Your Child's Occupational Therapy Evaluation

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

What can I expect at my child's occupational therapy (OT) evaluation?

After your child's doctor refers your child for an OT evaluation:

- Make an appointment for an OT evaluation at one of our outpatient locations by calling our rehabilitation scheduling department at **404-785-7100** or going to **choa.org/rehabappointment**.
- Your child's evaluation is scheduled for a two-hour session.

What do I need to do before my child's evaluation?

- Arrange childcare for your other children so that you can take part in your child's evaluation.
- Complete the case history form included in our welcome packet and on **choa.org/rehabcontact**.
  - Answer all of the questions about your family and your child's health and development.
  - List any concerns you have about your child's motor skills, activities of daily living (dressing, grooming, feeding), behavior and play skills. This could provide us with information that may be useful during the assessment.
  - **Bring the completed case history with you to the evaluation.**
- Please make sure your child wears comfortable clothing that allows for ease of movement. Sometimes, clothes may need to be removed, so that body parts may be seen.

What can I expect during the evaluation?

The evaluation might be used to find out information about your child's:

- Sensory processing skills
  - The way the body takes in and processes information, which includes the five sensory systems:
    - Visual—how your child processes what he sees
    - Auditory—-how your child processes what he hears
    - Tactile—how your child processes what he touches
    - Vestibular—how your child processes himself in motion
    - Proprioceptive—how your child processes his actual movement
- Motor planning—the way your child can plan and make movements
- Self regulation—the way your child calms himself
- Visual-motor and visual-perceptual skills
  - Handwriting
  - Cutting with scissors
- Upper extremity use
  - Strength
  - Range of motion
  - Using both hands together (bilateral skills)

What to expect during the evaluation (continued)

- Gross motor control
  - Motor control—how well your child moves
  - Coordination
  - Strength
- Activities of daily living
  - Dressing
  - Grooming
  - Feeding—feeding self and the ability to eat a variety of foods

If you have any questions, call the Children's location where your child will be evaluated. Ask to speak with the therapist you are scheduled to see.

Go to **choa.org/rehablocations** to find a phone number for your outpatient location.