

Speech Evaluation: WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING MY VISIT?

Questions Often Asked By Our Families



Children's
Specialized
Hospital



Why is my child seeing a Speech-language pathologist?

Your pediatrician or another health care professional may have referred you to a pediatric speech-language pathologist (SLP) to evaluate your child's ability to talk, speak clearly, communicate with others, understand common words, follow directions, eat and drink. The speech-language pathologist will work closely with you and your family to understand your concerns for your child and to partner with you to develop goals and a treatment plan to accomplish those goals.

What will happen during the evaluation?

The speech-language pathologist will obtain information regarding your child's medical history and developmental milestones. The therapist will do a physical examination of your child's face and mouth, evaluate your child's ability to communicate, talk, speak clearly, express their thoughts, follow directions, interact with others and understand things said to him or her. The therapist will use various assessments to see how your child compares to other children the same age. The SLP will also discuss your child's ability to communicate successfully across the different environments that they are a part of, such as school, home, and extra-curricular activities.

How long will the evaluation take?

The evaluation may take up to two hours.

Will there be time to discuss the findings? If therapy is recommended, how long will my child need services?

The speech-language pathologist (SLP) will discuss the initial evaluation findings with you at the end of the evaluation and the recommendations.

What is my role during the evaluation?

The therapist will ask you questions regarding your child's medical history, development and areas of concern. Please let the therapist know your child's preferred name as well as the language(s) spoken in your home.

When will I get a report?

You will have access to view the report on MyChart, the patient portal.



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What do I need to bring for the speech-language evaluation?

Please bring:

- A current photo ID (license)
- Insurance card
- School reports, for example: IEP or IFSP or other records/documents from school
- Prior evaluations and relevant medical reports
- Current list of medications
- Guardianship documents (if joint, or sole custody)
- Bring any equipment that your child regularly uses such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, and any augmentative form of communication, (e.g. choice board, PECS, iPad, communication device)
- A list of questions to ask the therapist

Will insurance pay for the evaluation?

A representative from our insurance team will review your benefit coverage prior to your scheduled appointment. Please respond to communications (email, phone calls, text messaging) you may receive from the hospital as it may be our insurance department reaching out to discuss benefits.

You are responsible for understanding your insurance benefit and are strongly encouraged to contact your insurance company directly for any exclusions, visit limits or out of pocket responsibility. If you have questions about insurance coverage, please contact our **Insurance Team** at **(908) 741-4399** for English or **(908) 741-4424** for Spanish.

How do I access the patient portal?

MyChart is the patient portal. You may already have access if you or your child has received care at any RWJBH facility. If not, it is recommended that you create an account prior to your visit. Please note, the parent or caregiver must create their own account first, during registration our representatives will explain how to access the portal on behalf of your child.

If you already have access to MyChart for your child, you will receive reminders starting three days prior to your appointment. Once you receive the reminder, we encourage you to complete the e-CheckIn. This will expedite registration once you arrive on site.

[Click Here](#) or Scan the code to access



MyChart

