



Dyscalculia Screenener

Employee journey



Dyscalculia Screener

This information sheet details how a Dyscalculia Screener assessment works and what you can expect with the process.

This document has critical information to ensure your assessment can go ahead as planned. Please take time to read this document fully and prepare for your assessment.



What is dyscalculia?

Dyscalculia is a specific and persistent difficulty in understanding numbers which can lead to a diverse range of difficulties with mathematics. It will be unexpected in relation to age, level of education and experience and occurs across all ages and abilities.

Difficulties with mathematics can have many causal factors and is a continuum. Dyscalculia as a discrete condition, falls at one end of a spectrum of mathematics difficulties and is distinguishable from other mathematics challenges because of the severity of difficulties with core number sense, magnitude comparison and ordering.

What is a dyscalculia screener?

The screener is an opportunity for you to explore whether you demonstrate traits of dyscalculia, but it does not provide a complete diagnosis.

The assessor will give you recommendations of the next steps based on the outcome of the screening assessment, which may either be for a full diagnostic assessment or a referral to another service.

A diagnostic assessment is the only way that dyscalculia can be formally identified.

What happens before my assessment?

- Our admin team will be in contact with you to book an assessment date, you will then receive an email confirming the date and time of your assessment, and the internet link to join the virtual appointment.
- You will next receive a pre-assessment questionnaire to complete and return to the wpateam@healthpartners.uk.com inbox. Please return the questionnaire 5 working days prior to your assessment. Please set some time aside to complete the questionnaire as fully as possible, this information is important. Some of the questions in the assessment form relate to literacy or memory or general health and wellbeing. This is because a full background of all aspects is important and form part of the screening process. All the pre-assessment information provided will be reviewed prior to the assessment. It is **important** that you ensure your full postal address is correct on the assessment form.
- The assessor will review your screening form and email you with any queries.
- The assessor will send you a sealed envelope in the post marked “DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE ASSESSOR ASKS YOU TO”. Please keep this envelope **sealed** and be ready to show the seal to the assessor on the video assessment call. If the envelope is unsealed, the assessment cannot go ahead.
- You will receive text message reminders for your assessment prior to the date.

IMPORTANT!

Before your assessment, make sure you have received the sealed envelope from the assessor and that it has **not been opened**.

If you have NOT received the envelope 2 days before the assessment, please urgently contact the WPA team by **telephone** on 01273 013771 because the assessment cannot proceed if you don't have the envelope.

For your assessment, please make sure you have:

- A quiet space, free from disruptions and interruptions for up to 90 minutes.
- Good lighting, this can be natural or artificial.
- A good internet connection.
- A personal computer or laptop with:
 - Audio
 - Microphone
 - Separate camera that can be repositioned or a laptop camera that can be angled to see the desk.
 - Screen that is at least 38.1cm (15")
- If using a laptop, ensure this is fully charged and has access to a power source.
- You will need a pen and some lined paper.
- Ensure you have your sealed envelope from the assessor in front of you ready to show the seal on camera.
- You might like to have a drink of water available.

If you have any questions or require some adjustments, please contact our admin team on the email wpateam@healthpartners.uk.com

What happens during my assessment?

- At the beginning the assessor will introduce themselves.
- The assessor will then complete a short identification check, requesting confirmation of your full name, date of birth, home address and postcode.
- The assessor will explain the assessment process and structure to you, and you will have opportunity to ask questions.
- The assessor will confirm your consent to assess and explain how the report will be provided to you. The assessor will discuss your pre-questionnaire paperwork or any additional documentation you have provided.
- The assessor will ask you about your experiences with numeracy challenges which can sometimes be associated with dyscalculia. You will also be asked questions about literacy and memory.
- The assessor will then undertake some short tests with you relating to verbal and visual ability, working memory and processing speed before moving on to explore numeracy aspects.
- As part of the screening, you will be asked to undertake a 15-minute maths quiz which is contained in the sealed envelope. When prompted you will unseal the envelope and do the quiz without a calculator. Please don't worry about this quiz. Our assessors are highly experienced and know that maths activities may well make you feel anxious. The assessor will do all they can to support and make you feel comfortable.
- You will be asked to hold your maths quiz answers up to your webcam for the assessor to screenshot or will be asked to take a photo of your work and email it to the assessor whilst on the call.
- You will have opportunity to take comfort breaks and ask questions should you need to.

What happens after my assessment?

- The assessor will review the results of the screening assessment and pre-assessment questionnaires.
- The assessor will generate a report. This will outline key information covered in your assessment, the opinion and conclusion and recommendations.
- You will receive the screening report within 5 working days. Once you have received the report, please take some time to review this.
- A summary report will be generated and provided to your employer (with your consent), briefly outlining the conclusion, key information, and summary recommendations.
- We recommend taking some time to discuss the outcome of the assessment with your referrer.



Frequently Asked Questions

What if I need to change my appointment?

If you need to cancel your appointment, please let us know at least 48 hours before your appointment to prevent cancellation fees. Please contact us at wpateam@healthpartners.uk.com

What should I do if I require adjustments for my assessment?

Please contact us regarding adjustments at wpateam@healthpartners.uk.com or call on 01273 013771.

Does my employer have to know about my assessment?

Yes, your employer will have made the referral to us and will be aware of the date/time of your assessment taking place. Often the referrer may be someone in the HR department, so it will be at your discretion to inform your line manager.

Who should I contact regarding my appointment?

If you have any queries regarding your assessment, please contact the wpateam@healthpartners.uk.com

How will my assessment be conducted?

- Your assessment will be virtual, using secure video conferencing via Whereby or Microsoft Teams. You will be sent a link to the assessment.
- Please follow this guide carefully as this is a requirement for the assessment.

When will I receive my report?

You will receive the report within 5 working days.

What type of activities will I do and questions will I be asked?

The assessor will ask some background questions related to the current traits that you are experiencing, what impact these have had on your life, education and employment, and for how long this has been the case.

The assessor will ask you questions related to the questionnaires you completed, they may ask for clarification around the answers you provided and ask for further details.

The assessor will undertake some short tests with you exploring verbal and visual ability, working memory, processing speed and maths skills.

The assessor will also ask questions about your mental and physical health, your social circumstances and will ask about your educational and employment history.

Some of the questions that are asked are personal and sensitive, it is important to remember that all answers are treated with the strictest confidence, and it is important for you to be truthful.

I am feeling anxious about my assessment, who can I contact?

It is natural to feel apprehensive or nervous about your assessment. Our assessors are experienced and will do everything they can to make you feel comfortable and at ease throughout. During the assessment you will be able to ask the assessor questions and take breaks when needed.

If you continue to feel anxious about the assessment and think you need to discuss this, please contact the WPA team, wpateam@healthpartners.uk.com

I need the report for adjustments my exams. Will this report be sufficient?

Most exam boards require a diagnostic assessment to provide sufficient evidence for adjustments, rather than a screener. Please contact your exam board to understand their specific requirements.

I have feedback for my assessor – what can I do?

We want to ensure your experience with us is the best it can be, and as such we welcome feedback. You will be sent a questionnaire after you have received your report. This will allow you an opportunity to provide us with any feedback.

Will my referrer or anyone else attend the assessment?

No, the assessment is confidential and only you and the assessor will be present. Occasionally, as part of our assessor supervision, another Health Partners clinician may request to attend the assessment. They will be present to observe the assessor only and will not take part in the assessment.

Will my referrer have a copy of my screener report?

Your referrer will receive a summary of the screener report (with your consent), the full report is confidential and will be sent only to you. It will be at your discretion if you would like to share the full report with your referrer.



CALL US

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