

# Deafness-Related Evaluations and More (DREAM) Clinic at Kennedy Krieger Institute

## Who We Are

At the Deafness-Related Evaluations and More (DREAM) Clinic, we offer a continuum of neuropsychological services to children and adolescents who are d/Deaf\* or hard of hearing, and who are facing challenges in their social, behavioral and academic development. Services include brief consultations, diagnostic interviews and follow-up, targeted evaluations. We collaborate with their physicians, families, schools and other agencies to deliver effective care.

The DREAM Clinic is based in the Department of Neuropsychology at Kennedy Krieger Institute, and is one of the largest programs of its kind in the country. Its mission is to provide accessibility and the highest quality of clinical care in neuropsychological evaluation and intervention services for children—and their families—who may be d/Deaf or hard of hearing. We are committed to the potential in each child, and to ensuring that families are empowered to help their children access whatever they need to achieve their potential.

## Who We Serve

We offer outpatient neuropsychological assessments and consultation for infants, children, adolescents and young adults who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing. We also work with children raised in bilingual environments, such as American Sign Language (ASL) and English, who need evaluations—typically, these are children of d/Deaf adults.

We serve individuals with any type of hearing loss, including genetic hearing loss and hearing loss caused by medical conditions. We offer neuropsychological testing for children whose families are considering cochlear implant surgery. We also help families plan for postoperative intervention strategies, and



we provide follow-up evaluations to track progress after surgery. Whether your child uses hearing aids, a cochlear implant, a Baha, or an assistive and augmentative communication device, we can provide an evaluation that considers your child as a whole person and unique individual.

Communication is very important to us, and we value open and direct communication with our patients and their families, caregivers, treatment team and educators. Whether your child expresses him- or herself through ASL, speech or other methods, we will work with you to ensure the most direct and highest quality of neuropsychological evaluation.

We are all born with great potential.  
Shouldn't we all have the chance to achieve it?

## The Evaluation

A neuropsychological screening or assessment is recommended for children who are not meeting developmental milestones and/or who are struggling in school, demonstrating behavioral issues or exhibiting social problems. Our primary goal is to understand a child's strengths and areas of concern so we can better assist parents, physicians, educators, treatment providers and others who work with the child, whether at home, at school or in the community. After the evaluation, we review our findings with the child and his or her family, and discuss recommendations based on that child's strengths. Next, we formulate a plan to guide him or her to the most appropriate professionals and services. Every family receives a written report that describes the test results and recommendations tailored for their child.

## Our Team

Our team includes neuropsychologists and psychology associates who are fluent in ASL and English. Our team works collaboratively with other disciplines (such as medicine, neurology, otolaryngology, audiology, psychiatry, etc.) to answer specific referral questions.

We routinely work closely with the Audiology Clinic and the Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress Unity Clinic. We seek to increase the availability of and access to excellent clinical care for children and their families who may be d/Deaf or hard of hearing. Training opportunities are regularly offered at the predoctoral, doctoral and postdoctoral levels.

## Additional Services

- Consultations
- Follow-up appointments
- Recommendations for educational and individualized education program (IEP) issues
- Videophone calls for easy communication

*\*Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes that the word "deaf" can refer to both a condition and a culture. Kennedy Krieger spells the word as "d/Deaf" to be inclusive of both hearing status and cultural identity.*



## Contact Information

### Deafness-Related Evaluations and More (DREAM) Clinic at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call **443-923-9400**, or call toll-free at **888-554-2080**, or email us at: **DREAM@KennedyKrieger.org**

TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.

### KennedyKrieger.org/DREAM

### Physicians and Healthcare Professionals

To make a referral, call our Physician Referral Line at **443-923-9403**.

### Clinic Locations in Baltimore and Columbia

1750 E. Fairmount Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21231

9730 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 200  
Columbia, MD 21046

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of patients and their families and treats them with courtesy and dignity. Kennedy Krieger Institute provides care that preserves cultural, psychosocial, spiritual and personal values, beliefs and preferences. Care is free from discrimination based on age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, physical or mental disability, socioeconomic status, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression, including transgender. We encourage patients and families to become active partners in their care by asking questions, seeking resources and advocating for the services and support they need. © 2019 Kennedy Krieger Institute 01/2019



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