

## The Role of the Family in Managing the Interdisciplinary Team for the Care of Autistic Children

- Mariana Machado, QASP-S

### **Abstract:**

**Codes of ethics, regulatory boards, certification bodies, manuals, standards, technical opinions, and laws** are some of the documents that govern professional conduct in Brazil and around the world. When it comes to providing services to autistic children, these documents are also available to guide the work of professionals in the areas of health and education. However, even today, family members of autistic people have difficulty accessing and managing information and professionals, playing a passive and secondary role in the provision of interdisciplinary services to their children.

This work describes the role of the family in managing the interdisciplinary team for the care of autistic children in four critical aspects related to the quality of interdisciplinary intervention: (a) **professional qualification and practical scope**; (b) **ethical and collaborative professional conduct**; (c) **positive effects of interdisciplinary intervention**; and (d) **funding**. In the four aspects presented, parental management was used to ensure quality in the interdisciplinary intervention of an 11-year-old autistic child, diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, level of support 3. The management strategies used by the parents were: **assessing, monitoring, making decisions, listening and integrating people and services**, in order to achieve the established therapeutic objectives. The results indicate that the use of parental management skills was effective in maintaining the interdisciplinary team and in the quality of the child's intervention.

### **About the Speaker:**

Mariana Machado, QASP-S, is a Social Worker, Psychopedagogue and Behavior Analysis Specialist. She coordinates Certifications and Events at TBW in Brazil and is the CEO of Cuidado Parental. In her career, she has worked with autistic people, mainly children up to 12 years old, in different settings. Mariana also provides support to parents to develop positive parenting skills. Her passion for teaching, ethics and scientific evidence is reflected in her consulting and training practices for ABA practitioners in Brazil.

