

VISUAL INFORMATION PROCESSING EVALUATION

If a person's visual skills are not adequately developed or impaired by an accident such as a motor vehicle accident, vision problems may occur.

Vision is more than clarity (20/20 on the eye chart). It is a complex combination of learned skills such as...

- Tracking
- Fixation
- Focus change
- Depth Perception
- Peripheral Vision
- Binocularity
- Maintaining Attention
- Near & Distance Acuity
- Visualization & Memory

Vision is the most important source of sensory information. Because there is a close relationship between vision and the brain, poor visual skills can cause...

- Headaches
- Double Vision
- Blurred Vision
- Reduced Performance (such as reading & comprehension)
- Eye Strain & Fatigue
- Light Sensitivity
- Memory Difficulties
- Attention & Concentration Difficulties

Depending on patient history, signs, symptoms and/or the review of prior diagnostic evaluations, an independent assessment is recommended to evaluate and diagnose specific eye or vision problems.

If this assessment is being recommended for you or your child, it is likely your optometrist/teacher/OT is suspecting that an underlying visual problem may be interfering with yours or your child's ability to learn, read, comprehend and pay attention.

Evaluation

An assessment of higher visual function may include, but is not limited to, an evaluation of the following:

- Visual pathway function
- Auditory-visual integration
- Ocular motility function
- Tests of visual attention
- Visual discrimination
- Visual spatial relations
- Visual closure
- Visual figure ground
- Visual memory
- Visual-motor integration

ADD/ADHA or a Vision Problem?

Anyone diagnosed with AD(H)D should have a complete evaluation by a behavioural optometrist. Signs and symptoms typically associated with AD(H)D are identical to signs and symptoms of individuals with learning-related visual problems.

Physicians often recommend that AD(H)D be treated symptomatically with stimulant medication. These medications simply mask the problem rather than get to the underlying causes.

Determination of Treatment/Management Plan

The evaluation and assessment of visual skills and processing usually has the duration of one to three hours depending on the complexity of the conditions and may require more than one visit. A separate office visit may be necessary to discuss evaluation results and management considerations with patients, spouse, parents, or others.

What is Vision Therapy?

Optometric Visual Training, sometimes called Vision Therapy or VT, is that part of optometric care devoted to developing, improving and enhancing visual performance when lenses alone are inefficient. After the initial assessment is complete, vision therapy may be recommended to help improve visual skills.

What does VT entail?

- A progressive program of vision procedures
- Performed under doctor supervision
- Individualized to fit the visual needs of each patient
- Generally conducted in-office once a week. Sessions run for 30 minutes to an hour. Home practice is recommended.

Does my insurance cover this?

Every insurance policy is different. We cannot determine for you if you have coverage or not. We recommend that you contact your personal insurance provider and inquire if coverage is reserved for 'Vision Training' and assessments.

Currently, we are not able to submit directly to insurance companies for visual assessments and training. Once payment is received, we can provide you with the invoice statements required for submission/reimbursement.

If you are submitting a claim to your auto insurance because of injuries sustained due to motor vehicle accident, and your file is still open, please fill out the 'ABI/Concussion Intake form'. We can submit an OCF-18 through HCAI for funding.

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