

Vanessa Tan Psychology

Educational and Developmental Psychologist

Autism Assessment Structure (Adult)

This comprehensive **Autism** assessment is for adults (18+ years) who are experiencing impacts on their functioning and well-being that might be due to an Autistic brain difference – in the context of day-to-day neurotypical (typically-developing) expectations. All assessment sessions are conducted via Zoom.

What to Expect

Questionnaires: 3 weeks before your assessment, Vanessa will get in touch and email you questionnaires to be completed by you, a trusted person who knows you well as an adult (e.g., partner, parent, sibling, close friend)*, and a trusted person who knew you well as a child*. Please return these questionnaires by your intake appointment to avoid delays in completing your assessment.

***Whilst it is best practice to obtain collateral information, this is not a requirement, especially if you do not feel comfortable. Client privacy is our priority.**

Intake session: In this first appointment, Vanessa would like to get to know you by gathering background information about you (e.g., current concerns, family, clinical history, work/study) and finding out about your interests. If you have anything relating to your interests that you're happy sharing (e.g., collections, artwork, things you made), get them ready because Vanessa would love to see them!

Diagnostic interview: Vanessa uses an adaptation of the MIGDAS-2 interview protocol. The interview is designed to feel more like a conversation about your experiences and perspectives. Vanessa will explore how you self-soothe, respond to changes, your thinking patterns, the way you communicate and interact with others, your social relationships, and your emotions.

Feedback session: The feedback session takes place within 1-2 weeks of the final interview session (so you're not left in anticipation for too long!) You'll be provided with the outcome of your assessment, information about your cognitive-behavioural profile to assist your self-understanding, along with recommendations.

Kindly provide Vanessa with any of your previous assessment reports and primary school reports (with teachers' comments), if available.

Fee Structure

Intake session (60 minutes)	\$350
Diagnostic interview (120 minutes)	\$700
Feedback session (75 minutes)	\$500
Total	\$1550
*Depending on your presentation, an additional assessment session may be required. However, to ensure assessments remain accessible whilst being thorough, the total cost of any additional assessment time will not exceed \$260.	

The above fees include the cost of psychometric measures and time required for scoring, thorough formulation, and writing your summary report.

Report options

- 1) **Summary report:** This brief report summarises the reason for referral, assessment tools used, outcomes, your presentation, and recommendations. This summary report is to facilitate self-understanding and is not a clinical report. The cost of the summary report is already included in the above assessment fees.
- 2) **Comprehensive clinical report:** You may request a comprehensive clinical report instead of a summary report for an additional fee. This report details your background information, assessment findings, psychometric scores, examples of how you met each diagnostic criterion (if relevant), and recommendations. The fee for this comprehensive report is **\$950**.
- 3) **Report for NDIS Application:** This report is written specifically addressing NDIS criteria to support your application for funding and includes a functional assessment questionnaire. The fee for this report is **\$500**.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I don't have access to my school reports or don't feel comfortable involving someone who knows me in my assessment?

Whilst obtaining information from collateral sources is best practice, not having access to these does not preclude you from receiving a valid assessment. Your right to privacy is a priority. Your assessment will be tailored with your unique circumstances in mind.

Can I claim Medicare rebates for assessment sessions?

If you are under 25 years old: You may be able to access the Medicare rebate for your Autism assessment if you have a referral from a paediatrician or psychiatrist. Unfortunately, you will not be able to obtain this referral from a GP.

If you are over 25 years old: Unfortunately, Medicare does not allow claiming of rebates for your assessment. If you have private health insurance, please check whether diagnostic assessment can be covered with your provider.

Can Vanessa prescribe medication?

Psychologists cannot prescribe medication. If you would like to explore your suitability for medication, please make an appointment with a psychiatrist experienced in supporting neurodivergent adults.

If you have any questions, you're most welcome to contact Reception at admin@vtpsychology.com.

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