

## Occupational Therapy Evaluation Services for Dementia Patients

Marquette General Health System's Occupational Therapy department, in partnership with the Memory Diagnostic Center, provides Activities of Daily Living (ADL) Evaluations. This evaluation assists the neurologist with diagnosis based on levels of functioning and assists the caregiver by recommending levels of care required for the patient. The evaluation includes:

- ❖ **Home Safety Screen** – a “hands-on” test to determine a patient’s ability to identify and safely correct potential hazards in a kitchen area including: electrical, fall risks, sharps, water and heat elements, both overt and covert dangers.
- ❖ **Cognitive Leather Lacing Test** – a standardized tool developed by Claudia Allen, MA, OTR, FAOTA, to determine concentration, learning, and problem solving skills. Based on a theory of 6 basic levels of cognitive functioning known widely in the Occupational Therapy profession.
- ❖ **Cognitive Performance Test** – a standardized tool to test routine daily living tasks that correspond to the Allen Cognitive Levels.
- ❖ **Cognistat** – a standardized evaluation to provide a basic cognitive profile including tests for Orientation, Language, Visual Construction, Memory, Calculation, & Reasoning.
- ❖ **RBANS** – repeatable battery for the assessment of neuropsychological status, measures immediate memory, visuospatial/constructional, language, attention, and delayed memory
- ❖ **Mini Mental Status Exam** – the well known Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc. test for determining cognitive abilities, often still required by insurance companies. Less sensitive than the Cognistat.
- ❖ **A summary** – of problem areas and suggestions for supervision, assistance, and possible changes needed to provide the safest living situation for the dementia patient.

### Types of Recommendations Provided

- ❖ Amount of supervision the patient needs such as daily checks or 24-hour supervision.
- ❖ Activities the patient should continue to perform or be encouraged to perform.
- ❖ Types of verbal or physical assistance or guidance the caregiver should provide.
- ❖ Safety concerns that should be restricted or avoided, such as driving, cooking, machinery use, community involvement, or employment.
- ❖ Possible activities to help maintain level of function.

A physician’s referral is required for the evaluation and the service is billed to insurance companies as an Occupational Therapy Evaluation.

### Occupational Therapy.....Skills for the job of living.

Occupational Therapy (OT) is a health care profession that evaluates and treats various conditions to improve the ability to do everyday activities of daily life. OT uses activities meaningful to the patient to improve strength, coordination, movement, thinking skills, emotional well-being, and safety to be as independent as possible. OT assists patients and family members with changes needed in the living situation, different ways of doing daily activities, and/or tests patient’s safety awareness.

#### Contact Information:

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