



Jonathan Alderson's "Challenging the Myths of Autism" won an international award for "Best Parent Resource"



Intensive Multi-Treatment Intervention™
Treatment as unique as your child

September, 2015

To whom it may concern:

Arnie Gotfryd, Director of the innovative MaxiMind program is a genuinely caring, articulate, and intelligent professional. He has designed and leads a unique 'multimodal' therapy program that I personally have seen lead to significant developmental gains in several children diagnosed with autism.

What makes Arnie's work innovative is the way in which he has merged otherwise separate educational and therapeutic strategies into a cohesive 'system.' This is an important and critical point to understand. Arnie can discuss the procedure and benefits of the individual parts, but it is his knowledge of the 'synergy' of them combined in MaxiMind that sets him apart.

Many disorders including autism, attention-deficit hyper-activity, and global developmental delay are spectrum disorders and multidimensional in symptomology and thus require a variety of treatment strategies. There is no single treatment that addresses the range of challenges that children with a developmental disorder face.

As the Founder and Director of the Intensive Multi-Treatment Intervention program and author of *Challenging the Myths of Autism* (Harper Collins, 2011), I have worked within the field of autism spectrum disorders for over twenty years. One main problem that I face designing therapy programs, and the main problem that parents face, is that treatments on offer are disjointed and disconnected from each other. For example, I frequently recommend behavioural optometry, attention focusing treatments like biofeedback, the Interactive Metronome Program, and vestibular strengthening like the Astronaut Training program to my clients. Until MaxiMind was realized, parents had to work with a different centre for each of these treatments separately. This meant working with three different staff, scheduling three different weekly appointments, and negotiating three different approaches. Not only is this taxing on families, it also means that strategies and goals might be not aligned between various approaches. Even though each treatment individually might offer benefit there is the possibility that they contraindicate / work against each other if they are not well timed or coordinated.

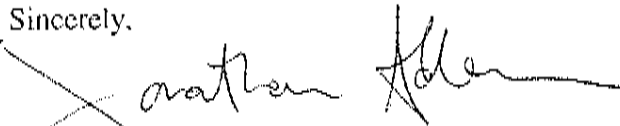
I was thrilled to find MaxiMind and to meet Arnie Gotfryd who has put these together in one cohesive 'system.' MaxiMind isn't just another option on offer, it is an evidence-based and innovative attempt to provide a multimodal approach to address multimodal disorders.

Arnie Gotfryd has spent several years studying and learning a range of approaches and methodologies. Using well established principles from the science of physiology and neurology, he carefully assesses a client's needs and then tailors a therapeutic program specifically for them.

I personally have witnessed behavioural improvements in several young clients (age range 7-11) which were corroborated by both parents' and teachers' observations. Students demonstrate improved concentration and better motor-coordination, including on visual and hearing tasks like following instructions for example. Some 'soft' measures of improvement may include increased self-confidence, greater self-awareness (proprioception/ body awareness ie less clumsiness) and decrease in anxiety.

Arnie Gotfryd has a good reputation for his professionalism and commitment to helping families and children. In my personal interactions with him, I have appreciated his breadth of knowledge including his understanding of how seemingly independent aspects of development relate and interact. Therefore he can bring special insights to his teaching, assessment and program design. The client families I have referred to the MaxiMind program have had similar positive experiences with Arnie Gotfryd's personal integrity and knowledge.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Alderson, Ed.M. Harvard
Founder/ Director Intensive Multi-Treatment Intervention™
Author, Challenging the Myths of Autism

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