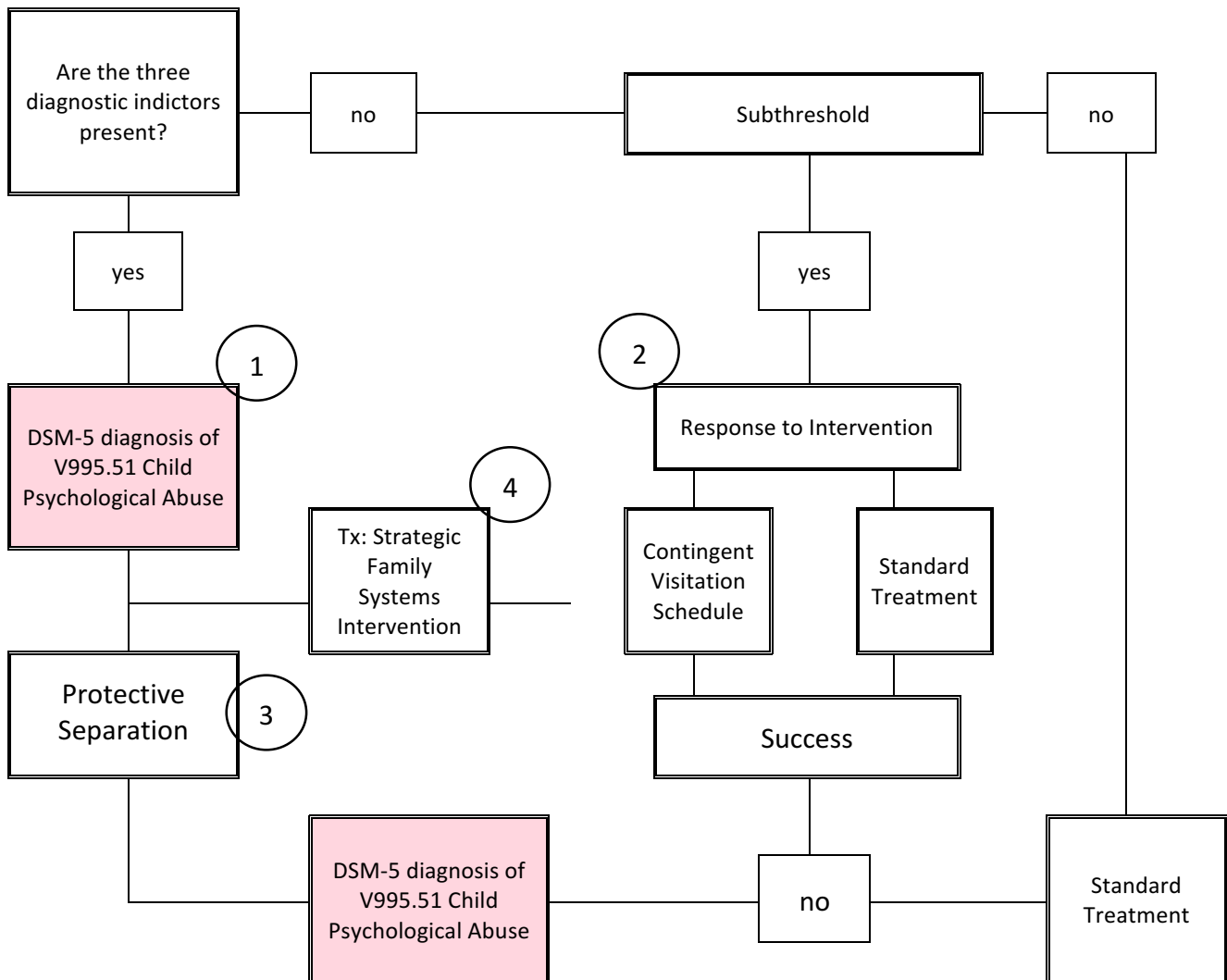


Decision Tree for AB-PA  
C.A. Childress (2017)



- 1 If the three diagnostic indicators of AB-PA are present, then the DSM-5 diagnosis is V995.51 Child Psychological Abuse, Confirmed and child protection considerations predominate.
- 2 If there are many of the symptom features of AB-PA, but the symptoms are sub-threshold for diagnosis of Child Psychological Abuse, consider a six-month Response-to-Intervention trial with either a Contingent Visitation Schedule if pathogenic parenting by the allied parent is hypothesized (Documented by the Diagnostic Checklist for Pathogenic Parenting), or with standard community care if problematic parenting by the targeted parent is hypothesized (documented by the Parenting Practices Rating Scale)
- 3 There is only one path to a protective separation, a confirmed DSM-5 diagnosis of V995.51 Child Psychological Abuse.
- 4 A treatment-related alternative to a protective separation may possibly be found in a Strategic Family Systems intervention. In cases of Child Psychological Abuse, if the treatment option is not successful then the duty to protect requires a protective separation.