EARLY START DENVER MODEL
ROUTE-BASED INTERVENTION

WHAT IS EARLY START DENVER MODEL (ESDM)?
- An early behavioral intervention program for preschoolers with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
- ESDM combines applied behavioral analysis with developmental and relationship-based interventions
- This model integrates parents outside of typical therapy sessions

WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE SAY?
- Symptoms of autism spectrum disorder may be reduced with ESDM intervention
- Parent-implemented ESDM intervention showed greater improvements in receptive/expressive language skills, social affect, social communication, and symbolic play for children with autism when compared to a control group where parents were not trained in ESDM

WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE SAY?
- 90% of parents reported the ESDM was appropriate, satisfying, and that the intervention showed a high level of care

RECOMMENDED AGES OF IMPLEMENTATION
- Evidence for ESDM implementation focuses on children ages 12 months old to 77 months old; however, the recommended age for this intervention ranges from 18-48 months
- Greater gains are observed in children under 48 months

PARENT SATISFACTION
- 90%

ADMINISTRATION
- In the same study comparing direct therapy versus community based therapy, 90% of parents reported the ESDM was appropriate, satisfying, and that the intervention showed a high level of care

EARLY START DENVER MODEL is an evidence based intervention supported to be effective in reducing symptoms of ASD and improving child language skills.

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