

## Testing with Sharper Minds®

It's all about you and your family. You likely have several needs:

- Finding out why your child (or yourself) is struggling. Is it really ADHD, Dyslexia, Auditory Processing Disorder, Dysgraphia, Asperger's, one of the Autistic Spectrum Disorders or perhaps a blend? And if so, which specific forms is it?
- Finding out what your child (or yourself) is really dealing with so it can be reported to the school and proper accommodations implemented via a 504, IEP or other special education program.
- Obtaining the proper diagnosis codes so that your child (or yourself) can get accommodations for an ACT, SAT or professional licensure exam.

To meet your needs, Sharper Minds offers several levels of in-depth testing and reporting (we only offer in-home testing in the DFW metro area) – compare our rates to the \$1000-\$3000 reportedly charged by other agencies):

- **Basic testing** is most appropriate for kindergarten through 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade high school students. The testing fee with an on-site report is \$345. If you need a detailed report (generally 8-12 pages) for sharing with a school or doctor's office with our findings and recommended accommodations, the fee is \$495.
- **Comprehensive testing** is \$695 and is most appropriate for 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade high school (for SAT/ACT accommodations), college students and adults, but can be done for those of any age. It includes a 12-16 page report with our findings, the appropriate ICD-9 and ICD-10 diagnosis codes and recommended accommodations for the school, testing agency or employer. The evaluation documents and report are reviewed and signed by a licensed doctor with extensive knowledge in this field. Please check with your student's institution regarding their testing requirements as each university or college is different.

Please call and let me know what you are looking for from the testing, and I can guide you to the right option.

### ***Here's how the evaluation process works:***

The appointment spans about 4 hours (Basic) or 4½ hours (Comprehensive). After the appointment is set and confirmed, you will be emailed a confirmation letter and a questionnaire. Fill out the questionnaire and have the person being tested complete a few pages. Have those completed by the time of the appointment. Times and days are flexible and at times we can even do Sunday testing. Call for options.

We spend some time on rapport building, and then go through a variety of tests (see the last two pages of this document for a list). About midway though, you and the family will take about a ~35-minute break to grab a quick dinner or snack during which time I grade the test documents and fill out a report form (preliminary if you are also having the longer detailed report done). Then I spend some time explaining how the brain should work, then go over the test documents and my findings. We will discuss the issues turned up, and potential ways to resolve or accommodate the issues.

If you are married, I do require that both you and your spouse be there for the testing. I want both of you to understand what your child (or yourself) has been dealing with. You will also want to discuss the results with each other afterwards. If you are single, I recommend you have a family member or trusted friend with you for the testing, someone to discuss the testing and results with afterwards.

A **\$100 deposit** (on a major credit card) is required at the time the appointment is booked in order to reserve the 4+ hour time slot. This is to make sure you are serious about the appointment and to cover some of our costs in case of a cancellation or rescheduling with less than 24-hour notice. The balance is payable at the end of the appointment, preferably by check or cash, but credit or debit card is fine as well.

### ***A little more information on Sharper Minds®***

**Experience:** You want someone with experience who is going to treat you right. The staff at Sharper Minds and its predecessors have evaluated over 1450 children and adults since 1998. While a member of the Better Business Bureau (whether in Oregon or Northern Texas), the company maintained an A+ rating (0 complaints).

**The right testing tools:** You want someone with the right tools who can give you the right answers. Sharper Minds uses a variety of testing tools developed by a number of professionals and researchers (see the list following). The goal is not to give you a general symptomatic diagnosis (you already knew there were problems), but rather to give you the specific causes and provide answers.

**Resolving the issues turned up:** You want someone who can help you fix the problems. Our goal is to help you turn your child (or yourself) into a top performer. We have done this with *many* since 1999. We deal at the **cause level** rather than symptom level. Brain training exercises develop the thinking speed and memory zones, effectively and permanently reducing and (for most) eliminating many of the problems and symptoms. The results our program graduates achieve are significantly higher than the results that standard special education methods or tutoring are able to achieve.

