## Benefits of Having Your Child Evaluated at Sharper Minds®

Sharper Minds specializes in accurate objective testing for conditions commonly diagnosed as the inattentive and hyperactive subsets of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD/ADHD) as well as dyslexia and learning challenges. Knowing your child's diagnosis as well as its causes can greatly benefit you as a parent or legal guardian of a child. This knowledge also allows you to objectively choose what course of therapy will be best able to address the problems turned up.

Many practitioners evaluate ADD/ADHD with questions regarding subjective behavioral symptoms. Unfortunately, this short simplistic test has produced a high percentage of erroneous diagnoses and therefore, incorrect treatment. This is like treating every chronic fever with Tylenol<sup>®</sup> or aspirin rather than finding and treating appropriately the true cause of the fever.

The symptoms of impulsivity and distractibility may be caused by a broad range of factors including:

- Poor visual or auditory memory
- Processing problems of the visual cortex, the auditory cortex or the sensory-motor cortex of the brain (various types of dyslexia visual, auditory, mind-muscle issues)
- Color blindness, strabismus, visual acuity or tracking
- Lack of right-left brain connectivity
- A problem area in one or more of the critical mental processes (size, shape, directionality, sequencing, etc.)
- Mixed brain dominance
- Poor graphomotor skills
- True Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Food allergies and intolerances
- Heavy metal toxicity
- Past emotional or physical trauma
- Systemic yeast infections





With some forms of dyslexia, the child is unable to correctly copy letters and shapes.

Each of these conditions needs to be uniquely addressed. While the commonly prescribed medications such as Ritalin<sup>®</sup>, Adderall<sup>®</sup> and Concerta<sup>®</sup> may have some positive effect, they do not treat the underlying cause(s). Rather they often mask and distract from correctly diagnosing and treating the underlying difficulties.

While Sharper Minds looks at the probability of dietary related exacerbaters, systemic yeast infections or heavy metal toxicity, we focus predominantly on objectively testing for cognitive related issues, including the various forms of dyslexia, rightleft brain coordination, brain dominance, and True ADD/ADHD.

We spend time discussing the child's history and having the child complete a series of objective tests and exercises. Extra time is spent in educating you and your family on how the mind works, answering questions and talking about the most effective therapy to meet the needs of your family.

# Benefits of having Sharper Minds do the evaluation.

By the end of the evaluation, you will have a much better understanding of what your child is struggling with.

(continued)

Understanding is often the key to tolerance, treatment, healing and successful change. For example, if you KNOW that a child cannot remember instructions, you'll be less likely to get upset if he can't remember the 3 or 4 instructions you just gave him. You are more likely to gently draw his attention to yourself, and just give him one instruction at a time.

#### Benefits you as a parent will experience:

You will:

- Become aware of the true causes of your child's behavior and inabilities.
- Understand which of the critical mental processes he or she may have moderate to severe deficiencies in, and what behaviors may be predicted by those.
- Understand your child better.
- Become more tolerant of your child's faults, recognizing that the inabilities may be inherent, and that he or she did not choose them.
- Have more knowledge and confidence when talking on this subject with his or her teachers, counselors or family doctor/pediatrician.
- Receive tips and guidance on how to handle child behavioral issues.
- Receive a test report that reviews what was diagnosed (check-box type for the basic evaluation, full-written for the comprehensive evaluation).
- Have confidence that you know you are doing the right thing.
- Understand a non-drug solution that really works.
- Better understand the various therapy options.
- Meet our staff, ask questions, and you can decide whether you would like to pursue using our services to help your family.

Plus you won't have to worry as time passes, "Did they really have the condition that their teachers and doctor said they did? Did we do the right thing in medicating our child? Could we have done something that both us and the child would have felt better about?"

There is no obligation to use our services after the evaluation. You are free to go wherever you choose for the best therapy for your family. It is our staff's goal to make sure that whether or not you continue to use our services, that the evaluation is a worthwhile and informative experience! We do offer a variety of brain development program options to meet each family's need and budget.

#### **Evaluation Fees**

Parents who have checked around or been evaluted by others, have told us that for a psychological evaluation done by a professional, fees of \$1,000 to \$2,000 are not uncommon.

Generally our evaluation fees are just \$295 for a basic cognitive skills evaluation and \$495 for a comprehensive neuro-psych evaluation done by a therapist/trainer. [Fees are subject to change without notice.] As we are setting aside a substantial amount of time for you (3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours is typical), a non-refundable deposit is required at the time the appointment is scheduled. This is deducted from the balance of your evaluation fee at the time of your appointment.

If you are married, we do require that both you and your spouse be there at the evaluation. If you are single, we recommend you bring a trusted friend along or the child's grandparent along. Someone you can discuss the test with afterwards.

With all the above benefits, at an affordable cost, why not call today?



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