

Autism Assessment Fee 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 telehealth.

Vanessa adopts the neurodiversity-affirming perspective of Autistic and ADHD brains as normal variations in the way human brains develop, rather than a deficit/disorder/pathology, and that many of the problems experienced by Autistic and ADHD people are due to the *incompatibility* between their neurology and the demands of neurotypical society.

What to Expect

The **intake session** is to gather background information about you (e.g., current concerns, clinical history, daily living skills, experiences around work/study etc).

Questionnaires will then be provided to **you**, a **chosen informant** (someone who knows you well as an adult, e.g., partner, parent, sibling, close friend), and a **parent/relative** (if it's safe, to gather childhood information) to complete. **Please set aside time that week to complete these. From feedback, most clients take 1-2h.**

The **diagnostic interview** involves the MIGDAS-2 interview (though clients have described it more as a conversation). Vanessa will explore your internal experiences, ranging from your interests, communication style, social differences, to your sensory needs and profile.

Your **chosen informant** is encouraged to be present to provide information at the same time. You are most welcome to complete the interview alone if you prefer, in which case, Vanessa will organise a phone interview with your **informant**.

The **feedback session** will be scheduled for approximately 2 weeks (depending on availability) after the final interview session to provide time for you and your **informant(s)** to return all the forms, and for Vanessa to collate the results. You will be provided with the outcome of your assessment, information about your unique cognitive-behavioural profile to assist your self-understanding, recommendations, and a summary report.

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

Fee Structure

Intake session (60 minutes)	\$350
Diagnostic interview (120 minutes)	\$700
Phone interview with Informant <i>*if your informant is not present during the diagnostic interview (30 mins)</i>	\$125
Feedback session (60 mins)	\$300
Total	\$1350–1475

Depending on each client's presentation, particularly if other potential diagnoses are being queried, additional sessions may be required. These are charged pro-rata at \$250 per 60 minutes. Generally, additional sessions do not exceed 60 minutes.

The above fees include psychometric measures, time involved for scoring and formulation, and a brief report that summarises your reason for referral, the assessment process, whether you meet the diagnostic criteria, and a tailored explanation of your neurotype (if applicable). This summary report is to facilitate self-understanding and is not a clinical report.

If you would like a more detailed report, please discuss this with Vanessa and she will provide a quote based on your needs. Reports are charged at \$250 per hour it takes to write. Depending on the purpose of the report you are requesting, this can range from 2 to 4 hours.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I don't have access to my school reports or a trusted informant?

Whilst information from trusted informants and school reports would be valuable to the assessment, not having access to these does not preclude you from receiving a valid assessment. Vanessa's assessment can be tailored with your unique circumstances in mind.

Can I claim Medicare rebates for assessment sessions?

Assessments cannot be claimed under Medicare. If you have private health insurance, please check whether diagnostic assessment can be covered by your provider.

Are Vanessa's assessments valid for funding applications through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and Centrelink?

Yes. If you would like to apply for NDIS or Centrelink funding, please inform Vanessa and she will provide you with a quote for the appropriate report to support your application. Reports for NDIS funding applications start at \$450.

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 would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact Reception at admin@vtpsychology.com.