

GREAT PLAINS INTERDISCIPLINARY AUTISM DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC

What to Expect for Clinic

Once you have agreed to participate in the clinic, you will need to sign a few forms:

- *A release of information* which allows the child's records to be sent to our diagnostic team prior to the clinic
- *Permission to video tape and take photographs* during the clinic. This is optional, but allows us to use it for teaching purposes or to share with the child's intervention team and pediatrician.

You can then expect a phone call:

- A social worker may call to gather additional information or clarify responses if needed.

The clinic itself will last 2-3 hours and will follow the format below:

- You will be greeted by a team of professionals (an occupational therapist, a speech-language pathologist, an education specialist, a psychologist, a family support coordinator, and a medical professional who will be working with you and your child. **You are also encouraged to bring with you any of the professionals working with your child.**
- Your child will begin the assessment by participating in a standardized test called the ADOS-2. This test will take 30-45 minutes. Because it is standardized, the clinician will be the only one interacting with your child while the rest of the team observes.
- Next, your child will engage in more informal assessments and play with the rest of team.
- After testing, we will take a short break to allow time for the team to finish scoring tests. **Additionally, your child may need a snack or favorite toy at this point, so please feel free to bring whatever you think he/she will need.**
- The team will then sit down with you and your family and give their overall impressions of your child. **You should note that you are part of this team and your impressions and opinions are the most significant. You may want to have time to visit with the team while your child plays with another adult that you may want to bring with you.** Together, the team will decide whether or not your child meets the diagnostic criteria for autism spectrum disorders.
- The team will then make recommendations for services.

The family can expect a finalized report from the team in approximately 2-4 weeks.

There will be no cost to the family for any of the services provided by the GPIC team, as these are funded through the North Dakota Department of Health, Special Health Services.