Before you sign: 10 questions for any ABA company

Ask these on the first call. A good company answers all ten without flinching. Bring this sheet.

1. **How did you decide my child's hours?**
   If the number came before anyone met your child, it came from a billing model, not from your child.
2. **Has your company ever recommended fewer hours for a child? How often?**
   A company that only ever adds hours is telling you something.
3. **Who supervises my child's therapist, and how often will I see that person in my home?**
   Ask for a number per month. Write it into the agreement.
4. **If a session is cancelled or the therapist is late, is the time made up?**
   Get the make-up policy in writing. Count it.
5. **How many therapists has a typical child here had in the last year?**
   Turnover is the most common complaint parents make. Ask before, not after.
6. **Can I sit in, watch, or record sessions whenever I want?**
   If the answer is no, ask why.
7. **What exactly has to happen for my child to graduate? Show me the written discharge criteria.**
   No exit plan means no plan.
8. **How many parent-training hours are in the plan, and who delivers them?**
   Half of Medicaid children got zero parent-training sessions in six months. Make sure yours isn't one of them.
9. **Will you give me my child's raw session data and graphs any time I ask?**
   It is your child's data. Your yes should be automatic.
10. **Who owns this company? Is there private equity or an investor behind it?**
    Ownership shapes incentives. You deserve to know whose.

Write the answers down. Then grade the company's own reports at **dragen.cloud/dragentruthteller**. The long version, 19 questions, is free at dragen.cloud/downloads.

1. Straiton D, et al. (2021). Parent training in Medicaid-funded ABA: nearly half of children received no parent-training sessions in six months. *J Autism Dev Disord*. doi:10.1007/s10803-020-04679-x
2. Novack MN, Dixon DR (2019). Predictors of burnout and turnover among behavior technicians. *Rev J Autism Dev Disord*. doi:10.1007/s40489-019-00171-0
3. STAT News (2022). Private equity and autism therapy: parent accounts of hours proposed before the child was seen.

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