Affordable ABA

Ethics for Behavioral Analysts

1. Which of the following is one of the four core principles of the Ethics Code for Behavior Analysts (BACB, 2020)?

A. Maximize organizational revenue
B. Behave with integrity
C. Follow all supervisor directives
D. Avoid all nonbehavioral treatments

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2. According to the structured ethical decision-making process in the Ethics Code, what should a behavior analyst do after learning of a possible ethical concern through second-hand information?

A. Report the concern to the BACB immediately
B. Wait to see whether the concern happens again
C. Gather relevant supporting documentation and follow up on the second-hand information to confirm that there is an actual ethical concern
D. Ask the client to resolve the concern directly with the other party

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3. What type of behaviors do ABA-based treatment interventions work to improve?

A. Behaviors that need to be reduced
B. Behaviors in acquisition
C. Socially significant behaviors
D. Maladaptive behaviors

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4. What is habilitation?

A. The diminishing of a response to a frequently repeated stimulus.
B. Strategies that increase the accuracy and consistency of interventions to ensure that each portion of an intervention is implemented as planned.
C. The degree or extent to which targeted behaviors are appropriate for acclimating an individual to a less restrictive environment.
D. Evaluating the degree to which an individual's repertoire can maximize short and long term reinforcers and minimize short and long term punishers.

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5. What is one way that behaviors in treatment should be evaluated?

A. Behaviors should be evaluated based on whether learning the behavior will result in access to other environments.

B. Behaviors should be evaluated based on whether the clinician is able to find an acceptable adaptive behavior to replace the behavior being reduced.
C. Behaviors should be evaluated based on whether they allow the individual to engage in social interactions through maintained eye contact and body alignment.
D. Behaviors should be evaluated based on whether they normalize the individual receiving treatment according to cultural norms.

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6. When should a replacement behavior be targeted for instruction?

A. They should be targeted to further enhance skill development for an individual.
B. They should be targeted to help further reduce the behavior in acquisition.
C. They should be targeted when a behavior is being reduced or eliminated.
D. They should be targeted when a behavior is being reduced or eliminated regardless of the function.

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7. What type of behaviors does the principle known as normalization refer to as establishing?

A. Adaptive behaviors
B. Culturally normal behaviors
C. Foundational behaviors
D. Replacement behaviors

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8. According to Ethics Code Standard 2.09 (BACB, 2020), which of the following is NOT an aspect of the service relationship in which behavior analysts should involve clients and stakeholders?

A. Selecting goals
B. Selecting and training staff to provide the treatment intervention
C. Selecting and designing assessments and behavior-change interventions
D. Conducting continual progress monitoring

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9. Behavior analysts select, design, and implement behavior-change interventions that are_____.

A. conceptually consistent with behavioral principles, based on scientific evidence, and prioritize positive reinforcement procedures
B. able to meet the diverse needs of the client and stakeholders and use both positive and negative reinforcement procedures to guide treatment decisions
C. based on assessment results and guaranteed to change behavior in a positive manner
D. based on scientific evidence and integrate nonbehavioral approaches when asked

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10. What was one of the primary concerns regarding the treatment implemented during Lovaas' time?

A. The treatment was provided only in group settings with no individual instruction.

B. The clients exhibited a surge of other behaviors that were a direct result of the treatment received.
C. The community did not believe in the use of ABA-based interventions and felt they should be discontinued.
D. People were opposed to the use of electric shock to reduce behaviors.

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11. How do Morris et al. (2021) recommend that behavior analysts approach assent with clients who cannot provide legal consent?

A. Rely only on the guardian's signed informed consent
B. Define in advance which responses will be treated as assent and as assent withdrawal, and specify what will happen when assent is withdrawn
C. Obtain assent once at intake and do not revisit it
D. Continue the session until the client participates

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12. According to Section 1, which claim have critics made about ABA-based interventions?

A. ABA-based services never collect data on client progress
B. Most children all start on the same lesson and receive the same consequences for their actions
C. ABA-based services cannot legally be provided in schools
D. ABA-based services prohibit parents from observing sessions

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13. What barriers have been identified to a behavior analyst maintaining and expanding their breadth of knowledge in the field?

A. Supervisors limiting access to colleague collaboration, low motivation for continued growth, and outside work responsibilities
B. Not knowing which resources to access, limited expertise in other areas, and not having the means to pay for journal access
C. Time constraints, access to literature, and funding constraints
D. Limited CEU material, limited access to colleagues, and employers providing little time for research

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14. When an individual is provided two choices, what is their response based on?

A. Different schedules of reinforcement previously contacted
B. Response effort for each choice
C. Interaction they receive from others
D. Any level of punishment that has previously been contacted

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15. Per Ethics Code Standard 2.06, what must a behavior analyst do if they discover an inaccuracy in billing?

