

Washington State Autism Diagnostic Teams
Survey of Service Models

Sponsored by the Washington State Combating Autism Advisory Council

Background

Name of Center/Clinic: CADET- Comprehensive Autism Disorders Evaluation Team
Location: Children's Developmental Center, 1549 Georgia Avenue, SE, Richland, WA 99352
Clinic Director: Scott Grewe, Ph.D, ABPP/CN
Intake Contact: To schedule initial intake appointment call Dr. Grewe:
Tri-Cities Neuropsychology Clinic
750 George Washington Way, Suite 7
Richland, WA 99352
Phone: 509-946-5515
Email: ScottGrewe@msn.com
Website: <http://www.childrensdevelopmentalcenter.org>

Liaison for your clinic: Renee Schaefer, M.S., CCC-SLP
Email: renees@childrensdc.org
Liaison phone: (509) 735-1062, ext. 222
Survey completed: March 2011

A multidisciplinary evaluation team designed to differentially diagnose Autistic Spectrum Disorders (i.e., Autism, Asperger Syndrome, PDD-NOS) and other childhood disorders (ADHD, Anxiety, Language Disorders, Cognitive Disorders, etc.). Parent-based child behavior management services are also available on a limited basis in individual and group formats.

Schedule & Capacity

What days and times does your clinic meet? We meet two Fridays each month, from 8:00 to 5:00.

How many diagnostic evaluation slots do you have per clinic day? 2

What is the age range of clients you accept for diagnostic evaluations?

An appropriate referral includes any child between 18 months and 10 years of age suspected of having an Autistic Spectrum Disorder. A referral by the child's primary care physician is required.

What is the typical age of clients you evaluate? The average age is 4-6 years.

What geographic region do you serve (where do your families come from)? The majority of our referrals come from the Tri-Cities area, but we do receive referrals from other communities in Washington and northeastern Oregon, including Ellensburg, Yakima, Connell, Moses Lake, Walla Walla, Hermiston, Umatilla, and Pendleton.

Do you have a waiting list? Yes

If yes, how long is the wait for families to obtain an appointment? The wait for an initial intake is 3-4 months. The wait time for a subsequent evaluation is an additional 3-4 months.

Can a family get on a waiting list if they are currently applying for Medicaid, or do they have to wait until they have received Medicaid? Families can initiate the referral process while waiting for Medicaid coverage. However, they must have Medicaid coverage or some other means of paying to receive services.

Personnel

List the disciplines represented on your diagnostic team?

--Neuropsychology, early childhood education, speech/language, physical therapy

- Scott Grewe Ph.D., ABPP/CN
- Nicki Mack, M.A, Autism Specialist
- Renee Schaefer, MS, CCC-SLP
- Laura McGuckin, M.PT

Areas Evaluated

The areas evaluated by CADET are: cognitive ability, communication, gross and fine motor (when appropriate), adaptive skills, social communication, sensory functioning, behavioral adjustment, and parent-child interactions.

How long has your diagnostic team been in effect? 3 years

Are you able to offer bilingual administration of evaluation tools? Yes, at this time

- **Do you use an interpreter?** No
- **Do you have bilingual professional conducting assessments?** Yes- we currently have a Spanish-speaking, ADOS trained individual

Clinic Protocol

Intake

Briefly describe your intake process.

- Initial Intake: Dr. Grewe completes an initial interview with the child's family to clarify concerns and determine whether or not a formal evaluation is warranted.

Do you conduct a screening prior to child's appointment in the clinic? Yes

If yes, what screening tool do you use? Developmental History Questionnaire, Child Behavior Checklist (CBC), Caregiver-Teacher Report Form (C-TRF), Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF), Social Communication Questionnaire (SCQ), Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (MCHAT), as appropriate.

How is this administered? Parents & daycare provider/teacher complete

Who administers? Dr. Grewe reviews these results with family

Do you require a primary care provider referral to the clinic? Yes

Who typically makes referrals to your center?

- Primary health care providers- except for rare exceptions, require that referral comes from PCP (not parent referrals)
- Public health nurse, CHN coordinator, FRC
- School personnel
- Family
- Other _____

How do you prefer to receive records from families and providers?