**Affordable:** Since Sharper Minds offers both brain development program options as well as detailed testing, the fees for the level of detail in our testing process are appreciably lower than that of most other professionals in the DFW metro area which only offer testing. The Sharper Minds program produces lasting results, covers the family, is less than the cost of most tutoring services and most students complete it within 14-18 months, not years. ***Think better – live better!***

**Convenient:** I come to your house to do the testing. No driving on your part or parking fees (reasonable restrictions apply). That way your child is most comfortable in his or her normal environment and can go play while the adults are discussing the test results afterwards.

Give me a call and let's find a time that works out best for both of us. Please call me at: 1-866-HELP-A.D.D. [435-7233].

Ed R. Meelhuysen  
Cognitive Rehab Therapist  
Special Education Consultant  
Sharper Minds®

Fees listed are subject to change without notice.

## ADHD, Dyslexia, Cognitive Skills Testing at Sharper Minds® includes:

- **Extensive family, education and past medical history** (detailed in the Comprehensive Evaluation; Primary-cortices-based in the Basic Evaluation).
- **Standard clinical evaluation of DSM IV Criteria of ADHD** from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders - Fourth Edition (DSM-IV-TR), published by the American Psychiatric Association. (in the Comprehensive evaluation only)
- **Connor's Continuous Performance Test II (CPT II)** (in the Comprehensive evaluation only) Computerized test looks at response rates and consistency to determine inattention, impulsivity, and vigilance. Compares results to known clinical profiles of individuals with the various types of ADHD.
- **Visual issues** including **Acuity** (using standard eye-charts), **Color Blindness** test (using Ishihara's Tests for Colour Deficiency), **Strabismus** (observational) and questions pertaining to Irlen Syndrome (Scotopic Sensitivity). Determines if there are innate eyesight problems impairing visual learning.
- **Wechsler Individual Achievement Test, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition** (WIAT-II) Evaluates reading comprehension, reading speed, word recognition.
- **Non-Verbal Screening Picture.** Screens for the ability to properly interpret body language in an emotionally charged picture. Evaluates possibility of a non-verbal learning disorder (NVLD).
- **Digit Span** for immediate and short term memory (auditory parroting and auditory-to-visual memory conversion). Ability to convert auditory sequence to visual sequence.
- **Draw-a-picture** (Family and/or self-portrait). Examines creativity, composition, graphomotor skills, esteem related issues and more
- **Write-a-paragraph.** Examines creativity, graphomotor skills, spelling, punctuation, grammar, capitalization, spaces between words, and visual memory issues.
- **Brain Motor Dominance/Brain Lead Preference** (Brain Lead Preference based on the work of Arlene Taylor, Ph.D. and Katherine Benziger, Ph.D.). Gross motor and fine motor skills testing.
- **Gesell Copy Form Test.** Arnold Gesell Developmental Assessment. Arnold Gesell, MD (1880-1961) <http://www.childstudycenter.yale.edu/centennial/exhibit/gesell.aspx>. Includes analysis of age of mental and emotional development, determination of graphic and fine motor control skills and more.
- **Test of Auditory Analysis Skills (TAAS)**, Jerome Rosner, MD (1979). Auditory response skills and times to assess for central auditory processing disorders.
- **Dyslexia Determination Test** (or Adult Dyslexia Test), by Drs. John R. Griffin and Howard N. Walton. Includes reading grade level for both eyesight recognition and auditory-phonetic decoding.
- **Seven of the Critical Mental Processes.** Tests the most important cognitive processes: specifically the ability to correctly perceive and replicate: Size, Shape, Position-in-Space, Figure-Ground, Direction, Angle, and efficient Sequencing.
- **Stress Response and Self-Esteem** (in the Comprehensive evaluation only). Screens for how the client handles stress and for possible co-morbid conditions [anxiety, depression, Oppositional personality, obsessive-compulsive tendencies etc.] or environmental barriers.
- **Considers the role of neurotoxins, systemic yeast (Candida) and/or food intolerances** which may contributive to certain cognitive symptoms.

If indicated, the following additional tests can be added (at the discretion of the evaluator):

- **Asperger's Syndrome Diagnostic Scale (ASDS)**
- **Roberts Apperception Test for Children and Adolescents** (second edition) by Glen E. Roberts, Ph.D.

