



Pediatric Psychological Services

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WHAT TO EXPECT

Step 1: Initial Intake Appointment

Welcome! The first step in pursuing a neuropsychological or neurodevelopmental evaluation is to schedule a 60-90 minute initial intake meeting with Dr. Kovacs. You can contact Dr. Kovacs by email at akovacs@pediatricpsychologicalservices.com or call the office at 781-898-0127.

Next, please click on the FORMS tab on the website which gives you access to the administrative paperwork. We ask that you fill out and return the Patient Registration Form at least one week prior to the initial intake. This allows us to enter your child into the electronic medical record system before you arrive.

Please fill out and bring to the initial intake the additional paperwork, including a HIPAA Acknowledgement Form, Developmental History, Patient Responsibility Form, and a Release of Confidential Information Form. We need a signed release for anyone you would like us to speak to about your child (e.g., school, pediatrician, outside providers, and so on). We also need copies of prior testing or evaluations, school report cards, teacher comments, IEPs, 504 Accommodation Plans when available.

During the initial intake meeting, we will gather a detailed developmental history about the child and seek to understand your current concerns about your child and what you would like to accomplish with an evaluation. Goals may include identifying and understanding the child's learning style; understanding why the child is struggling in school or at home; providing assistance with educational or treatment planning; offering diagnostic clarification; or understanding why the child is having social, behavioral, or emotional challenges.

You will receive parent and teacher report forms at the intake meeting to help us understand your child better in more familiar environments, such as at home and school. These forms should be returned on the day of evaluation.

Pediatric Psychological Services is not in network with any insurance companies at this time. However, if you have out of network benefits, you can seek reimbursement directly from your insurance company. We will provide you with a detailed receipt and/or claim form to submit to your insurance company for reimbursement. The cost of the initial intake is \$250.00. The cost of the neuropsychological evaluation is \$3800.00 (children ages 5+) and

the cost of the neurodevelopmental evaluation (children ages 0-4) is \$2800.00. If at the end of the initial intake meeting, the parents decide to proceed with the evaluation, a \$200.00 deposit will be paid, with the remainder of the balance due on date of testing. Credit cards and personal checks are accepted.

Step 2: Evaluation

The testing appointment occurs after the initial intake meeting and the time of testing depends on the current waitlist. A neuropsychological evaluation typically requires a full day of testing (e.g., 9am-2 or 3pm) or two half days, while a neurodevelopmental evaluation typically requires a half day of testing (e.g., 9am-12pm); however, the timing depends on the child and specific diagnostic questions and circumstances. Some children are tested in one day, while other children are tested over the course of two, or even three half days. Children will be given breaks as needed throughout the day and a one-hour break for lunch.

The testing includes many different activities, such as paper-and-pencil tasks, hands-on activities, and answering questions. Some activities remind the child of schoolwork, while other activities require building or drawing. Most children enjoy the process as many of the activities are fun and they will receive high levels of positive reinforcement and even special prizes for their effort. In addition to administering standardized tests, we also make behavioral observations throughout the day and interview the child either verbally or through play. Parents are asked to wait in the waiting room while their child is working (WiFi is available). Parents may stay in the evaluation room with children who are very young (1-3 years old), as necessary.

Please return all parent and teacher report forms at the time of the evaluation so that the information they provide can be included in the final report.

Please visit the FAQ questions page of the website for more details regarding the evaluation process and for information about what to tell your child about the process.

Step 3: Evaluation Report

Approximately three weeks after testing, you will receive a comprehensive evaluation report, which is meant to serve as a “roadmap” for your child’s success. The report will include your child’s developmental and medical history and a description of current concerns, as well as a detailed description of the test results, diagnosis, strengths and weaknesses, and recommendations specific to your child. Recommendations will include suggestions for educational remediation and planning (e.g., 504 Accommodation Plans and IEP’s), suggestions for improving a child’s behavior as necessary, and suggestions for specific types of services or treatments that may help.

Step 4: Feedback Session

The feedback session typically occurs within one week of report completion. It is a one-hour meeting during which we meet to review the results of the testing, discuss diagnostic information, answer questions, and plan next steps by reviewing the recommendations.

Step 5: Follow Up

We are available to meet with you on a regularly scheduled basis or on an as-needed basis for consultation to ensure that the recommendations are helping and that the educational plan is appropriate, to provide you with referrals as necessary, and ultimately, to ensure that your child is making progress. Some families choose to schedule consistent three to six month follow-up meetings, while other families choose to call on an “as-needed” basis.

We are also available to consult with the school and other professionals, as necessary. We frequently observe children in the school setting and attend IEP meetings to help the school better understand the child’s needs and ensure that an appropriate educational program is in place.

We look forward to meeting you and your child soon!