

Moving forward

After the assessment, we will talk with you about what you can do to keep your memory working as well as possible.

This will also be an opportunity for you (or your relative) to ask any questions.

We will give you information about ways of getting further support or help if you want this.

**We look forward to
meeting you.**

Questions

If you have any questions about your assessment please call 01722 820290 and we will happily discuss this with you further.

Contact us

**Memory Clinic
Grovely
Fountain Way
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP2 7FD**

01722 820290

www.awp.nhs.uk

PALS

To make a comment, raise a concern or make a complaint, please contact the Trust's Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).

Tel: 01225 362900

Free phone: 0800 073 1778

Email: awp.pals@nhs.net

Other formats and languages

If you need this information in other formats (such as large print, Braille) or in another language, please call the PALS number.

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**Avon and Wiltshire
Mental Health Partnership**
NHS Trust

Neuropsychological Assessment

Memory Clinic

Information and advice
for people in
South Wiltshire who are
referred for a
neuropsychological
assessment

You matter, we care

Why do I need a neuropsychological assessment?

After a discussion with your consultant psychiatrist/ memory service nurse, we have decided that a neuropsychological assessment would help us to have a better understanding of your memory ability.

What does it involve?

The assessment is a bit similar to a quiz. It measures different aspects of brain functioning such as concentration and memory.

Don't worry if you struggle with some parts of the assessment as we all have strengths and weaknesses.

As in most quizzes, no one ever gets 100%. Remember you can always ask for a break if you need it.

Who will I see?

You will see an assistant psychologist. Their role is to identify strengths and weaknesses in particular areas.

They will also assess your mood, as this can affect your memory.

The assessment will help us to understand what changes (if any) have taken place and help us to make a diagnosis.

What do I need to do?

1. Come to the appointment and meet the assistant psychologist.
2. Try to relax and let them take you through the assessment.
3. Some things will be easy, others may be harder; just try your best!

Remember, even with a perfect memory, some people struggle with some of these tests.

Will the assistant psychologist be able to diagnose me?

No. The assistant psychologist is just one of the team who helps the consultant psychiatrist make a diagnosis.

The consultant psychiatrist will gather all the relevant information from the memory team staff to get as clear a picture as possible before making a diagnosis.

Will I get feedback during the assessment?

The questions are asked in exactly the same way for everyone. This means that you won't get feedback as we go along.

At the end, you will be offered the choice of receiving feedback either by telephone or in writing, or by coming back to the memory clinic to get feedback in person.

Can I bring someone with me?

It is helpful to bring a family member or friend who knows you well with you to the assessment and feedback appointment.

However, we normally complete the memory assessment without your family member or friend in the room.

What happens with the results?

After the assessment, the memory team staff meet to discuss findings, possible diagnoses and to think about next steps. We will then contact you or see you to explain the results before sending them to your GP.