

PIERCEY NEUROLOGY LLC

650 SW 3rd Street, Corvallis OR 97333-4437

Phone: 541-207-3900, Fax: 541-207-3232

<http://www.pierceyneurology.com>

Referral for Neurocognitive Testing at The NeuroCognitive Center at Piercey Neurology

What is neurocognitive testing?

Neurocognitive testing consists of a set of standardized tests to answer specific referral questions.

Neurocognitive testing provides measurable information that assists your provider to determine if your cognitive function is consistent with your peers or perhaps deviated from base-line norms. If responses are abnormal, the clinician can determine the scope and severity of cognitive impairments.

What type of patients are referred for neurocognitive testing?

Neurocognitive testing is useful for a wide variety of neurological and medical diagnosis.

In older adults, the most common reason for testing is memory loss, or to test cognitive wellness. In addition, cognitive testing is often done when there is a known neurological diagnosis (for example, Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis) that may be accompanied by poor thinking or memory loss. In younger people, the most common reason for testing is poor attention.

How long will testing take?

A typical battery consists of several standardized tests. Testing time is dependent upon the specific assessment tests ordered by your provider. Neurocognitive testing at Piercey Neurology may take as little as 30 minutes, or as much as 1 hour. Because your testing session will be followed by an appointment with one of our neurologists, you should plan to be at Piercey Neurology for approximately 2 hours.

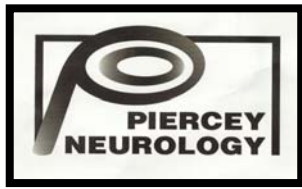
Testing consists of:

1. Short-term and long-term memory
2. Ability to learn new skills and solve problems
3. Attention, concentration, and distractibility
4. Logical and abstract reasoning functions
5. Ability to understand and express language
6. Visual-spatial organization and Visual-motor coordination
7. Planning, synthesizing and organizing abilities

How is testing conducted?

The Neurocognitive Center at Piercey Neurology uses an advanced computerized cognitive testing system that is very patient-friendly. Although the test is performed on a computer, it does not require that you know how to use one. In order to assess how different parts of your brain are working, the test will ask a wide range of questions and require that you solve problems or remember things. Following this testing, you will meet with one of the Piercey Neurology physicians to review your test results in detail, and discuss treatment plans.

Please Note: This immediate follow-up appointment is for discussion of your neurocognitive testing results only. It is not a Piercey Neurology clinical follow-up appointment. If you feel that you need a clinical follow-up appointment sooner than the one you have scheduled, please inform our front office staff so that they may assist you.



PIERCEY NEUROLOGY LLC

650 SW 3rd Street, Corvallis OR 97333-4437

Phone: 541-207-3900, Fax: 541-207-3232

<http://www.pierceyneurology.com>

How should I prepare for my appointment?

Make sure on the day of testing that you:

- 1) Have breakfast if your testing is in the morning.
- 2) Take all your medications.
- 3) Bring your reading glasses (if you need them for reading).
- 4) Bring a sweater or extra layer of clothing layer as you will be seated for a while and may get cold.
- 5) Bring water if you like.

Neurocognitive testing assesses your cognitive function by precisely measuring your performance on a series of interactive tests. Results will be of greatest value to your provider if testing is performed at a time when you feel at or near your best. Keeping this goal in mind, the standard 24 hour cancellation policy will be waived by Piercey Neurology up to 1 hour prior to your neurocognitive testing appointment.

Is neurocognitive testing expensive? What about costs and insurance reimbursement?

Neurocognitive testing is viewed by insurance companies as a medical diagnostic tool. Dr. Piercey's office has started the preauthorization process for testing.

Using neurocognitive tests early in the diagnostic decision tree can save money in the long term by providing an accurate diagnosis and tailored management strategies.