

## **What you should know about the process of neuropsychological and psycho-educational testing and fees.**

At least one parent/guardian should accompany the child or adolescent to the initial appointment and it would be helpful to bring any relevant documentation, e.g., previous school speech and language assessments, occupational therapy evaluations, educational or cognitive assessments, private evaluations, IEPs, recent report cards or pertinent medical records. We don't need routine medical documentation but if there is significant medical history such as a birth complication, brain injury, chronic disease process, sensory deficits etc. be prepared to provide the background information and we can request the medical documentation later.

There is a \$88 fee for the initial clinical interview. Following the interview, I will provide you with two packets of parent/caretaker questionnaires and two or three packets of teacher questionnaires that can be returned over the course of testing. The testing usually includes three components - the neuropsychological testing with the NEPSY-II (which we attempt to do medication free but many times will conduct on medication if a med wash is contraindicated), the cognitive testing using the WISC-IV and WIAT-III, and social-emotional-behavioral-personality testing using various instruments which may include the behavioral questionnaires, Rorschach, Personality Assessment Inventory-Adolescent and others.

The testing time is approximately 6-8 hours of face-to-face time - broken down into three sittings for younger children with limited attentional abilities and two sittings for older children and adolescents with greater attentional skills or younger children who can tolerate longer periods of testing. Usually the testing is conducted over one to two weeks. The rest of the testing time is devoted to scoring the test results, interpreting the results and writing up of the Neuropsychological and Psych-Educational Testing document which is usually 30 to 50 pages in length. The purpose of the evaluation varies depending on the reason for referral but usually includes screening for learning disabilities and underlying neurocognitive vulnerabilities, to better understand school adjustment problems, differential diagnosis and to provide recommendations for special education and behavioral health case management as may be appropriate.

The fee for testing is \$3,520 (16 hrs x \$220) and we require \$1,760 at the time of the first testing appointment and \$1,760 when you pick up the completed report. There is also an optional disposition meeting to discuss the results of the testing - some parents do not find this meeting necessary because our reports are reader friendly and generally easy to understand. However, if there is a question of eligibility for special education or disputes about the services for a student under a current IEP, this meeting can be beneficial and many parents will bring a special education advocate. The fee for the disposition meeting is \$253.

Please be aware that educationally related neuropsychological testing is not usually a covered benefit under most insurance plans. "Medically necessary" neuropsychological testing, e.g., history of birth complication, traumatic brain injury, tumor, stroke, etc. may be covered by your health insurance. However, we can provide you with invoices marked paid if you wish to seek reimbursement from an insurer. You can find more information about

insurance issues, our services and directions to the office by returning to our website.