



WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE EVALUATION AND CONSULTATION APPOINTMENTS?

1. The Developmental Vision Evaluation

During this testing, a thorough evaluation will be performed by Matthew Walsh, O.D., FCOVD to assess a patient's visual skills. This will include the evaluation of distance and near visual acuity, glasses refraction, assessment of eye movement skills and eye teaming (binocular) skills, as well as the check of overall eye health. The testing procedure takes approximately 1-1.5 hours. If the patient is under 18 years of age, at least one parent needs to be present during the evaluation. The parent will be in the exam room, so it is very important that you do **not** bring any other children to the appointment (we do not want the patient distracted, nor do we have child care facilities).

2. The Visual Information Processing Evaluation

During this testing, a complete evaluation of the patient's visual processing skills will be performed. This includes the areas of visual memory, visual analysis, hand-eye coordination, and visual spatial relations. The exam will take approximately 2 hours, and will be performed one-on-one with a vision specialist to ensure there will be no distraction. The purpose of this assessment is to understand the patient's learning style and to find any underlying issues that could be of existence, in order to determine of the best course of treatment. If the patient is under 18 years of age, at least one parent needs to be present during the evaluation. The parent may or may not be in the exam room, so it is very important that you do **not** bring any other children to the appointment (we do not want the patient distracted, nor do we have child care facilities).

3. The Consultation

Dr. Walsh will need to get input from all parents/guardians in order to ensure that all necessary information is taken into account in designing your child's treatment plan. During the consultation, the results of the evaluation will be discussed along with recommendations for treatment. From our experience, we have found it is very important for the patient that all parents/guardians understand what is going on with their child's vision and how it is affecting his or her life. ***As such, it is strongly recommended that both parents/guardians are present.*** If you are in a situation where there are one or more step-parents, we often recommend that ALL parents be present. If it is uncomfortable for you for everyone to be present at the same time, please let us know, and separate consultations will be arranged.

Dr. Walsh will be reviewing a great deal of information about your child with you and may ask questions of a sensitive nature. Our experience has been that children are self-conscious about these discussions and it is best if they are not in the room at that time. ***We do not provide child care, so please arrange for care of children.***

The consultation takes approximately one hour. There will be a number of demonstrations that have been designed to help you understand what the patient is experiencing.

If there is any problem with both parents being present, please let us know immediately so that other arrangements can be made before the day of the consultation.