



Ensuring Team Collaboration

SCENARIO #1

Abby is the service coordinator for Dalton's family. Dalton (age 20 months) receives weekly physical therapy with Nancy, who works for a contracted therapy agency. Abby doesn't see Nancy very often since they work in different offices. When Abby makes her monthly contact with Dalton's mother, Mrs. Craig tells her that Nancy is no longer coming out to the home. Nancy's last visit was three weeks ago, when she told Mrs. Craig that she thought Dalton had met his outcome and goals and no longer needed physical therapy. When Abby asks about Dalton's progress, she learns that he was taking a few steps with his hands held for Nancy, but doesn't do that very often with Mrs. Craig. Mrs. Craig is still concerned about Dalton's development and tells Abby that she is disappointed that physical therapy is over.

What should Abby do next to ensure team collaboration?

If you could revise this scenario, what do you think Abby and Nancy should have done differently?

SCENARIO #2

Javier (age 11 months) and his grandmother have been receiving early intervention services for about four months. During this time, Javier has made great progress in learning to move his body to activate a toy and roll over to reach the mirror he loves. Because of his complex medical and developmental needs, and his family's outcomes related to independent movement, communication, and social play, Javier receives occupational therapy (OT) each week, as well as developmental services (DS) twice a month. When Tanya, the service coordinator, joins the DS visit, she notices that the provider recommends that Javier's grandmother use his high chair as a location for play. However, when she speaks with the OT, Tanya learns that Javier does not have the head control to be able to communicate and play in the high chair. Tanya suspects that this must be confusing for Javier's grandmother and wants to make sure that the entire team is collaborating on recommendations for Javier.

What should Tanya do next to ensure team collaboration?

If you could revise this scenario, what do you think Tanya and the service providers should have done differently?