

Athens Concussion & Neuropsychology

Center

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INTRODUCTION

Athens Concussion & Neuropsychology Center specializes in comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations for children and adults. Founded on the belief that understanding and embracing neurodiversity transforms lives, ACNC empowers families through detailed assessments, personalized recommendations, and ongoing support. We illuminate the unique strengths and challenges of every client, equipping individuals and families with the confidence, clarity, and practical guidance needed to thrive.

THE PROCESS

Q:

WHAT IS NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT?

A:

Neuropsychological assessment is a process through which a psychologist specializing in brain science looks at how the brain is functioning through cognitive tests, interviews with clients and their families, behavioral observations, and clinical expertise. Information collected during the intake and testing sessions is analyzed by a neuropsychologist to identify brain/mind characteristics, make diagnoses, and develop deeply personal treatment recommendations.



A:

EVALUATIONS CONSIST OF TWO-THREE APPOINTMENTS:

1) Intake and Testing (Half-Day)

The first appointment will begin with introductions, paperwork, and an intake interview which typically involves an hour-long talk with Dr. Finley regarding the reasons for your visit, such as symptoms and history. Then you or your child will complete 2-3 hours of face-to-face testing that same day with a lunch break. Testing can always be broken up into different sessions if requested or if Dr. Finley feels it would help get the best assessment.

2) Feedback (60 Minutes)

Your second (or third, if testing is broken up into two days) appointment will scheduled directly after testing and usually occurs two weeks after testing. Feedback involves discussing the results and treatment plan with Dr. Finley, as well as reviewing the report and ensuring you have all the documentation you need. This can be done in-person or virtually via secure medical videochat platform: www.doxy.me/doctorfinley

Services Included



WHAT'S INCLUDED IN YOUR STANDARD NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION?



We view each evaluation as a trusted, ongoing partnership in which Dr. Finley is a proactive advocate for your current and future needs. We therefore take the time and work needed at each step of the process to ensure that we understand and support you and your family's needs. Our evaluations include the intake interview with client and family or friends (if desired), consultation with the client's other providers, teachers and partners as necessary, all testing materials and procedures, feedback session (virtual or in-person), written neuropsychological evaluation report, referrals and detailed treatment recommendations with ongoing support as needed. In some cases, follow-up testing is needed to clarify

diagnosis, and this is included in the price. In other cases, follow-up testing in several years is required to, for example, keep your documentation up-to-date.. This will be billed as a separate evaluation with reduced price that reflects that we have already completed some of the work.

We are happy to complete ongoing paperwork and talk with others in a commitment to help you or your child thrive, both currently and in the future.



■ WHAT IS A NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT?

A:

A neuropsychological evaluation report is a highly personalized document written by Dr. Finley that includes all relevant medical history, clinical observations, a list of tests administered, test results with interpretation and analysis, explanation of diagnostic decisions, official diagnosis with medical diagnostic codes, recommendations and documentation for implementation of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), work accommodations, or support animal. The last section of the report is a comprehensive list of recommendations, including targeted interventions and accommodations, detailed strategies to improve weaknesses and address daily challenges, consideration of medications with recommendations, and names and contact information for specific treatment providers, such as psychotherapists, occupational therapists, psychiatrists and applied behavioral analysts. Recommendations for mental health providers are based on the potential for a good match between each testing client and the recommended practitioner. You may also be provided with printed resources such as cognitive exercises. mindfulness and relaxation activities, and/or websites that provide additional resources.

After the feedback session is complete, a document (PDF) of your report will be emailed to you and will be faxed to the doctors and providers that you indicate to us on the intake paperwork and during feedback. You will also receive a paper copy if you join us in person for feedback.



WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

A:

In-person attendance at Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan eligibility meetings, correspondence with attorneys, depositions and trial appearances are available and may incur additional fees. We are happy to discuss all fees ahead of time and make sure to document this in a contract so there are never any surprises.

Q:

WILL THERE BE RESULTS, A
REPORT, AND FEEDBACK IF THERE
IS NO DIAGNOSIS?



Yes, absolutely!

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

WHAT AGE GROUPS DO YOUWORK WITH?

