

PIVOTAL RESPONSE TREATMENT (PRT)® TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION
LEVEL V: TRAINER OF TRAINERS

Training Parents and Professionals to Implement the PRT Motivational Procedures

To be certified in Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) at Level V: Trainer of Trainers, individuals must participate in our Level V PRT Training and Certification Program, outlined below.

Pre-requirements: Certification in PRT at Level I, II, III, and IV.

Objective: The objective of the Level V Program is to establish participant ability to train parents, professionals, or other agents of intervention to implement Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) motivational procedures for teaching beginning verbal social-communication to children with ASD.

The Level V: Trainer of Trainers Program focuses on several core skills:

- Ability to present on Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) research and methodology.
- Ability to train individuals to implement the PRT motivational procedures through in-vivo parent education sessions and staff training/supervision sessions; and to ensure that these trainees achieve fidelity of PRT implementation.
- Assessing for fidelity of PRT implementation with reliability.

Certification at Level V is achieved by meeting the following criteria:

- (1) Participants develop their own PowerPoint presentation on PRT research and methodology, focusing on the core PRT motivational procedures for teaching beginning verbal social-communication. The PowerPoint presentation must include several video clips illustrating *each* of the PRT points. Participants videotape themselves delivering the presentation to a group of parents and/or professionals. The PowerPoint slides, video examples, and the video of the presentation being delivered must be evaluated and approved by the PRT Training and Certification Program.
- (2) Participants must be able to successfully implement parent education and staff training sessions; specifically, providing in-vivo explanation, modeling, coaching, and feedback for parent or professional as he or she works with a child with ASD. The participant must be able to train three individuals (minimum one parent and one professional) to implement the PRT motivational procedures for teaching beginning verbal social-communication with fidelity.
- (3) Participants must be able to train parents and professionals to implement the PRT motivational procedures to fidelity (minimum three individuals; one parent and one professional included)
- (4) Participants must meet reliability standards (80% or higher interobserver agreement) for fidelity of PRT implementation assessment across three 10-minute video probes.

Summary of Process: Generally speaking, within the Level V: Trainer of Trainers Program:

Both on-site and remote components of the program are included. Specifically, the training portion and the majority of the certification criteria is completed on-site (i.e., we send Koegel trainer(s) to you) across approximately 5 days (depending on the size of the group) of training. If the certification requirements have not been met in full following the on-site training days, the participants may be required to continue to send in materials remotely (through mail) to demonstrate their acquisition of the procedures.

Prior to the on-site Level V training:

- (1) Participants develop their own PowerPoint presentation; providing a basic introduction to PRT, with a focus on the PRT motivational procedures used to teach beginning verbal communication (e.g., first words and multiple word utterances). Additionally, participants are required to collect brief video clips of themselves, other professionals, or parents implementing the PRT motivational procedures with children with ASD to be used as part of the PowerPoint presentation. Specifically, participants should collect video clips that accurately demonstrate each of the motivational points for teaching beginning verbal communication (e.g., child attention/clear opportunities, child choice and follow the child's lead, interspersing maintenance tasks/acquisition tasks and task

variation, shared control, natural reinforcers, contingent reinforcement, and reinforcing attempts). Participants are required to include several brief clips demonstrating each point, and should also include videos demonstrating the various prompts for verbal communication utilized in the PRT framework (e.g., verbal model prompts, carrier phrases, open-ended questions, time delays). These videos should span across a variety of children and implementers. Participants should be able to gather many of these videos from their work with children with ASD, or from the parents or professionals they have trained who are implementing PRT with fidelity.

During the on-site training, participants work through several different competencies with the trainers:

