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ABSTRACT

This bibliography, which was compiled in conjunction with a review of the developmental disabilities literature focusing on interventions with challenging behavior, contains references for 151 articles from 15 journals. The bibliography, covering articles published between 1988 and 1992, updates an earlier version which covered 1976 through 1987. The articles are arranged by journal, and alphabetically by author within each journal. Each article contains an intervention designed to reduce an excess or challenging behavior by directly targeting the problem area or by teaching a replacement skill. Articles with a primary focus on training and instructional procedures were not included unless the purpose of the skill training was to reduce the occurrence of an undesirable behavior. (JDD)

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Interventions with Challenging Behavior of
Persons with Developmental Disabilities:
An Updated Bibliography (1988-1992)

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Author Notes

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Abstract

A bibliography was compiled in conjunction with a review of the developmental disabilities literature focusing on interventions with challenging behavior. The bibliography contains the full references for 151 articles published between January 1988 and December 1992 in 15 journals known to address behavior management problems in persons with developmental disabilities. The articles are arranged by journal, and alphabetically by author within each journal. The introduction to the bibliography provides an outline of the selection criteria for the articles.

Interventions with Challenging Behavior of
Persons with Developmental Disabilities:
An Updated Bibliography (1988-1992)

During the past six years, three comprehensive reviews of the literature on the treatment of excess behaviors in persons with developmental disabilities have been published. Matson and Taras (1989) performed a frequency count of procedures applied in treating specific problem behaviors by reviewing published studies in 23 journals over two decades (1967 to 1987). Lennox and his colleagues (Lennox, Miltenberger, Spengler, & Erfanian, 1988) performed a meta-analysis of decelerative treatment procedures reported in seven journals between 1981 and 1985. Scotti and his colleagues (Scotti, Evans, Meyer, & Walker, 1991) completed a meta-analysis of this same literature, but covered papers published in 18 journals during the period 1976 through 1987. Unlike the Matson and Taras (1989) review, the Lennox et al. (1988) and Scotti, Evans, et al. (1991) meta-analyses included statistical evaluations of the effectiveness of interventions when applied with specific challenging behaviors.

Recently, Ujcich, Holland, Kirk, Weigle, and Scotti (1994) reported on an updated analysis of the literature addressing interventions with the challenging behavior of persons with developmental disabilities. They screened 15 journals over the period January 1988 through December 1992, locating 151 relevant articles. These articles included a total of 179 studies from which 29 variables were scored and interpreted in order to provide a description of the current status of the behavioral intervention literature. The present paper provides a source list of the 151 articles included in that review (see also Scotti, Ujcich, Holland, Kirk, & Weigle, 1995).

Method

Articles published between January 1988 and December 1992 in 22 journals known to address behavior management problems in persons with developmental disabilities were reviewed. The first criterion required for inclusion was a participant of any age with a diagnosis of mental retardation or autism, who was receiving services within a school, institution, or group home setting. Articles were then included if they contained an intervention designed to reduce an excess or challenging behavior (e.g., self-injurious behavior, stereotypic behavior, physically aggressive or disruptive behavior) by directly targeting the problem area or by teaching a replacement skill. Those articles with a primary focus on training and instructional procedures were not included in the review unless the purpose of the skill training was to reduce the occurrence of an undesirable behavior. All journals were independently reviewed by two investigators, and appropriate articles were selected for inclusion in the review.

Results

Of the original 22 journals reviewed, only 15 included articles appropriate for evaluation in this review. A list of these 15 journals is provided in Table 1. A total of 151 articles were identified for inclusion in the review. Table 1 provides the number of articles identified per journal. These articles are listed alphabetically by current journal title in the bibliography that follows.

Inter-rater agreement for article inclusion across all journals was 87.3%. Disagreements were resolved by the two reviewers through discussion of the inclusion criteria, and the articles were then included or discarded.

Discussion

The bibliographic reference list compiled here provides a source for articles that report on behavioral intervention with the challenging behavior of persons with developmental disabilities. The present list covers the period 1988 through 1992, and updates the previous bibliography compiled by Scotti, Walker, Evans, and Meyer (1991) as the companion to their meta-analysis (Scotti, Evans, et al., 1991).

The present bibliography, especially when combined with the earlier reference list by Scotti, Walker, et al. (1991), provides a useful resource for clinicians and researchers seeking references related to intervention with challenging behavior. The present list reflects the current published literature in this area; however, individual articles do not necessarily represent "state-of-the-art" assessment and intervention procedures. Readers are encouraged to consult the reviews by Lennox et al. (1989) and Scotti and his colleagues (Scotti, Evans, et al., 1991; Scotti et al., 1995) for a discussion of the strong points, as well as the deficits, of the current intervention literature with regard to accepted standards of practice in the field of developmental disabilities.

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Table 1

Total Number of Articles by Journal

Journal	Number of Articles
American Journal on Mental Retardation	12
Behavior Modification	9
Behavior Therapy	3
Behavioral Residential Treatment	21
Child and Family Behavior Therapy	3
Education and Training in Mental Retardation	4
Education and Treatment of Children	5
Exceptional Children	3
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	34
Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders	20
Journal of Behavior Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry	11
Journal of Intellectual Disability Research	8
Journal of the Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps	6
Mental Retardation	2
Research in Developmental Disabilities	10
TOTAL	151

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