

The Comprehensive Educational Evaluation After Hemispherectomy

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requires a child to be assessed in "all areas of suspected disability." After hemispherectomy surgery, these areas are evaluated by the following assessments:

PSYCHOLOGICAL

Examines the child's general Intelligence, instructional needs, learning strengths/needs, and social/emotional dynamics.

EDUCATIONAL

Examines the child's academic knowledge, educational achievement, and vocational skills.

FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIOR

Examines the purpose/reason for behaviors displayed by children with cognitive or communication disabilities.

PHYSICAL EXAM

Examines the child's basic health, including visual acuity, hearing sensitivity.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Attention, memory, language, visual, spatial, and other cognitive consequences of hemispherectomy,

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Examines the child's speech, articulation, spoken/non-spoken language, and communication skills.

ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY

Does the child travel safely both indoors and outdoors (with or without assistance) despite homonymous hemianopsia?

FUNCTIONAL VISION

How does child use vision limited by homonymous hemianopsia in everyday life?

CENTRAL AUDITORY PROCESSING

Examines the remaining hemisphere's ability to localize, lateralize, and discriminate sounds and recognize patterns.

GROSS AND FINE MOTOR

Examines the child's locomotor skills and object control

OCCUPATIONAL

Examines sensory processing, proprioception, self-regulation, swallowing, self-regulation, and self-modulation.

AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION

What aids and devices can enhance the child's communication?

READING

Examines the child's literacy/pre-literacy skills, including phonological and phonemic awareness, vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency,