

What will I learn from this evaluation?

Test results can be used to understand your situation in a number of ways.

Testing can identify weaknesses in specific areas. It is very sensitive to mild memory and thinking problems that might not be obvious in other ways. When problems are very mild, testing may be the only way to detect them. For example, testing can help determine whether memory changes are normal age-related changes or if they reflect a neurological disorder. Testing might also be used to identify problems related to medical conditions that can affect memory and thinking, such as diabetes, metabolic or infectious diseases, or alcoholism.

Test results can also be used to help differentiate among illnesses, which is important because appropriate treatment depends on accurate diagnosis. Different illnesses result in different patterns of strengths and weaknesses on testing. Therefore, the results can be helpful in determining which areas of the brain might be involved and what illness might be operating. For instance, testing can help to differentiate among Alzheimer's disease, stroke, and depression. Your physician will use this information along with the results of other tests, such as brain imaging and blood tests, to come to the most informed diagnosis possible.

Sometimes testing is used to establish a "baseline" or document a person's skills before there is any problem. In this way, later changes can be measured very objectively.

The office is located at 37 Kings Road, Ste. 102, in Madison, NJ. There is parking in the rear of the building.

Please park in an unmarked space.

What is assessed in a Neuropsychological Evaluation?

A typical neuropsychological evaluation will involve assessment of the following:

- General intellect
- Higher level executive skills (e.g., sequencing, reasoning, problem solving)
- Attention and concentration
- Learning and memory
- Language
- Visual-spatial skills (e.g., perception)
- Motor and sensory skills
- Mood and personality
- Some abilities may be measured in more detail than others, depending on your needs.

When is a Neuropsychological Evaluation Recommended?

Neuropsychological evaluations are requested specifically to help your doctors and other professionals understand how the different areas and systems of the brain are working. Testing is usually recommended when there are symptoms or complaints involving memory or thinking. This may be signaled by a change in concentration, organization, reasoning, memory, language, perception, coordination, or personality. The change may be due to any of a number of medical, neurological, psychological, orogenetic causes. Testing will be helpful in understanding your specific situation.

Conditions which may prompt a referral include:

- Attention Deficit Disorders
- Learning Disorders
- Brain injury from trauma, stroke, anoxia
- Brain growth & development
- Neurological conditions, disorders, diseases
- Memory Disorders
- Sports related concussions

Laura Palmer, Ph.D., ABPP, LLC & Associates

37 Kings Road, Ste. 102

Madison, NJ 07940

973.377.7705

fax: 973.377.7792

psych@dtaurpalmer.org

Website: dtaurpalmer.org

Neuropsychological Evaluations

What is Involve in a Neuropsychological Evaluation?

The neuropsychological evaluation is used to measure brain-behavior relationships. The neuropsychological evaluation is conducted by an experienced, trained neuropsychologist who is a state-licensed, doctoral level practitioner.

The evaluation process includes initial interview and history taking, review of records, consultation with referral sources, observation, in-depth testing, detailed report and a review session.

Testing involves taking paper-and-pencil or computerized tests and answering questions. The time required depends on the problem being assessed.

In general, several hours are needed to assess the many skills involved in processing information. Some tests will be easy while others will be more complex.

The most important thing is try your best

Thank you! We look forward to working with you !



The Schedule

will be evaluated by :

- Laura Palmer, Ph.D., ABPP
- Adriana Dunn, Ph.D.

Drs. Dunn and Palmer are licensed psychologists and have the requisite training and experience in neuropsychology to administer neuropsychological evaluations. Dr. Palmer is board certified in Counseling Psychology.

The following appointments have been scheduled:

- Intake:
- Session 1:
- Session 2:
- Session 3:
- Feedback:

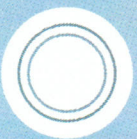
Please note you will receive the final written report approximately four to six weeks after the feedback session occurs.

How to Prepare for the Evaluation

Please inform us if you have any life threatening allergies or other medical condition so that we may take any necessary precautions. Please take all prescription medications as prescribed!

Bring glasses or hearing aids if you use them. Try to rest and relax before your evaluation. You will probably find testing interesting, and the detailed information that is gathered will contribute to your care.

Please bring **copies** of pertinent medical records and the parent/teacher forms enclosed to the first evaluation session.



Your right to confidentiality and my commitment to safeguard that right. The client-psychologist relationship is confidential and privileged, and thus protected by law and ethical code. However, there may be limits to confidentiality depending on your particular circumstance. For example, if your health care carrier is under the Federal ERLISA act, it is entitled to and may request information about your evaluation. Likewise, PIP, Worker's Compensation, and other legal/court cases may override confidentiality. In cases in which there is a clear risk of harm to self or others or of suspected child abuse, confidentiality is limited by law.

Financial Policy

Neuropsychological evaluation is billed on a per hour basis to include both time spent with or without the patient in the initial exam, testing, scoring, interpretation, report writing, consultation, review of records, and feedback session. Depending on the type of evaluation, total hours billed may range from one to approximately fifteen hours. Specific information regarding fees may be requested prior to the evaluation.

Drs. Palmer and Dunn are Medicare providers, and accept Medicare assignment. If you are covered by Medicare, you will need a prescription from your primary care provider for a neuropsychological evaluation.

If you are not covered by Medicare, payment is requested at the end of each evaluation session. The rate per hour is \$225.00, and the evaluation typically involves approximately 15 – 16 hours for an estimated cost of \$3,000 — 3,500. Check with your insurance carrier ahead of time to see what, if any reimbursement you can expect. You may pay by check or charge card (Master Card or Visa). Please contact your insurance carrier to determine if coverage is available and if pre-certification is required. The procedure code is 96118. Reimbursement by insurance companies for this procedure is variable, and the practice does not participate with any insurance providers except for Medicare. We will provide you with documentation that can be submitted to your insurance carrier which may be helpful in securing reimbursement.