

# ***PALMENTERA & ASSOCIATES, Inc.***

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## **Adolescent (13 to 18) Autism Evaluation with Dawn Chandler-Holtz, Ph.D.**

Thank you for your inquiry related to participating in an autism evaluation. 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).

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.

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 (approximately 15 pages) are specific to each client.

### *Assessment Overview and Fee Structure*

#### Autism testing with no academic testing

This option is a comprehensive evaluation that includes approximately 6 hours of in-person psychological testing, a two-hour interview with a parent/guardian, and a two to three hour clinical interview (for a total of approximately 10 -11 hours) and includes the following:

- Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale Fourth Edition (WAIS-IV) – for ages 16-18
- Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children Fifth Edition (WISC-V) for under 16
- Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule , 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (ADOS2)
- Autism Diagnostic Interview Revised (ADIR) – 1-2 hour interview with parent/guardian
- Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (BRIEF-2)
- Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function -parent version
- Millon Adolescent Clinical Inventory, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (MACI-II)
- Gilliam Autism Rating Scale – Third Edition (GARS3)
- Camouflaging Autistic Traits Questionnaire (CAT-Q)
- Empathy Quotient (EQ)
- Alexithymia Questionnaire
- Ritvo Autism Asperger Diagnostic Scale -Revised (RAADS-R)
- Conners Self Report [if ADHD is possible additional concern]
- Conners Parent and/or Teacher Report [if ADHD is possible additional concern]
- The Test of Variable of Attention (TOVA) [if ADHD is possible additional concern]
- Sensory Profile
- Clinical interview

- Written report [includes letter or paperwork needed to request accommodations if warranted] Written reports are typically between 35 and 45 pages long and include individualized recommendations for treatment and improvement. The cost also includes a 1-hour feedback session with parents and an additional half hour feedback session with the child. (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).

Total cost for this option is \$3250 [\$3,000 if ADHD is not an area of possible concern]

Additional Academic/Achievement Testing (Autism + Academic evaluation: (\$3750)

Academic/Achievement testing takes approximately an additional three hours of testing and one hour of clinical interview. This can be important if an autism spectrum disorder is suspected because autistic people often have trouble “reading between the lines” of both written and oral communication and this can help determine if this or other areas are areas of weakness that need accommodations or additional tutoring/help. To test specifically for a learning disability it is quite a comprehensive test. Assessment with the Wechsler Individual Achievement Test Fourth Edition (WIAT-IV) which usually costs an additional \$1,000 to administer, score, interpret and write the results; however, if adding it to the standard autism testing battery described above, it is only an **additional \$500**. 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>

Autism only testing – with no IQ or ADHD evaluation

Though it is not recommended as the IQ evaluation process provides important information about strengths and weaknesses as well as additional opportunities for the examiner to observe interpersonal interactions and cognitive style, if there is no concern about cognitive functioning and if there is no concern about executive functioning or a possible co-occurring Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), we can provide an assessment that only looks at possible Autism Spectrum symptoms for \$2,500.

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. Checks are preferred as we have to add 3.2% to cover the cost 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.