

Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic Referral Guide

The Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic conducts evaluations of children from infancy to 18 years old with cognitive concerns in the context of a medical or neurological condition, illness, or injury that impacts the brain and its development.



Medical and neurological disorders we see include but are not limited to:

- Seizures/epilepsy
- Sickle cell disease
- Brain tumors/cysts
- Congenital heart disease
- Hydrocephalus/spina bifida
- Genetic disorders
- Prematurity/birth complications
- Oncology patients undergoing treatment
- Traumatic brain injury/concussion
- Other neurosurgical intervention
- Stroke/hemorrhage
- Injury related to CNS vascular anomalies



Evaluations vary depending on the age of the child and the reason for referral. A typical evaluation may assess these areas:

- General intellectual abilities
- Visual-spatial skills
- Attention
- Motor coordination
- Social skills
- Learning and memory
- Academic skills
- Language
- Executive skills, such as organization, planning, inhibition or flexibility
- Behavioral and emotional functioning



Our team

The Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic is located on the second floor of the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Clinics building and is staffed by Medical College of Wisconsin pediatric neuropsychologists, post-doctoral fellows and neuropsychometrists.

To schedule an appointment, call **(414) 337-7787**.



Frequently asked questions

What services are available for preschool children?

Our Preschool and Infant Neuropsychology Testing (PINT) Clinic conducts specialized evaluation for preschool-aged children with developmental delays and neurological/medical concerns as well as for differential diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders for patients age 5 and under.

When is it appropriate to refer patients with ADHD diagnosis, anxiety, depression or oppositional defiant disorder?

If the primary concern is anxiety, depression or oppositional defiant disorder, a referral to a clinical psychologist or psychiatrist would be most appropriate. A referral to neuropsychology is helpful only when a diagnosis of ADHD is not clear and cognitive testing may help differentiate diagnoses.

What is the appropriate process for children struggling with ADHD or potential learning disabilities in school?

Parents with primary questions about a child with school problems involving differential diagnosis of ADHD and learning disabilities should be encouraged to request an evaluation for an Individual Education Plan (IEP) through their school district prior to pursuing neuropsychological testing. Insurance often will not cover neuropsychological testing until a school evaluation has been completed.

Do you assess for emotional, behavioral or processing disorders?

We do not assess children with primary emotional or behavioral problems as neuropsychological testing is not empirically useful or cost effective. We do not assess for sensory processing disorders such as sensory integration disorder, auditory processing disorder or visual processing disorder.

Referral may be appropriate for an older child (>6 years) who has symptoms concerning for an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) on the basis of standard questionnaires or school documentation (e.g., IEP for Educational Autism) in order to obtain a medical diagnosis of ASD.

Referral Process for Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic

