

## **INFORMATION SHEET (Experts and Carers)**

### **Title: An Evaluation of the Social Validity of the Aberrant Behavior Checklist – Community and Recommended Changes**

To whom it may concern,

As a professional in the field of disabilities or caretaker of someone with an intellectual disability, you are being invited to take part in a research study conducted by Brittany Chan and Dr. Peter Baker from the Tizard Centre of the University of Kent. Your participation is voluntary at all times. Before you continue, it is important for you to understand what is being studied and what will be involved.

#### **1. Why you are receiving this sheet**

You have been invited to participate as you are either an expert/professional in the field of disabilities, or are a family member/carer of someone with an intellectual disability.

#### **2. The purpose of the project**

The ABC-C is one of the most used assessments in measuring challenging behavior. However, it has not been modified since 1994, and therefore requires a change in order to meet society's standards. Since it has not been reviewed or revised, it has been expressed that the wording of the questions may be a poor fit with the current conceptualization of challenging behavior. The checklist has also been seen as subjective and not as socially accepted. It is important therefore, to modify the checklist to ensure its acceptability in our social world.

Please be advised that some of the language used throughout the checklist may appear offensive or insensitive when describing your child. These terminologies are usually used by professionals and are not malicious in any way. Examples phrases include "meaningless", "bizarre", and "does nothing".

#### **3. Role of the Participant**

We are asking participants to identify items on the ABC-C that may be outmoded, unsatisfactory, subjective, or vague. After marking them, participants are asked to provide a reasoning for why the item was marked, and how it could be resolved.

#### **4. Confidentiality**

All participants will remain anonymous and no personal information will be collected. However, if you are an expert in the field, we do ask that you disclose your title as an additional validity check that we are sampling from the desired sample (eg: Doctor).

#### **5. How results will be used**

The information you provide us will be synthesized presented to the RAG, a group of individuals with intellectual disabilities. They will then provide feedback on your identified problem items

to gain a better understanding of how to make the checklist more socially acceptable. Afterwards, all information will be published in a dissertation. There will be no identifiable information. You will be sent a brief report of the results at the end.

## **6. Organization and funding of research**

This research has ethical approval from the Tizard Centre, University of Kent. They will hold the reports and all the findings. There will be no funding for this research.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this study. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Brittany Chan for more information. If you wish to take part, please complete the consent form attached to this sheet and return it in the prepaid envelope.

**Comments Form**

**An Evaluation of the Social Validity of the Aberrant Behavior Checklist –  
Community and Recommended Changes**

Thank you for agreeing to take the time out and participate in this study. We hope that everything went well, and we would be interested in any comments or suggestions you have about your experience. It is our goal to treat you in a fair and ethical manner.

If you have any concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me at:

Brittany Chan

Tizard Centre, University of Kent

Cornwallis North East

Canterbury, CT2 7NF, UK

[bc381@kent.ac.uk](mailto:bc381@kent.ac.uk)

Or my supervisor Dr. Peter Baker

Tizard Centre, University of Kent

Cornwallis North East

Canterbury, CT2 7NF, UK

[p.a.baker@kent.ac.uk](mailto:p.a.baker@kent.ac.uk)

or the Secretary of the Ethics Committee, Jo Ruffels

Tizard Centre

University of Kent

CNE215, Cornwallis North East

Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7NF, UK

[j.ruffels@kent.ac.uk](mailto:j.ruffels@kent.ac.uk)