

Diagnostic Assessment for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)



Diagnosing ADHD requires a comprehensive assessment of a child's behaviour presentation, developmental history, social/emotional functioning, and attentional capacities. Disorders are diagnosed when the behaviour or mood of a person impairs their ability to function. Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder describes what happens when a child's level of inattention, hyperactivity and/or impulsivity goes beyond what would reasonably be expected and interferes with their capacity to process information and adapt their behaviour to different contexts.

What is involved in the assessment?

Pre-assessment review & collateral assessment (1 hour)

- Parents complete intake form, reviewed by psychologist prior to appointment
- Psychologist review of all previous assessment reports (which may include paediatric reviews, speech pathology, occupational therapy etc)
- Liaison with other health professionals if required.

In-clinic appointment (2 hours)

- A developmental assessment and clinical interview with parent/s and clinical assessment with the child

Administration of the following behavioural assessment rating scales:

- The Conners 3rd Edition: an assessment tool designed to measure a range of behaviours in children. It is a thorough assessment of ADHD and the most common comorbid problems and disorders.
- The Behaviour Rating Inventory of Executive Function – 2nd Edition (BRIEF2): an assessment of impairment of executive function in children and adolescents ages 5 - 18 years, in both home and school environments.

Feedback session (30-45min), booked a fortnight post assessment date.

- Parent feedback session to go through results from assessment

Brief Summary Report (1 hour)

- Assessment analysis & interpretation, and report writing including recommendations for home and school

Additional assessment processes:

For some children additional steps are required to provide a more comprehensive assessment of functioning, or assist in gathering additional required data to complete the diagnostic assessment. These processes incur additional fees and so are only incorporated if required.

Collateral assessment

- Interview discussions with school/daycare, &/or assessment observation at school/daycare

Cognitive assessment – IQ test

- This allows provides an understanding of a child's unique learning profile – their cognitive strengths and weaknesses and how this impacts on academic progress and achievements, behaviour, socialisation, and emotional functioning. For children with possible ADHD a cognitive assessment can be highly valuable in assessing working memory functioning and providing targeting learning based strategies based on cognitive strengths and weaknesses.

Assessment Options & Fees:

Assessment	Fee
ADHD Diagnostic Assessment	\$840
ADHD Diagnostic + Cognitive Assessment	\$1150
Preschool / School observation (if needed)	\$220