**Competency 7:** Conduct descriptive analysis and develop hypotheses

1. Discuss with supervisor, review and include sample copies of observation tools such as:

* **Functional Assessment Observation From (FAO) by O’Neil**
* **Structured ABC Recording by Iwata**

B. Discuss with supervisor, review and use

* 1. Scatter Plot (Touchette et al., 1985) to identify temporal response patterns
  2. ABC Analysis (Bijour et al., 19668) to identify the antecedent, behavior, consequence sequence
  3. Interval and time sampling (Lerman & Iwata, 1993) to conduct probability analysis of antecedents and consequences.
  4. Compare conditional probability with background probability (Vollmer, Borrero, Wright, Van Camp, & Lalli, 2001)

C. Review Thompson and Iwata (2007) from JABA. Compare outcomes from descriptive versus functional analyses.

Some relevant sources:

* Cooper, Heron, & Heward (2007), on descriptive analyses.
* O’Neil, R. E., Horner, R. H., Albin, R. W., Sprague, J. R., Sorey, K., Newton, J. S. (1997) *Functional Assessment and Program Development for Problem Behavior: A Practical*

*Handbook. Pacific Grove, Ca.: Brooks/Cole Publishers*

* Pence, M., Roscoe, J.C., Bourret, & Ahearn, W.H. (2009). Relative contributions of three descriptive methods: Implications for behavioral assessment. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis,* 42, 425-446.
* Thompson & Iwata (2007). A comparison of outcomes from descriptive and functional analyses of problem behavior, JABA, 40, 333-338.

This topic is covered in PSY 555: Applications and Ethics in ABA and PSY 557: Behavior Change Procedures and Systems Support