A. Wait until the next audit to see whether the funder notices
B. Inform all relevant parties, correct the inaccuracy in a timely manner, and document all actions taken
C. Correct the inaccuracy privately without informing anyone
D. Ask the client to report the inaccuracy to the funder

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16. The more delayed or uncertain an outcome may be, _____.

A. the longer it may take an individual to complete a task
B. the less likely an individual is to work to obtain that outcome
C. the more time an individual has to decide to complete a different task
D. the less time it will take the individual to obtain that outcome

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17. As the length of time that a behavior analyst has available to them to make a decision increases, _____.

A. the decision that is made is less optimal for the situation
B. the more chance that factors can influence the decision and slow the decision process down
C. the greater the likelihood that less factors will influence the decision making process
D. the decision that is made is more optimal for the situation

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18. What is a behavior analyst at risk for if they are experiencing burnout and a depletion of emotional resources?

A. Terminating their employment with their organization
B. Making unethical decisions
C. Exhaustion, fatigue, and ignoring of demands
D. A discussion with their supervisor regarding job performance

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19. Per the BACB Code of Ethics 1.05 (2020), when engaging in ethical decision-making skills, what does practicing within one's own scope of competence mean?

A. Engagement in professional activities occurs after one has received their certification and feels comfortable providing services to others.
B. Engagement in professional activities in new areas only occurs after a behavior analyst accesses and documents appropriate study, training, supervised experience, consultation, and/or co-treatment from professionals competent in the new area.
C. Engagement in professional activities occurs once a behavior analyst has received appropriate supervision from their supervising behavior analyst, has received their certification, and is able to provide services to others based on their expertise.
D. Engagement in professional activities only occurs once a certified behavior analyst has taken continuing education units for their first recertification cycle and has received appropriate supervision from their supervising behavior analyst.

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20. According to the BACB Code of Ethics 3.03 (2020), when should a behavior analyst accept new clients?

A. A behavior analyst may accept new clients when they have enough time allocated to provide the resources and as directed by their supervisor.
B. A behavior analyst should only accept new clients when they have consent from the stakeholders and have a funding source aligned with the services provided.
C. A behavior analyst may accept new clients when they are able to provide individualized services and have the expertise to provide the requested services.
D. A behavior analyst should only accept new clients when the requested services are within their scope of competence and available resources.

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21. What is not considered a negative outcome for a behavior analyst practicing outside of their scope of competence?

A. Waste of treatment time
B. Misuse of behavior analytic principles
C. Inability to practice as a behavior analyst
D. Socially significant goals not attained

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22. What is a behavioral systems analysis (BSA) approach?

A. It is an approach that uses behavioral skills training to teach individuals new skills to enhance human performance and guide organizations on successful implementation of behavior analytic principles.
B. It is an approach that analyzes organizational needs through a behavior analytic lens and conducts a needs analysis to determine which points of an organization would benefit from behavior analytic principles.
C. It is an approach that views an organization in a hierarchical manner and determines the needs of an organization using a top-down approach to maximize processes.
D. It is an approach that identifies organizations as complex systems and evaluates human performance using both behavior and systems analysis.

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23. Within BSA, what is the focus at the employee level?

A. The focus is on how changes at the top level of the organization are handled and the performance expectations that are then delineated for each employee based on these changes.
B. The focus is on how the inputs and outputs are moved through the organization so that products and services are created.
C. The focus is on how variables such as resources, feedback from others, and training can affect the employee’s performance.
D. The focus is on how products and services are created and performance expectations are outlined for each employee.

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24. What steps have been outlined within a system that allows for teaching and maintaining of ethical decision-making behavior within an organization?

A. evaluate, analyze, design, train, and feedback
B. design, implement, analyze, integrate, feedback, and repeat
C. analyze, specify, design, implement, evaluate, and recycle
D. specify, design, role-play, train, implement, feedback, and repeat

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25. What is the Continuum of Care Screener (CCS) designed to be used for?

A. The CCS provides a framework for behavior analysts concerning ethical risk mitigation when decisions need to be made regarding various situations that affect service delivery for individuals.
B. The CCS provides behavior analysts with an organizational structure that improves employee performance and mitigates risk associated with ethical decision-making skills.
C. The CCS provides a multitude of problem-solving techniques that reduce risk associated with various situations that may affect the delivery of services to individuals with disabilities.
D. The CCS provides practitioners with a set of guidelines for effective organizational practices and ways to improve employee performance while reducing any risk associated with decisions that employees will need to make.

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26. Which response does not align with the characteristics that encompass the services that a behavior analyst should provide per BACB Code of Ethics 2.01 (2020)?

A. Conceptually consistent with behavioral principles
B. Based on scientific evidence
C. Interventions approved by clients and relevant stakeholders
D. Designed to maximize desired outcomes for all clients, stakeholders, supervisees, trainees, and research participants

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27. According to Cox (2020), what is one function of an ethics committee in a behavioral health organization?