- (1) Trainers review the pre-prepared PowerPoint slides that participants have developed, as well as the video clips (described above) that are a part of the PowerPoint presentation. The trainers provide feedback on the slides and videos, and provide coaching on how to present the PowerPoint (including both the informational slides and the embedded videos).
- (2) Training is provided on how to assess parents and other professionals for fidelity of PRT implementation. For this purpose, participants are required to have approximately ten 10-minute videos available to practice fidelity of PRT implementation scoring. These videos should be of parents and other professionals (whom the participant has trained) implementing the PRT procedures for teaching beginning verbal communication. After training is completed, the participant's reliability in scoring for fidelity of implementation is assessed using interobserver agreement. Participants must be reliable in scoring for fidelity across three 10-minute video probes.
- (3) Participants will have multiple sessions scheduled in the morning/early afternoon across several days, where they are able to provide in-person training to parents and professionals as they work with children with ASD. Essentially, a parent would have a session with their child with ASD or a professional would have a session with one of their clients with ASD, and the Level V participant would provide in-vivo parent education or staff training; including explanation, modeling, coaching, and feedback for the parents/professionals as they work with the children with ASD and attempt to implement the PRT procedures. The trainers observe the parent education/staff training sessions or they are videotaped, and feedback is provided later in the day. For the Level V Program, the participant must be able to train three individuals (minimum one parent and one professional) to implement the PRT motivational procedures for teaching beginning verbal social-communication with fidelity.

Following the on-site training: Most of the Level V competencies should be completed on-site, however following the on-site training, participants make any edits necessary to the PowerPoint slides and videos, then videotape themselves delivering the presentation to a group of parents and/or professionals and submit to the PRT Training and Certification Program for final review. If participants are not yet reliable for scoring for fidelity of PRT implementation, or if they do not pass the required parent education/staff training videos on-site, they are required to continue to collect and submit videos remotely following the on-site training.

A **sample content outline and schedule** is attached at the end of this document.

Cost: The cost of this program varies dependent on the size of the group and the level of support needed to meet certification competencies and criteria. Generally, speaking, there is a \$2,500 per day training honorarium for each day of on-site training (6 hours per day), which includes the support of one to two Koegel trainers. In addition, there is a travel stipend (\$500 per day for domestic travel and \$1,000 per day for international travel). Additionally, the cost of travel (i.e., airfare and local travel), accommodations, and per diem for the trainer(s) is covered by the Level V participant(s). Additional fees for remote support will be determined on an as need basis.

Scope of Practice for Individuals Certified at Level V: Trainer of Trainers: Generally speaking, individuals certified in Level V are qualified to *train* parents and professionals in the Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) motivational procedures for teaching beginning verbal communication. For example, for purposes such as parent education and staff development. Individuals certified in PRT at Level V are also authorized to *certify* parents and professionals in PRT at Level II and III, however, the specific Level II and III certification requirements and criteria outlined by the PRT Training and Certification Program must be strictly adhered to, and the Level V Trainer must submit 33% of all fidelity videos for the parents and

professionals certify at Level II and III to the Koegel staff to be scored for reliability (equates to 1 video per individual certified). There is a fee of \$125 per video for reliability scoring.

Sample content outline and schedule for on-site Level V Training:

Day 1: How to present on PRT

- Review PowerPoint presentation slide and video clip content
- How to present PowerPoints
- How to present video clips
- How to answer FAQs

Day 2: Assessing fidelity of PRT implementation + program development and supervision

- Assessing fidelity of PRT implementation
- Program development
 - Developing goals and benchmarks
 - Appropriate data collection
 - Evaluation of data and continual program monitoring and modification
- Supervision
 - On-site supervision
 - Individual and group supervisions (video based)

Day 3-5: Training Parents and Staff

- How to explain, model, coach and provide feedback in the context of in-vivo:
 - Parent education sessions
 - Staff training sessions

Day 1 Schedule:

9:00-12:00: Participants bring their PowerPoint slides and video clips. Koegel trainers review slide content and video clip selection and provide feedback on the slides/clips.

1:00-3:00: Participants present (a portion) of their PowerPoint presentations. Koegel trainers provide feedback on delivery of presentation. Review how to address frequently addressed questions.

Day 2 Schedule:

9:00-12:00: Training on how to score fidelity of PRT implementation + assessing for reliability on fidelity of implementation scoring.

1:00-3:00: Training on identifying target behaviors/developing meaningful goals and data collection + supervision (on-site and group format).

Days 3-5 Schedule:

9:00-12:00: Participants should schedule parent education sessions and staff training sessions. Participants will provide in-vivo explanation, modeling, coaching and feedback to parents and professional implementing the PRT procedures for teaching beginning verbal communication with children with ASD. Sessions are **TAPED** for review in the afternoon (see below).

1:00-3:00: Meetings with Koegel trainers to review the parent education and staff training videos from the morning, and to provide feedback to the participants.