What should I expect during my appointment?
Evaluations can be conducted on the same day or broken up over the course of two days. The entire evaluation includes the following:

• Assessing vital signs, vision, hearing, and current medications being taken
• A Neuropsychological evaluation, which includes a 3- to 5-hour detailed assessment of cognitive abilities, with a focus on memory and thinking, as well as questions about your symptoms, medical history and medications.
• A Neuropsychiatric evaluation, which consists of an interview, physical examination and additional testing.

After all diagnostic testing has been obtained, findings will be reviewed by the team and a follow-up appointment will be scheduled in order to review recommendations with the patient.

What should I bring?
Please bring lunch, snacks and beverages or plan to visit our cafe. You will need your glasses, hearing aids, and any assistive devices that you use for walking, as well as a list of current medications and all medical records from other healthcare providers. A Patient History Questionnaire will be sent to you prior to your appointment. It is imperative that you complete this ahead of time and either mail it back to us or bring it with you to the evaluation. In addition, it is very important that any imaging of the brain (MRI, CT, PET, SPECT) be sent to us prior to the evaluation on a CD or DVD. These can be obtained from the facility where the imaging study was completed. Although labor-intensive, these steps will assure that you receive a comprehensive evaluation.

What else does Gaylord Specialty Healthcare offer?
Gaylord provides outpatient physiatry (physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians), physical, aquatic, occupational and speech therapies, wheelchair assessment services, the Gaylord Center for Concussion Care and more.

Referrals and Appointments

Appointment requests are available by calling 203-741-3413. For more information on services and locations, visit us at www.gaylord.org.

Location

Center For Brain Health
50 Gaylord Farm Road
Wallingford, CT  06492
203-741-3413 Appointments
203-284-2721 Fax
www.gaylord.org

Use the Main Entrance indicating Outpatient Services at Jackson Pavilion.
Referrals for Neurobehavioral Evaluation

Patients are typically referred following changes in behavior and level of functioning. A primary care provider, neurologist, or case manager may need additional diagnostic testing and recommendations by the Gaylord team to initiate new treatments to affect improvement. In order to provide patients with the necessary tools to help regain, relearn and compensate for changes, our recommendations may include changes in medications or cognitive therapy. A referral from a medical professional is needed. Patients cannot self-refer for this comprehensive evaluation.

How will this evaluation benefit me?

The evaluation may help you to better understand why you are experiencing changes in your behavior, cognition and/or emotional states. These answers will allow you and your loved ones to cope with changes and make plans to increase your quality of life. Recommendations to your referring provider will include comprehensive treatment plans to assure that all aspects of your health contributing to the underlying problem are being addressed.

How will I know if my medical insurance will cover such comprehensive testing?

When you contact Gaylord’s Center for Brain Health to schedule your evaluation, insurance information will be obtained and staff will verify benefit coverage. If any portion of services will not be covered, payment options will be discussed.

Who Can Benefit?

▶ Those with Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson’s or Epilepsy and experiencing behavioral changes.
▶ Patients who have suffered a brain injury or stroke and since developed obsessive compulsive behaviors, aggressive habits, or a severe lack of motivation or apathy.
▶ An individual who has memory problems and can no longer function at the same level at work, home, or in social settings.
▶ Patients whose behavioral and cognitive symptoms have not responded to traditional medication therapy.

Who else may become involved in my treatment plan?

The team may refer to these Gaylord professionals to provide additional services:

- Neurologists, psychiatrists, physiatrists (rehabilitation physicians), and other specialists
- Psychologists / Counselors
- Registered Dietitians and Nutritionists
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Clinical Social workers
- Care Managers

The Gaylord Advantage

Patients with diseases of the brain, or a complex medical condition, often experience cognitive, behavioral, or emotional changes. As a result, a decline in function is often noted. Gaylord’s Comprehensive Neurobehavioral Evaluation is an assessment of your thinking, mood, and patterns of behavior. These may be interfering with your overall well-being, or negatively impacting your quality of life. This assessment combines a brief physical assessment with two detailed evaluations; one of your cognition, or thinking, by a clinical Neuropsychologist, and a second with a neurologic/psychiatric assessment by a clinical Neuropsychiatrist.

With the results of these assessments, we can identify treatable causes for your symptoms and create an individualized treatment plan. This could include a wide range of therapy, such as physical, occupational, and cognitive, plus plans for diet, exercise, and medical management.

Imaging studies of the brain are key for diagnostics at the Gaylord Center for Brain Health.

Gaylord hosts many support groups for those recovering from illness or injury. Visit www.gaylord.org to find a complete listing.

About the Treating Clinicians

A clinical Neuropsychologist is a psychologist with additional training in how behavior and skills are related to brain structures, systems and functioning. Brain function is evaluated by objectively testing memory and thinking skills, and the resulting pattern of strengths and weaknesses is used for diagnosis and treatment planning.

Gaylord’s clinical Neuropsychiatrist is a medical doctor with advanced training in psychiatric and behavioral symptoms. As the only clinician of this type in the region, he successfully treats using a diagnostic approach using the results of detailed neurologic and psychiatric examinations. Imaging of the brain, blood tests, and consultations with other physicians are also common tools. Neuropsychiatrists create comprehensive treatment plans and often are called upon to diagnose and treat difficult and often rare disorders.