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ARTICLE: Clinical Systems and Programming in Human Services Organizations EnvisionSMART™: A Melmark Model of Administration and Operation

The EnvisionSMART™ guidebook series categorizes human services organizations as agencies serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in schools, clinics residential facilities, rehabilitation centers, and community support programs. The clinical services at these settings share common characteristics but differ accordingly to client populations, acuity of need, specialty focus, staff composition, professional expertise, and practice orientation.

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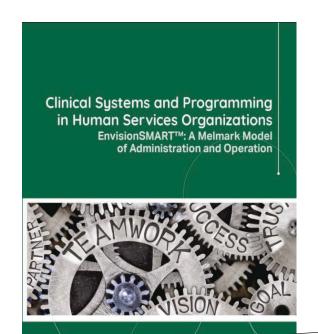
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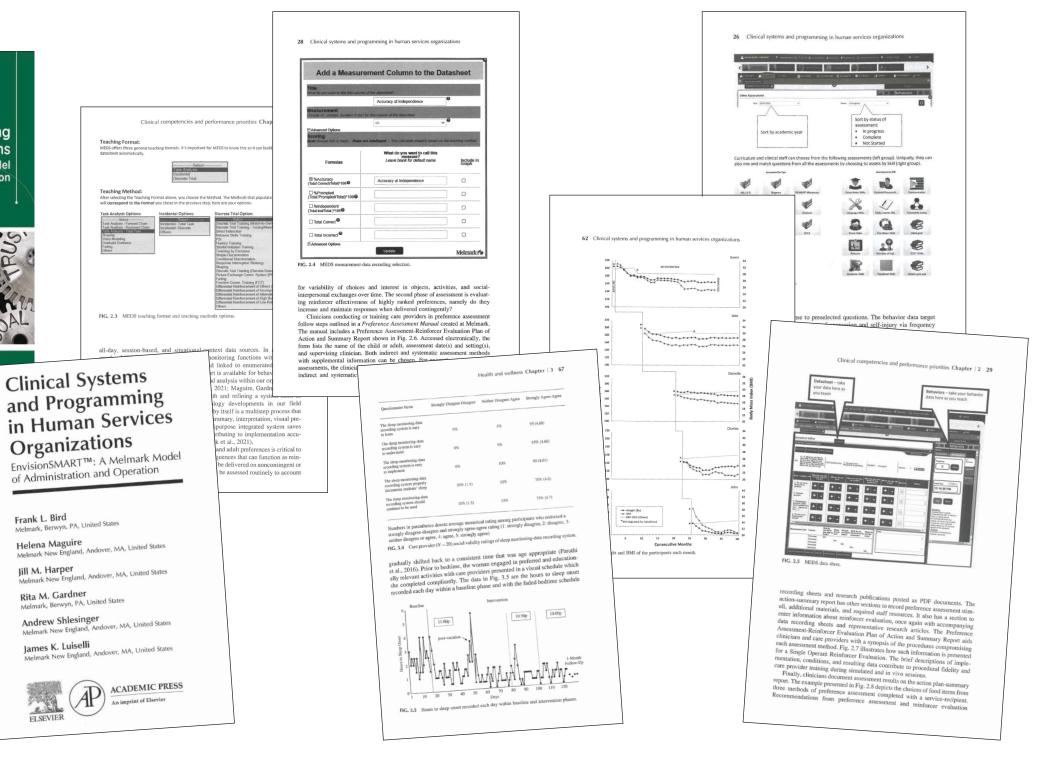
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For too long, scant clinical and research attention was devoted to the health and wellness of persons with IDD. Absence of medical training in disabilities is one factor that has made it difficult for children and adults to receive diagnostic and treatment services from physicians, nurses, and health specialists. Access to health care was further complicated by limited availability of ambulatory and in-patient programs and few professionals capable of consulting to or having staff appointments at day and residential settings.

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