework resource book is:

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## Appendix C

# INDEX OF THERAPEUTIC GAMES, WORKBOOKS, TOOL KITS, VIDEOTAPES, AND AUDIOTAPES

### *PRODUCT*

Anger Control Toolkit  
Coping With Anger Target Game  
Domino Rally  
Don't Be Difficult  
Draw Me Out!  
Feelings Poster  
Goodbye Game  
Heartbeat Audiotapes  
How I Learned to Control My Temper  
Let's Work It Out—A Conflict Resolution  
Tool Kit  
Magic Island: Relaxation for Kids  
My Home and Places  
My Two Homes  
No More Bullies Game  
Once Upon a Time Potty Book and Doll Set  
Parent Report Card  
Relaxation Imagery For Children  
Stand Up For Yourself  
Stop, Relax, and Think  
Techniques for Working with Oppositional  
Defiant Disorder in Children Audiotapes  
The Anger Control Game  
The Angry Monster Workbook  
The Angry Monster Machine  
The Anti-Bullying Game  
The Good Mourning Game  
The Helping, Sharing, and Caring Game

### *AUTHOR*

Shapiro et al.  
Shapiro  
Shapiro  
Shapiro  
Bureau for At Risk Youth  
Lamb  
Shapiro  
Shapiro  
Mehling, Highstein, and Delamarter  
Flood  
Shapiro  
Courage to Change  
Weinstock  
Berg-Gross  
Weinstock  
Shapiro  
Bridges  
Barkley  
Berg  
Shore  
Shapiro  
Searle and Strong  
Bisenius and M. Norris  
Gardner

**346 THE CHILD PSYCHOTHERAPY TREATMENT PLANNER**

The Self-Control Patrol Game	Trower
The Social Conflict Game	Berg
The Stand Up for Yourself Game	Shapiro
The Squiggle Wiggle Game	Winnicott
The Talking, Feeling, and Doing Game	Gardner
The Ungame	Zakich
You and Me: A Game of Social Skills	Shapiro

Childswork/Childsplay  
P.O. Box 1604  
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[www.childswork.com](http://www.childswork.com)

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Newburgh, NY 12551  
Phone: 1-800-440-4003

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Cresskill, NJ 07626-0522  
Phone: 1-800-544-6162  
[www.rgardner.com](http://www.rgardner.com)

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<b>Antisocial Personality Disorder</b>	<b>301.7</b>	Low Self-Esteem Oppositional Defiant Peer/Sibling Conflict
<b>Anxiety Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>300.00</b>	
Anxiety		
Medical Condition		
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)		
Separation Anxiety		
Specific Phobia		
<b>Asperger's Disorder</b>	<b>299.80</b>	
Autism/Pervasive Developmental Disorder		
Mental Retardation		
<b>Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type</b>	<b>314.01</b>	
Academic Underachievement		
Adoption		
Anxiety		
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		
Disruptive/Attention-Seeking		
Enuresis/Encopresis		
Lying/Manipulative		
Parenting		
<b>Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>314.9</b>	
Anger Management		
Attachment Disorder		
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		
Bullying/Intimidation Perpetrator		
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		
Fire Setting		
Oppositional Defiant Disorder		
Peer/Sibling Conflict		
<b>Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type</b>	<b>314.01</b>	
Anger Management		
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		
Bullying/Intimidation Perpetrator		
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		
Disruptive/Attention-Seeking		
<b>Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Inattentive Type</b>	<b>314.00</b>	
Academic Underachievement		
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		
<b>Autistic Disorder</b>	<b>299.00</b>	
Autism/Pervasive Developmental Disorder		
Mental Retardation		
<b>Bereavement</b>	<b>V62.82</b>	
Depression		
Grief/Loss Unresolved		
<b>Bipolar Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>296.80</b>	
Sleep Disturbance		
<b>Bipolar I Disorder</b>	<b>296.xx</b>	
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		
Depression		
Sleep Disturbance		
<b>Bipolar II Disorder</b>	<b>296.89</b>	
Depression		
Sleep Disturbance		
<b>Body Dysmorphic Disorder</b>	<b>300.7</b>	
Social Phobia/Shyness		
<b>Borderline Intellectual Functioning</b>	<b>V62.89</b>	
Academic Underachievement		
Low Self-Esteem		
Mental Retardation		
Speech/Language Disorders		
<b>Borderline Personality Disorder</b>	<b>301.83</b>	
Parenting		
<b>Childhood Disintegrative Disorder</b>	<b>299.10</b>	
Autism/Pervasive Developmental Disorder		
Mental Retardation		