(Check as many as apply)

- Families bring the reports to the initial meeting.
- Families collect and send reports to clinic in advance
- School/ medical personnel fax reports to clinic in advance.

Is there other information or tests that are helpful to have before the clinic appointment? Results of any relevant medical (genetic testing, neurological exam, EEG/MRI/CT) and school evaluations are helpful to have prior to the appointment.

Diagnostic Evaluation

What assessment tools do you use in your clinic?

<u>Tool</u>	<u>Discipline Administering</u>
ADOS	Educator/Autism Specialist/Psychologist/ and/or Psychology Doctoral Student
DAS-II	Educator/Psychologist/ and/or Psychology Doctoral Student
WISC-IV	Psychologist and/or Psychology Doctoral Student
Mullen	Educator
PLS-4, CELF-P, &/or CELF-4	SLP
GFTA-2	SLP
PDMS - 2	PT
MABC-2	PT
Sensory Profile	PT
Vineland-II	Psychologist
PSI	Psychologist
GARS-2	Psychologist
GADS/ASDS	Psychologist

How long does the multidisciplinary assessment process take?

- Evaluations are conducted at the Children's Developmental Center and they last approximately 3 to 4 hours.

Does your diagnosis process include a medical evaluation? No

How do you share evaluation results with the family?

Following the evaluation, the family returns for a meeting with the team to discuss results, diagnostic impressions, and recommendations

How do you share evaluation results with the primary health care provider?

A comprehensive report, which includes specific evaluation results, recommendations, and resources, is subsequently sent to the child's family and primary care physician.

Follow-up

If a diagnosis of ASD is confirmed, what referrals and resources do you give to families?

A thorough resource attachment that includes books, agencies, websites, etc., is provided in the report. We also give each family a copy of the Autism Guidebook for Washington State.

If a diagnosis of ASD is not confirmed, but there are developmental delays of a different etiology, what referrals or resources do you offer the family? We provide contact information for community resources and additional informational resources to address the difficulties, and diagnosis and disorder specific referrals are made, as appropriate.

Do you follow-up again with families after the diagnostic process? Yes

A Parent Satisfaction Survey is sent to all families, and we encourage families to contact us as questions arise about access to services, family support, etc. We also generally recommend a follow-up evaluation of young children prior to formal school entrance.

How do you share evaluation results with the child's early intervention or program? We send the families multiple copies of the report and encourage them to distribute to relevant parties. However, we do offer to remain involved to insure that recommendations are followed through and services are accessed. We also communicate directly with early intervention and/or school personnel, as clinically indicated.

Outcomes

Approximately what percentage of the clients referred to rule-in/rule-out autism receives an ASD diagnosis? 75%

If ASD is ruled out, what other diagnoses are given? ADHD, anxiety disorders, stereotyped movement disorder, language disorders and apraxia, and mental retardation.

Funding

How is your clinic funded? The clinic is funded through Part C, private insurance, United Way, and public fund raising/donations.

Which disciplines on your team bill for the diagnostic visit? Psychology, speech/language pathology, & physical therapy bill for the diagnostic visit.

How are the evaluations paid for:

- Private insurance
- Medicaid (if no, skip the next 2 Medicaid questions)
 - “Open Medicaid” (Fee-for-Service)
 - Healthy Options-if yes, with which plans are you affiliated?
 - Molina
 - Community Health Plan of WA
 - Group Health
 - Clark United Providers
 - Regence Blue Shield
- Families pay some of fees out of pocket (whatever copays their insurance requires but no separate system for families coming to Autism clinic)
- Families pay all of fees out of pocket
- Other:

If a family doesn't have insurance, do you offer a sliding fee? No

What general sources help financially subsidize your clinic?

- Fund Raisers/Guild
- Institutional support
- Government contracts
- Medicaid reimbursement
- Private insurance
- Private grants
- Other

Cost: The Children's Developmental Center and Tri-Cities Neuropsychology Clinic are participating providers for most insurance companies. Families are responsible for co-pays, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses. Payment plans are available.

Challenges

At this time, what are the key challenges your multidisciplinary diagnostic team faces.

List below:

- Insurance Reimbursement
- Resources for Spanish speaking Families
- Dedicated Space for CADET evaluations and feedback
- Maintaining availability of spanish-speaking evaluators