A. Reviewing ethical questions brought by staff and applying a consistent decision-making process
B. Setting billing rates for services
C. Disciplining clients who miss sessions
D. Replacing the BACB's process for addressing professional misconduct

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28. Per Ethics Code Standard 4.03, what should a behavior analyst do when they determine that they have met their threshold volume for providing effective supervision?

A. Document this self-assessment and communicate the results to their employer or other relevant parties
B. Shorten each supervision meeting so more supervisees can be added

C. Delegate supervision of trainees to RBTs
D. Stop documenting supervision for the newest supervisees

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29. What is not considered a barrier to interdisciplinary collaboration?

A. Legal, regulatory, and policy barriers
B. Use of jargon
C. Level of education
D. Nonbehavioral treatments

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30. When is a treatment considered to be harmful?

A. It is considered harmful when the individual undergoes treatment that causes marks, bruising, or emotional side effects that are not typically experienced in the individual's day-to-day life.
B. It is considered harmful when an individual undergoes physical, mechanical, or chemical restraint as a treatment option.
C. It is considered harmful when it puts an individual at risk for reduced functioning when compared to functioning levels prior to the intervention being implemented.
D. It is considered harmful when the individual is unable to express whether they are experiencing any pain as a result of the treatment method used.

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31. Which option is NOT a consideration that should be evaluated when determining whether a nonbehavioral treatment option is viable?

A. Available evidence for the treatment
B. The context in which the treatment is being recommended
C. The behavior analyst's personal preference for behavioral approaches
D. The client's values and preferences

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32. Per the BACB Ethics Code 1.07 (2020), what should behavior analysts do to develop their skills and knowledge related to cultural diversity and responsiveness?

A. Behavior analysts should collaborate with other individuals from various backgrounds.
B. Behavior analysts should integrate themselves into different communities so that they can learn about other cultures.
C. Behavior analysts should read literature on different cultures, so they can discuss important values with members of other cultures.
D. Behavior analysts should evaluate their own biases and ability to address the needs of individuals with diverse needs/ backgrounds.

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33. What is not considered a method for evaluating one's own biases?

A. Conversations and evaluation with peers

B. Consider different scenarios from the perspective of the person being stereotyped
C. Evaluate others based on the stereotypes that exist for a particular group
D. Stop and reflect so reflexive behaviors can be reduced

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34. What is a possible side effect that may occur if services are not delivered in the primary language of the individual receiving treatment?

A. It is considered disrespectful and rapport may be diminished when working with this individual.
B. It may result in the client wanting to transfer services to another provider.
C. It may result in the exhibition of challenging behaviors or diminished client progress.
D. It may result in miscommunication between the behavior analyst and individual receiving services.

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35. When using an interpreter, how should a behavior analyst orient themselves?

A. A behavior analyst should communicate directly with the client by use of eye contact and body orientation instead of communicating directly with the interpreter.
B. A behavior analyst should have the interpreter sit behind them so they are able to maintain eye contact with the client.
C. A behavior analyst should sit next to the interpreter so that they can communicate directly with the client and maintain eye contact.
D. A behavior analyst should have the interpreter sit at the end of the table so that they can communicate directly with the client and maintain eye contact.

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36. When a multiple relationship cannot be resolved immediately, what does Ethics Code Standard 1.11 require?

A. End services with the client immediately without a transition plan
B. Develop appropriate safeguards to identify and avoid conflicts of interest and a plan to eventually resolve the multiple relationship, documenting all actions taken
C. Continue as usual because the relationship already exists
D. Ask the client to sign a waiver accepting the multiple relationship

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37. Under Ethics Code Standard 1.12, behavior analysts do not give gifts to or accept gifts from clients, stakeholders, supervisees, or trainees with a monetary value of more than _____.

A. $10 US dollars
B. $25 US dollars
C. $50 US dollars
D. $100 US dollars

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38. Why does Ethics Code Standard 5.07 prohibit behavior analysts from soliciting testimonials from current clients for use in advertising?

A. Because testimonials are always inaccurate
B. Because of the possibility of undue influence and implicit coercion
C. Because advertising of any kind is prohibited for behavior analysts
D. Because only former clients are allowed to receive services

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39. Under Ethics Code Standard 5.10, where are behavior analysts prohibited from publishing information or digital content of clients?

A. On their personal social media accounts and websites
B. In client records stored according to organization policy
C. On professional accounts after obtaining informed consent and including the required disclaimer
D. In de-identified research reports approved by a review committee

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40. Per Ethics Code Standard 6.04, what must a behavior analyst do when data obtained from clients during typical service delivery might be disseminated to the scientific community?

A. Nothing, because the data were collected as part of routine services
B. Remove the client's name and then publish without consent
C. Obtain informed consent before dissemination, specify that services will not be affected by providing or withholding consent, and allow consent to be withdrawn at any time without penalty
D. Obtain consent only if the client is an adult

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