Vismara L. & Rogers S.

The Early Start Denver Model | A Case Study of an Innovative Practice

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Intervention was implemented with an infant identified at 9 months of age with a behavioral profile consistent with autistic spectrum disorder. The intervention approach, the Early Start Denver model, consisted of a 12-week, 1.5-hr-per-week individualized parent—child education program. Results of this case study demonstrated that the parent acquired multiple teaching tactics that were associated with growth in the infant's social communication behaviors. Improvements were also noted with respect to the severity of behavioral indicators related to autism between 18 and 24 months of age. Findings are discussed in relation to providing an intervention model that may equip parents with the necessary intervention skills to engage, communicate with, and teach their very young children with or at risk for autism.