## Neuropsychological Testing at Sharper Minds

Basic	Basic w/ Report	Compre- hensive	Brief Test Description. Why these tests are relevant is detailed in the explanation pages included with the test reports
4 pages	4 pages	12 pages	<b>Family, education and past medical history</b>
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Draw-a-picture</b> (family and/or self-portrait)
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Write-a-paragraph</b> (second grade and up)
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Basic Visual Acuity</b>
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Color Blindness</b>
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Digit Span</b> (memory test)
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Non-Verbal Screening Picture</b> (Screens for the ability to interpret body language in an emotionally charged picture.)
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Wechsler Individual Achievement Test (WIAT-II)</b> Reading Comprehension, Word Recognition and Reading Speed
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Gesell Copy Form Test:</b> Arnold Gesell Developmental Assessment. Includes analysis of age of mental and emotional development, determination of graphic and fine motor control skills and more. Arnold Gesell, MD (1880-1961)
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Seven of the Critical Mental Processes</b> (Size, Shape, Position-in-space, Figure-ground, Direction, Angle, Sequencing)
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Test of Auditory Analysis Skills (TAAS)</b> Jerome Rosner, MD (1979). in Helping children overcome learning difficulties : A step-by-step guide for parents and teachers (pp 77-80). New York: Academic Therapy. The TAAS tests oral word analysis skills with 13 single word phonetic deletion items. Test takers are given words orally and asked to delete a beginning sound, an ending sound, or a part of a blend.
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Dyslexia Determination Test or Adult Dyslexia Test</b> (as appropriate), by John R. Griffin and Howard N. Walton. Includes reading grade level for both eyesight recognition and auditory/phonetic decoding.
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Brain Motor Dominance/Brain Lead Preference</b> (based on the work of Arlene Taylor, Ph.D. and Katherine Benziger, Ph.D.)
		Yes	<b>Stress Response and Self-Esteem.</b> Screens for how the client handles stress and for possible co-morbid conditions [anxiety, depression, Oppositional personality, obsessive-compulsive tendencies etc.] or environmental barriers.
		Yes	<b>Connor's Continuous Performance Test II (CPT II)</b> (computerized)
		Yes	<b>Standard clinical evaluation of DSM IV Criteria of ADHD</b> from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders - Fourth Edition (DSM-IV), published by the American Psychiatric Association.
		Yes	<b>Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) scale score.</b> A numeric scale (0 through 100) used to rate subjectively the social, occupational, and psychological functioning of adults. Required by most colleges and universities
		Yes	<b>Basic Math Competency Test.</b> Tests ability to do a range of math problems spanning math from grades 2-7.
Optional*	Optional*	Optional*	<b>Roberts Apperception Test for Children and Adolescents</b> (second edition) by Glen E. Roberts, Ph.D.
Optional*	Optional*	Optional*	<b>Asperger Syndrome Diagnostic Scale (ASDS)</b>
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Tests graded and preliminary test results reviewed at the appointment:</b> Filled-in single sheet, plus 4 explanation pages
Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>Extensive time spent on educating on brain function and reviewing test results in light of brain function</b>
	Yes		<b>Test Report/Letter to School:</b> Customized, in-depth, gives findings and recommended accomodations (approx 8-12 pages including attachments)
		Yes	<b>Test Report/Letter to School, Testing Agency (ACT/SAT), Employer with ICD-9 and ICD-10 Diagnosis Codes - Reviewed by a Medical Doctor:</b> Customized, in-depth, gives findings and recommended accomodations (approx 12-16 pages including attachments)
4 hours	4 hours	4.5 hours	<b>Appointment Duration</b> (approximate plus setup and take down tme)
	3-5 hours	5-7 hours	<b>Report Writing / Review time</b>
\$345	\$495	\$695	<b>Testing Fee - first person.</b> In-home testing only.
\$295	\$395	\$595	<b>Testing Fee - per additional person</b> if they are tested at the same appointment (add 2+ hours per person)
\$100	\$100	\$100	<b>Non-refundable deposit</b> at time of scheduling to hold time slot. Visa/MasterCard (credit or debit). Processed via our PayPal account. Subtracted from total due. Balance to be paid at the appointment.

All fees and tests are subject to change without notice.

\*Optional means at the test administrator's discretion if they think the test is needed.