



# Black Sand Neuropsychological Services, Inc.

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## Neuropsychological Evaluation Information and Referral

A neuropsychological evaluation can help in the differential diagnosis, understanding, and treatment of a variety of neurodevelopmental disorders, psychiatric problems, and brain injury including but not limited to:

*Dyslexia and other Learning Disorders  
Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder  
Prematurity/Very Low Birth Weight  
Prenatal Exposure to Drugs/Alcohol  
Seizure Disorders  
Early Trauma*

*Traumatic/Acquired Brain Injury  
Autism/Neurodevelopmental Disorders  
Psychiatric Disturbances  
Conduct/Behavior Disorders  
Other medical conditions that may  
impact brain functioning*

A referral for neuropsychological testing is generally recommended when there is:

- (1) Traumatic brain injury or diseases of the CNS;
- (2) A chronic or significant learning disability that does not seem to respond to educational intervention;
- (3) A severe emotional or behavioral disturbance accompanied by possible learning or developmental delays that may be resistant to traditional psychopharmacological, psychological, or behavioral interventions;
- (4) Acute onset of memory, cognitive, academic, speech/language, behavioral, or personality deficits that cannot be explained by other psychoeducational evaluations; and/or
- (5) Child with known neurodevelopmental or learning challenges is facing a transition (e.g. start of school, transition to adulthood/college, foster or adoptive placement). In these cases a neuropsychological evaluation can offer specific strategies for treatment, educational intervention, and support services.

### What to Expect

Neuropsychological evaluations are conducted for children (age 5 and older), adolescents, and young adults (through age 24) by Lorraine R. Freedle, Ph.D., a board certified pediatric and school neuropsychologist. Depending on the reason for referral, testing consists of measures of intellectual functioning, problem solving abilities, attention/concentration, memory, learning, visual-spatial skills, expressive and receptive language, executive functioning, social/emotional functioning, and/or adaptive functioning. A report is generated and provided to the referring person, physician, legal guardian, and any other individuals as requested by the patient and/or legal guardian.

## **Process**

The evaluation process consists of six components:

1. Intake process to gather information about patient needs, to obtain consent for release of records, to provide orientation to the process, to verify payment source, and to distribute rating scales for parents, teachers and/or child to complete.
2. Review of Collateral Information
  - a. Educational Records (e.g. report cards, standardized testing results, teacher comments or concerns. If child is in special education must also have copy of current IEP and all special education diagnostic evaluations-- including cognitive, educational, speech/language, and OT reports.)
  - b. Treatment/Evaluation Records (e.g. psychosocial, psychological, and/or psychiatric evaluations, treatment history and response, and admission/discharge reports for any placements or psychiatric hospitalizations.)
  - c. Medical Records (e.g. medication history, medical records/evaluations/MRI's from any accident or related medical condition that is the subject of the neuropsychological evaluation, results of most recent physical examination.)
  - d. Legal Records (e.g. if the child is involved in the legal system, need legal status, copies of chronological offense record, applicable Court orders, probation or parole agreement, court assessments.)
3. Neurobehavioral Status Evaluation (pre-testing diagnostic interview with child and parent, individualized test battery is developed)
4. Testing Sessions (1-3 sessions, each 2-3 hours in duration are typically scheduled depending on testing procedures utilized and age of child)
5. Scoring and Report Writing
6. Review of Results/Collaborative Consultation Session

## **Timeframe**

The neuropsychological evaluation process typically takes several weeks or longer, depending on how timely records can be obtained and appointments can be coordinated, scheduled and kept.

## **Payment**

The cost of a neuropsychological evaluation varies according to the extent of testing and related services required. Dr. Freedle accepts cash payment only. A detailed invoice and statement of services can be provided to the patient for submission to the patient's insurance carrier.