<b>Child or Adolescent Antisocial Behavior</b>	<b>V71.02</b>	<b>Cyclothymic Disorder</b>	<b>301.13</b>
Anger Management		Sleep Disturbance	
Bullying/Intimidation		<b>Dependent Personality Disorder</b>	<b>301.6</b>
Perpetrator		Parenting	
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		<b>Depersonalization Disorder</b>	<b>300.6</b>
Disruptive/Attention-Seeking		Physical/Emotional Abuse	
Lying/Manipulative		Victim	
Oppositional Defiant		<b>Depressive Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>311</b>
Peer/Sibling Conflict		Medical Condition	
<b>Circadian Rhythm Sleep Disorder</b>	<b>307.45</b>	<b>Disorder of Written Expression</b>	<b>315.2</b>
Sleep Disturbance		Academic Underachievement	
<b>Communication Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>307.9</b>	<b>Disruptive Behavior Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>312.9</b>
Speech/Language Disorders		Academic Underachievement	
<b>Conduct Disorder</b>	<b>312.xx</b>	Anger Management	
Bullying/Intimidation		Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	
Perpetrator		Bullying/Intimidation	
Fire Setting		Perpetrator	
Peer/Sibling Conflict		Conduct Disorder/Delinquency	
<b>Conduct Disorder, Adolescent-Onset Type</b>	<b>312.82</b>	Disruptive/Attention-Seeking	
Anger Management		Lying/Manipulative	
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		Oppositional Defiant	
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		Parenting	
Lying/Manipulative		Peer/Sibling Conflict	
Oppositional Defiant		Sleep Disturbance	
Parenting		<b>Dissociative Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>300.15</b>
<b>Conduct Disorder, Childhood-Onset Type</b>	<b>312.81</b>	Physical/Emotional Abuse	
Anger Management		Victim	
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		Sexual Abuse Victim	
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		<b>Dysthymic Disorder</b>	<b>300.4</b>
Disruptive/Attention-Seeking		Academic Underachievement	
Lying/Manipulative		Adoption	
Oppositional Defiant		Attachment Disorder	
Physical/Emotional Abuse		Blended Family	
Victim		Depression	
<b>Conduct Disorder, Unspecified Onset</b>	<b>312.89</b>	Divorce Reaction	
Anger Management		Enuresis/Encopresis	
		Grief/Loss Unresolved	
		Low Self-Esteem	

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Lying/Manipulative		<b>Learning Disorder Not</b>	
Physical/Emotional Abuse Victim		<b>Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>315.9</b>
School Refusal		Peer/Sibling Conflict	
Sleep Disturbance		<b>Major Depressive Disorder</b>	<b>296.xx</b>
Social Phobia/Shyness		Enuresis/Encopresis	
<b>Encopresis, With Constipation</b>		Fire Setting	
<b>and Overflow Incontinence</b>	<b>787.6</b>	Low Self-Esteem	
Enuresis/Encopresis		Medical Condition	
<b>Encopresis, Without</b>		Obsessive-Compulsive	
<b>Constipation and Overflow</b>		Disorder (OCD)	
<b>Incontinence</b>	<b>307.7</b>	Physical/Emotional Abuse	
Enuresis/Encopresis		Victim	
<b>Enuresis (Not Due to a General</b>		Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	
<b>Medical Condition)</b>	<b>307.6</b>	(PTSD)	
Enuresis/Encopresis		School Refusal	
<b>Expressive Language</b>		Separation Anxiety	
<b>Disorder</b>	<b>315.31</b>	Sexual Abuse Victim	
Speech/Language Disorders		Sleep Disturbance	
<b>Gender Identity Disorder in</b>		Social Phobia/Shyness	
<b>Children</b>	<b>302.6</b>	<b>Major Depressive Disorder,</b>	
Gender Identity Disorder		<b>Recurrent</b>	<b>296.3x</b>
<b>Gender Identity Disorder Not</b>		Attachment Disorder	
<b>Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>302.6</b>	Depression	
Gender Identity Disorder		Grief/Loss Unresolved	
<b>Generalized Anxiety Disorder</b>	<b>300.02</b>	<b>Major Depressive Disorder,</b>	
Anxiety		<b>Single Episode</b>	<b>296.2x</b>
Divorce Reaction		Depression	
Low Self-Esteem		Grief/Loss Unresolved	
Medical Condition		<b>Mathematics Disorder</b>	<b>315.1</b>
Obsessive-Compulsive		Academic Underachievement	
Disorder (OCD)		<b>Mental Retardation, Severity</b>	
Physical/Emotional Abuse		<b>Unspecified</b>	<b>319</b>
Victim		Autism/Pervasive	
School Refusal		Developmental Disorder	
Separation Anxiety		Mental Retardation	
Social Phobia/Shyness		<b>Mild Mental Retardation</b>	<b>317</b>
<b>Impulse-Control Disorder Not</b>		Academic Underachievement	
<b>Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>312.30</b>	Autism/Pervasive	
Fire Setting		Developmental Disorder	
<b>Intermittent Explosive</b>		Low Self-Esteem	
<b>Disorder</b>	<b>312.34</b>	Mental Retardation	
Anger Management		Speech/Language Disorders	
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		<b>Mixed Receptive-Expressive</b>	
Oppositional Defiant		<b>Language Disorder</b>	<b>315.32</b>
		Speech/Language Disorders	

