

## Preparing for a Speech-Language Evaluation

First, you will need a referral from your doctor in order for us to perform the speech-language evaluation. After the doctor writes a prescription:

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- Call our Aiken office at **(803)-642-0700** or our Lexington office at **(803)-356-4782** to schedule a speech-language evaluation.
- Your child's evaluation will last approximately one hour.

### What do I need to do before my child's speech-language evaluation?

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- It may be a good idea to arrange childcare for your other children so you can participate in the evaluation with your child without any distractions.
- Complete the patient intake form which can be found in the top right hand corner of our website or on the resources page of our website.
  - Please answer all questions as thoroughly as you possibly can.
  - If you do not know the answer to a question you can speak with your speech therapist and they will help you to answer them.
  - Bring this form with you to the evaluation.
  - List any other concerns you have with your child and please bring them up to your speech therapist so they can be properly addressed.
- Bring these items with you to the evaluation
  - Any medical records or other therapy evaluations that may be relevant to your child's speech-language evaluation.
  - A list of any medications your child takes with the dosage and frequency that they take these medications.
  - Make sure you have a copy of your insurance card and driver's license so we can keep them on file.

### What will my child's evaluation include?

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- We will speak with you and your child about their medical history and specific speech-language difficulties to help determine the best course of treatment.
- We will evaluate your child in a variety of areas including:
  - Receptive language (understanding language)
  - Expressive language (communicating language)
  - Pragmatic language (social language i.e. conversation skills)
  - Articulation (how your child produces sounds)
  - Oral muscular exam (we will check the muscles involved in eating and producing speech like those of the face, lips, tongue, palate, and throat)
  - Voice (pitch, rate, and loudness of your child's voice)
  - Fluency of speech
  - Feeding and swallowing

Our therapists will thoroughly address your child's needs. As a result, a follow-up appointment may be necessary. We will answer all additional questions you have and create a personalized plan-of-care for your child. Our therapist will recommend a frequency and duration for your child's therapy. Authorization may be needed from your insurance provider to schedule subsequent visits.

If you have additional questions, call the clinic in which your child will be evaluated and we will be happy to answer any of your concerns.