



OUTPATIENT PSYCHOLOGY & NEUROPSYCHOLOGY SERVICES

The Department of Psychology at Hospital for Special Care provides a variety of assessment and treatment services for children, adolescents, adults and geriatrics.

Specific services are available in:

- Adult Neuropsychology
- Pediatric and Adolescent Neuropsychology
- Rehabilitation Psychology

What is Neuropsychology?

Neuropsychology is the study of brain mechanisms which underlie human behavior. Clinical neuropsychology is the application of this knowledge for the evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation of individuals with suspected or demonstrated neurological problems.

Adult Neuropsychology Services

Adult Neuropsychology Services provide assessments and treatment recommendations for the following conditions: suspected memory problems; cognitive and emotional effects of various neurological conditions such as Alzheimer's Disease, stroke, epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), brain tumors, and Parkinson's Disease; effects of traumatic brain injury; differential diagnosis of suspected dementia in elderly patients; alterations in mental status associated with various medical conditions; attention-deficit disorders; learning and developmental disorders; and various psychiatric conditions.

Pediatric & Adolescent Neuropsychology Services

Pediatric and Adolescent Neuropsychology Services provide consultation and comprehensive evaluations for children between the ages of six and 17 for concerns regarding cognitive, academic, behavioral, social-emotional, and psychological functioning. Specific concerns might involve developmental delay, attention deficit, hyperactivity, or symptoms of complex neurodevelopmental syndromes.

HOW APPOINTMENTS MAY BE MADE

Department of Psychology directly at (860) 827-4751.

Our offices are located at:
Hospital for Special Care
2150 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT

There is ample, free parking.
See website for directions: http://www.hfsc.org/p_driving.asp

Rehabilitation Psychology Services

Rehabilitation Psychology Services are available to serve persons with neurologic (including spinal cord injury, stroke, neuromuscular disease, and acquired-brain injury), pulmonary, orthopedic, chronic illness, and chronic pain conditions. Behavioral and psychological interventions are provided to aid the patient and their families in coping with chronic illness and disability.

Rehabilitation Psychology

Addresses Issues Related to:

- Psychological functioning
- Cognitive functioning
- Adjustment to traumatic injury or impairment
- Development of coping skills
- Family adjustment and coping
- Community reintegration following impairment
- Sexuality
- Substance abuse
- Pain

Support groups for individuals with traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury are available. Cognitive-behavioral consultative services are provided for clients, family members, and staff working with individuals with the State of Connecticut Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Medicaid Waiver Program.

Uses of a Neuropsychological Evaluation

Diagnostic Clarification:

Neuropsychological evaluation aids in the diagnosis of childhood and adult neurological conditions as well as pseudo-neurological conditions. It also helps determine the course of cerebral dysfunction and to estimate the degree to which psychological factors are involved in the patient's symptoms.

Educational and Rehabilitation Planning:

Neuropsychological test data are used in the planning and development of remedial education or rehabilitation programs for people with neurological and/or behavioral disorders.

Evaluation of Recovery or Treatment:

Through repeated evaluations, neuropsychological data is useful in assessing the recovery of an individual from neurological damage or in determining the effects of pharmacological, surgical, educational or rehabilitation efforts.

Estimating Prognosis:

Neuropsychological testing is frequently helpful in predicting the eventual degree of recovery from neurological injury or disease. The types of tests used depend on the patient's age and the nature of the problem, but frequently include measures of general intelligence, abstract reasoning, language, attention, memory, sensory and perceptual functions, motor skills, academic achievement, and systematic behavioral observations. Measures of personality are often used to determine whether emotional states, such as anxiety or depression, are significant factors in understanding the client's condition and need to be considered in developing a comprehensive treatment plan. Forensic neuropsychological evaluations are also available (i.e., IME, disability determination, personal injury, competency, criminal matters). The amount of time required for an evaluation depends on the nature of the problem and the patient's condition, but usually varies between four and eight hours.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY STAFF

John K. Stanwood, Ph.D.

Chief of Psychology

Dr. Stanwood specializes in the evaluation, and treatment, of adult patients with neurological problems, complex medical conditions and adjustment difficulties.

Dennis Johnston, Ph.D.

Director of Neuropsychological Services

Dr. Johnson specializes in the evaluation, and treatment, of adult patients with traumatic brain injury and other neurological problems, chronic medical illness, adjustment difficulties and anxiety conditions.

Timothy Belliveau, Ph.D.

Clinical Neuropsychologist

Dr. Belliveau specializes in the evaluation, and treatment, of child, adolescent, and adult patients with neurological, developmental and complex medical conditions. He is board-certified in both clinical neuropsychology and rehabilitation psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.

Steven P. Brown, Psy.D.

Clinical Neuropsychologist

Dr. Brown specializes in the evaluation, and treatment, of adolescent and adult patients with neurological, medical, and psychiatric conditions. He is board-certified in clinical neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology.