



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

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Center for Neuropsychological Services Information and Policies

This document contains important information about our professional services and business policies. **Please read it.**

Welcome to the Center for Neuropsychological Services (CNS). The Center for Neuropsychological Services is part of The University of New Mexico Hospitals System and the Department of Psychiatry in the UNM School of Medicine.

Neuropsychological Evaluation: What is it?

You have been referred for a neuropsychological evaluation. Generally, this involves a variety of tests to determine if any changes have occurred in your attention, memory, language, problem solving or other cognitive functions. A neuropsychological assessment may point to changes in brain function and suggest possible methods and treatments for rehabilitation. In addition to an interview where we will be asking you about your background and current medical/psychological symptoms we may be using different techniques and standardized tests including but not limited to asking questions about your knowledge of certain topics, reading, drawing figures and shapes, listening to recorded tapes, viewing printed material, and manipulating objects. We will also discuss any concerns you may have or the person who referred you may have.

Generally, the testing is done by a licensed clinical neuropsychologist, however the testing may be done by a trained technician and supervised by the neuropsychologist.

After all of the testing has been completed, a second appointment is usually scheduled to go over the results and any recommendations. A written report will be printed and sent to the physician who referred you.

What are the risks and benefits?

For some individuals assessments can cause fatigue, frustration, and anxiety. The testing can sometimes be quite lengthy. Usually, the testing requires the majority of the day. Sometimes a part of another day may be necessary to finish testing, this varies with each individual.

The benefits are that the evaluation will provide information concerning your cognitive strengths and weaknesses. Such information may be helpful in determining what your difficulties may be and help in developing appropriate treatment recommendations.

Fees:

Unless you are informed otherwise before the testing, your insurance will be billed. You are only responsible for your portion as designated by your insurance company (i.e., your co-pay, deductible, and/or co-insurance). In accordance with hospital policy you will be required to pay your portion on the day of your appointment or you may be rescheduled.

Clients without insurance will be considered self-pay. Please be aware that in accordance with hospital policy you will be required to pay half of the estimated cost for services on the day of your appointment or you may be rescheduled. We have provided a fee scale listing several of the services most commonly billed by our clinic. Note that there is a corresponding facility fee for each of the professional fees listed. While every attempt is made to provide complete and accurate information to assist you in determining cost, the final total may be different from the estimate since it is based on the actual number of hours billed for each service and may include services not listed on this fee scale.

Service	Fees: Professional / Facility	Description:
Neuropsychological Testing	\$160.00/\$110.00	This includes: testing, interpretation and reporting per hour.
Neurobehavioral Exam per Hour	\$161.00/\$110.00	This includes: the time for the interview, per hour
Diagnostic Interview - Adult	\$227.00/\$144.00	This includes: Psychiatric interview/exam

Billing and Payments:

Billing for professional fees is done through University Physicians Associates (UPA). Billing for facility fees is done through University Hospital's business office. Unless prior arrangements have been made, you will receive a bill from both the University Physicians Associates and University Hospital. We will need to make a copy of your insurance card for verification. Those with Medicaid, HMO's, PPO's and any insurance that is not an indemnity plan will want to have prior-authorization because you are responsible for any charges if there is no prior-authorization. Payment plan arrangements can be made through the University Physician Associates (272-3200) and University Hospital's business offices (272-2521).

Professional Records and Confidentiality:

Information concerning your neuropsychological evaluation will not be released without your permission. However, there are a number of exceptions to confidentiality that you should be aware of. A copy of the written neuropsychological evaluation report is kept in the University Hospital's Medical Records Department and a variety of hospital employees may have access to these records.

You should also be aware that most insurance companies and Medicaid require that a clinical diagnosis be provided, and sometimes additional clinical information such as a copy of the test report, or in rare cases, a copy of the entire record.

There are some situations in which we are legally required to take action to protect others from harm, even though that requires revealing some information about a client's condition/treatment. If we believe that a child, an elderly person, or a disabled person is being abused, we must file a report with the appropriate state agency. If we believe that a client may be a danger to himself/herself or to someone else, we may need to take protective actions, which may include notifying the police, warning the potential victim, or seeking appropriate hospitalization. In child custody proceedings and proceedings in which a child's emotional condition is important, a judge may ask for information from me if the judge feels that this would help him/her.

We sometimes find it helpful to consult about a case with other professionals, in these consultations, every effort is made to avoid revealing the identity of a client. It should also be assumed that the professional who referred you for this evaluation will be communicated with, including a discussion of the results of the evaluation and releasing a copy of the written report, since this will be helpful in your care.

Since our Center is part of the UNM Health Sciences Center, a teaching institution, research is frequently conducted. It may be possible that your records will be used for instructional or research purposes. Should this be the case, your identity will be kept confidential.

Office Hours:

The Center's office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 p.m. Our office telephone number is 272-8833. If the secretary is not available, there is a confidential voice messaging system, so please feel free to leave a detailed message. Every effort is made to return a call on the same day the message is left, with the exception of weekends and holidays. If you feel that there is an emergency, you should call the emergency room at the nearest hospital and ask for the psychologist or psychiatrist on call.

We look forward to working with you.