A:

Generally, Dr. Finley works with children ages 4 and up, as well as adults throughout the lifespan. In some cases, children as young as 3 may be tested.

For children younger than 3, we can help you connect with Babies Can't Wait, or you can visit them at https://dph.georgia.gov/babies-cant-wait/bcw-services



SHOULD CHILDREN ATTEND THE FEEDBACK SESSION?



Adolescents are encouraged to join the feedback session. If desired, we can share results with parents ahead of time and discuss any concerns about sharing results with them. Children younger than 12 may not be particularly interested in the meeting, but they are welcome to attend! We also have toys, books and arts supplies for the little ones who ride with their family to the appointment.

DOES DR. FINLEY PRESCRIBE MEDICATION?

A:

No, she can only advise on general classes of medications and whether they will be helpful based on assessment results. She provides names of providers and their contact information for individuals who might pursue medication following the evaluation. This will all be documented in the report. She will also send referrals to a psychiatrist, primary care physician, or pediatrician with recommendations.

Q:

SHOULD REGULAR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS FOR ADHD BE TAKEN ON THE DAY OF TESTING?

A:

Medications such as stimulants for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder may be taken the day of testing if you think that they are necessary to get through the day. If attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder has not yet been diagnosed or there is any uncertainty about that diagnosis, you might be advised not to take them on the day of testing. Please feel free to call us to discuss, as this is highly dependent on the context of your case. In some cases, we can even test one day with medication and schedule another day without it.

Ultimately, we defer to the prescribing provider for all guidance regarding medications. Anyone preparing to be tested is encouraged to contact their prescribing physician.



WHAT ARE DR. FINLEY'S QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING EXPERIENCE?

A:

Dr. Finley earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York. She then earned her PhD in the Neuropsychology subprogram of the Clinical Psychology program at City University of New York in Queens, NY, participating in hands-on training in neuropsychology in hospitals throughout New York City. Her clinical psychology internship was completed at New York University's Rusk Institute for Rehabilitation, and her two-year post-doctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology was completed at Emory University School of Medicine.

FREQUENTLY CONSIDERED DIAGNOSES

WHAT ARE SOME
COMMON DIAGNOSTIC
CONSIDERATIONS?

A:

Our most common referrals involve attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum, specific learning disabilities such as dyslexia, twice-exceptional/giftedness, post-concussion syndrome, mild cognitive impairment, and syndromes associated with neurodevelopmental conditions. We also commonly assess for depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, personality disorders, dementia, traumatic brain injury and stroke.

WHAT IS NOT DIAGNOSED?



We do not diagnose conditions that are not in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-5) or International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10-CM), such as sensory processing disorder, central auditory processing disorder, and pathological demand avoidance.

BILLING AND PAYMENT

TELL ME ABOUT PRICING

A:

We understand that a neuropsychological evaluation is a major investment and we are fortunate to partner with Care Credit to provide our services to those who cannot (or would rather not) pay the cost upfront. If qualified, Care Credit provides financing for up to 24 months with 0% interest if the balance is paid by the end of term. Care Credit is easy to set up at home or in our office, and we are happy to discuss this option atany time. We can also combine personal payments with Care Credit payments and tailor this to your needs.

Our rate is \$2500 for most evaluations. For concussion, dementia, and post-stroke evaluations, the cost ranges from \$500-\$2500. Independent medical examinations are usually \$3200 plus travel and testimony.



A:

We are in-network with Magellen and Multiplan. We are an out-of-network provider for all other private insurance plans.

If we are out-of-network, we are happy to provide you with documentation for reimbursement for your out-of-network benefits at the end of your second appointment. This includes receipts and a "superbill" which includes Dr. Finley's name, provider identification numbers, diagnosis (ICD-10) codes, procedure (CPT) codes, unit prices and total cost, as well as documentation that you have paid the balance.

WHAT IF I HAVE MEDICARE?

A:

We are considered an "opt-out" provider for Medicare. This means that Medicare will not reimburse you for our services and the fee(s) will be processed according to our private-pay contract. If you have Medicare Advantage Plans, they may assist you in determining whether you can apply for out-of-network benefits.