

## Ethical Scenarios

**Scenario 1:** You are working as a clinician and use social media to connect with other clinicians in your area of practice. You are a member of a few professional affinity groups on a commonly used social media platform. Clinicians share treatment ideas, issues related to their work settings, and seek advice for challenging cases. You read a post that describes a client who demonstrates an atypical profile and a range of significant issues. This case interests you and many of the other clinicians on the site. Multiple clinicians share suggestions, ask questions, and make recommendations. You have some ideas about possible underlying factors that could be important to this case. You contact the clinician directly to engage in a dialog about the client. The person who posted the case responds to you immediately and thanks you for your help. After you share some of your ideas, they let slip that they are not actually a practicing clinician, but a student in graduate school. The client profile that they shared on social media had been a case study assignment for one of their classes.

**Scenario 2:** You are working with a young child on the autism spectrum in a specialized setting. One of the families has been actively researching options for different treatment approaches for their son. The family has found a program that they want to pursue. The mother comes to tell you about the program. She is enthusiastic and has read all of the information about the treatment program on the company's website. The program was founded by parents of a child on the autism spectrum. The founders of the program report that their home-based intervention transformed their child from "a mute, withdrawn child, with a low IQ" to "a highly verbal, social child, with a high IQ, who grew up to attend an Ivy League university". There are celebrity endorsement on the company's website and testimonials from parents who report astounding results. The mother has ordered the company's starter kit, which contains books, CDs, and videos, one of which is titled, "Autism Can Be Cured". She wants you to follow all of the guidelines of the program in providing treatment for her son.

**Scenario 3:** You are working as an Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Specialist at a regional medical training hospital. Your team has just learned about a new feature that has been added to high-tech AAC devices, called automated data logging. Automated data logging means that the AAC device automatically stores all of the words and messages that a client creates and the time that they were created (event-stamp) in a daily log. The daily log of messages can be the basis for graphic representations of the client's regular use of the AAC device. The automated data logging system is purported to help clinicians and clients track use of the AAC device for progress monitoring and goal planning. Your team is discussing if they will use this new feature, and if so, how they will use it.