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<b>Moderate Mental Retardation</b>	<b>318.0</b>	Disruptive/Attention-Seeking	
Mental Retardation		Lying/Manipulative	
		Oppositional Defiant	
		Parenting	
<b>Narcissistic Personality Disorder</b>	<b>301.81</b>		
Parenting		<b>Partner Relational Problem</b>	<b>V61.10</b>
		Parenting	
<b>Neglect of Child</b>	<b>V61.21</b>		
Low Self-Esteem		<b>Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>299.80</b>
Parenting		Autism/Pervasive	
		Developmental Disorder	
		Enuresis/Encopresis	
<b>Neglect of Child (if focus of clinical attention is on the victim)</b>	<b>995.52</b>		
Low Self-Esteem		<b>Phonological Disorder</b>	<b>315.39</b>
		Speech/Language Disorders	
<b>Nightmare Disorder</b>	<b>307.47</b>		
Physical/Emotional Abuse		<b>Physical Abuse of Child</b>	<b>V61.21</b>
Victim		Parenting	
Separation Anxiety			
Sexual Abuse Victim		<b>Physical Abuse of Child (if focus of clinical attention is on victim)</b>	<b>995.54</b>
Sleep Disturbance		Low Self-Esteem	
		Physical/Emotional Abuse	
<b>Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)</b>	<b>300.3</b>	Victim	
Attachment Disorder		Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)			
		<b>Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)</b>	<b>309.81</b>
<b>Oppositional Defiant Disorder</b>	<b>313.81</b>	Adoption	
Academic Underachievement		Attachment Disorder	
Anger Management		Blended Family	
Attachment Disorder		Enuresis/Encopresis	
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		Physical/Emotional Abuse	
Bullying/Intimidation		Victim	
Perpetrator		Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency		School Refusal	
Disruptive/Attention-Seeking		Separation Anxiety	
Divorce Reaction		Sexual Abuse Victim	
Enuresis/Encopresis		Sleep Disturbance	
Lying/Manipulative			
Oppositional Defiant		<b>Primary Hypersomnia</b>	<b>307.44</b>
Parenting		Sleep Disturbance	
Peer/Sibling Conflict			
Physical/Emotional Abuse		<b>Primary Insomnia</b>	<b>307.42</b>
Victim		Sleep Disturbance	
<b>Parent-Child Relational Problem</b>	<b>V61.20</b>		
Anger Management			
Conduct Disorder/Delinquency			



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<b>Profound Mental Retardation</b>	<b>318.2</b>	<b>Sexual Abuse of Child</b>	<b>V61.21</b>
Mental Retardation		Low Self-Esteem	
		Parenting	
<b>Psychological Symptoms Affecting (Axis III Disorder)</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>Sexual Abuse of Child (if focus of clinical attention is on the victim)</b>	<b>995.53</b>
Medical Condition		Low Self-Esteem	
		Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	
		Sexual Abuse Victim	
<b>Psychotic Disorder Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>298.9</b>	<b>Sleep Terror Disorder</b>	<b>307.46</b>
Fire Setting		Separation Anxiety	
		Sleep Disturbance	
<b>Reactive Attachment Disorder of Infancy or Early Childhood</b>	<b>313.89</b>	<b>Sleepwalking Disorder</b>	<b>307.46</b>
Adoption		Sleep Disturbance	
Attachment Disorder			
Autism/Pervasive			
Developmental Disorder			
<b>Reading Disorder</b>	<b>315.00</b>	<b>Social Anxiety Disorder (Social Phobia)</b>	<b>300.23</b>
Academic Underachievement		Low Self-Esteem	
Peer/Sibling Conflict		School Refusal	
		Separation Anxiety	
		Social Phobia/Shyness	
		Speech/Language Disorders	
<b>Relational Problem Not Otherwise Specified</b>	<b>V62.81</b>	<b>Somatization Disorder</b>	<b>300.81</b>
Blended Family		School Refusal	
Bullying/Intimidation		Separation Anxiety	
Perpetrator			
Peer/Sibling Conflict			
<b>Rett's Disorder</b>	<b>299.80</b>	<b>Specific Phobia</b>	<b>300.29</b>
Autism/Pervasive		Separation Anxiety	
Developmental Disorder		Specific Phobia	
Mental Retardation			
<b>Schizophrenia</b>	<b>295.xx</b>	<b>Stereotypic Movement Disorder</b>	<b>307.3</b>
Autism/Pervasive		Autism/Pervasive	
Developmental Disorder		Developmental Disorder	
<b>Selective Mutism</b>	<b>313.23</b>	<b>Stuttering</b>	<b>307.0</b>
Speech/Language Disorders		Speech/Language Disorders	
<b>Separation Anxiety Disorder</b>	<b>309.21</b>	<b>Undifferentiated Somatoform Disorder</b>	<b>300.81</b>
Divorce Reaction		Divorce Reaction	
Low Self-Esteem		School Refusal	
School Refusal			
Separation Anxiety			
Sexual Abuse Victim			
Sleep Disturbance			
Social Phobia/Shyness			
Speech/Language Disorders			
<b>Severe Mental Retardation</b>	<b>318.1</b>		
Mental Retardation			