

# *PALMENTERA & ASSOCIATES, Inc.*

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## **Young Child (Ages 4 to 6) Autism Evaluation with Dawn Chandler-Holtz, Ph.D.**

Thank you for your inquiry related to participating in an autism evaluation for your child. Palmentera and Associates has two offices, one in North Royalton (6785 Wallings Rd., Suite 3B) and one in Oberlin (23 Eric Nord Way Suite 12).

An autism evaluation can seem like a large undertaking for many families. Below is information about how the process occurs at Palmentera and Associates. We encourage you to ask questions about this process. Each person is different and while we begin with a standard process, we understand that something may come up that requires flexibility or additional testing during the process. We will not change our fee or charge for unexpected changes in the testing process (such as additional days required if the child is not able to complete it in one session or requires more time to acclimate to the environment).

Dr. Chandler-Holtz takes enough time with each client to fully devote her clinical attention to each case to gain the best understanding of the client as possible. The recommendations in each report are specific to each client.

### *Assessment Overview and Fee Structure*

Autism testing with no academic testing, also includes ADHD and anxiety

\$2300 for age 4 to 6

Typically we try to have a comprehensive battery to explore processing issues, attention problems, executive functioning, and possible clinical issues such as anxiety/depression, along with an evaluation for an Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis. This assessment gathers differential diagnosis of other possible behavioral, cognitive, or mood/anxiety difficulties, such as ADHD and/or anxiety. This evaluation will not use measures to identify specific learning disorders.

This testing option includes the following:

- Background information and record review
- Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule , 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (ADOS2) -in person with child and parent- approximately 1.5 hours
- Autism Diagnostic Interview Revised (ADIR) – interview with parent/guardian via videoconferencing – approximately 2 hours
- Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (WISC-V) – in person with child – approximately 1 to 2 hours

- Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales – interview with parent/guardian via videoconferencing – approximately 1 hour
- Gilliam Autism Rating Scale – Third Edition (GARS3)
- Conners Parent form Third Edition Long Form (ages 6-18)
- The Test of Variable of Attention (TOVA) (ages 4-80)
- BRIEF2- Executive Functioning measure- parent (ages 5-18)
- Behavior Assessment Scale for Children (BASC3)- child self-report (age 6)
- Behavior Assessment Scale for Children
- Behavior Assessment Scale for Children (BASC-3)- parent report (ages 2-21)
- Play-based (puppet) Sentence Completion Task
- Story-telling Task
- Sensory Profile

This will also include a one-hour feedback session as well as a copy of the report and individualized recommendations (which, depending on the age of the child and the results of testing can range from 20 to 30 pages). (If additional sessions are requested for follow-up questions, parent guidance, or additional information, our regular session fees of \$140 per 50 minutes will apply).

Additionally, if warranted if the child has multiple records from previous testing, medical records, therapy, hospitalizations or other out-of-home placements, a record review for a thorough history to be summarized in the report will be an additional \$50 per hour.

#### Additional Academic Testing -

Academic Achievement testing takes approximately an additional two hours of testing. This will provide age and grade level equivalent across many academic subjects, such as reading, math, spelling, writing, listening comprehension, oral comprehension, etc. The Wechsler Individual Achievement Test Fourth Edition (WIAT-4) is an extensive test that gives a lot of information about various areas important for school performance and learning. It also includes a screening test for dyslexia. Here is a sample report of all the areas tested:

<https://www.pearsonassessments.com/content/dam/school/global/clinical/us/assets/wiat-4/wiat-4-sample-score-report.pdf>

To administer, score, interpret, and write the results, including specific recommendations related to the findings costs and additional:

\$500 for ages 4-8

#### Additional school information and teacher input - \$300

With help from the parent(s) to coordinate, the teacher will complete two or three teacher versions of various behavior forms (Conners, BASC, MASC) and will participate in a phone interview to obtain a more complete picture of how the child is functioning in the school setting as well as the teacher's perspective on the child's strengths and weaknesses.

Our practice operates on a fee-for-service basis and is not on any insurance panels, but once the full amount is paid, you can be provided with a CMS 1500 claim form to submit to your insurance company for out-of-network reimbursement. I encourage people if they are wanting

reimbursement to call ahead and check to see if they need prior authorization to cover psychological testing and/or if a deductible needs to be met first before they will be reimbursed. If you would like to split up payments, you may pay half at the first in-person visit and the remainder at the feedback session when you receive the report. Payment can be made via check, credit/debit card, or HSA. We prefer payment by check as we have to assess an additional 3.2% to cover what the credit card company charges us.

Please let me know if you have any other questions and I can respond via email or we can plan a time to talk on the phone. My email is [dawnchandlerholtz@gmail.com](mailto:dawnchandlerholtz@gmail.com) and my cell phone number is 440-462-8824.

Thank you,

Dawn Chandler-Holtz, Ph.D.