

ACCESSING PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION SERVICES FOR Y-K DELTA RESIDENTS

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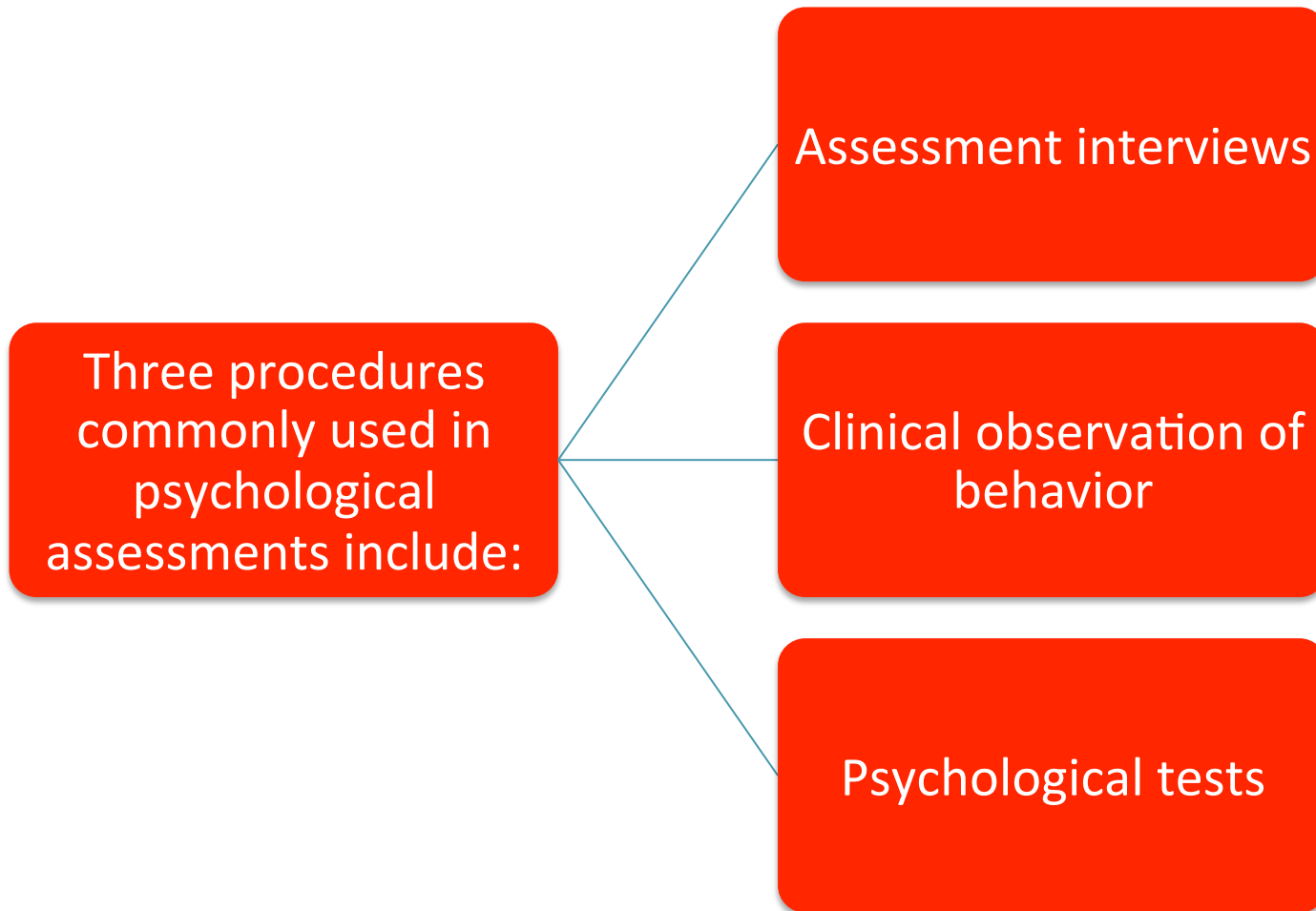
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Licensed Psychologists

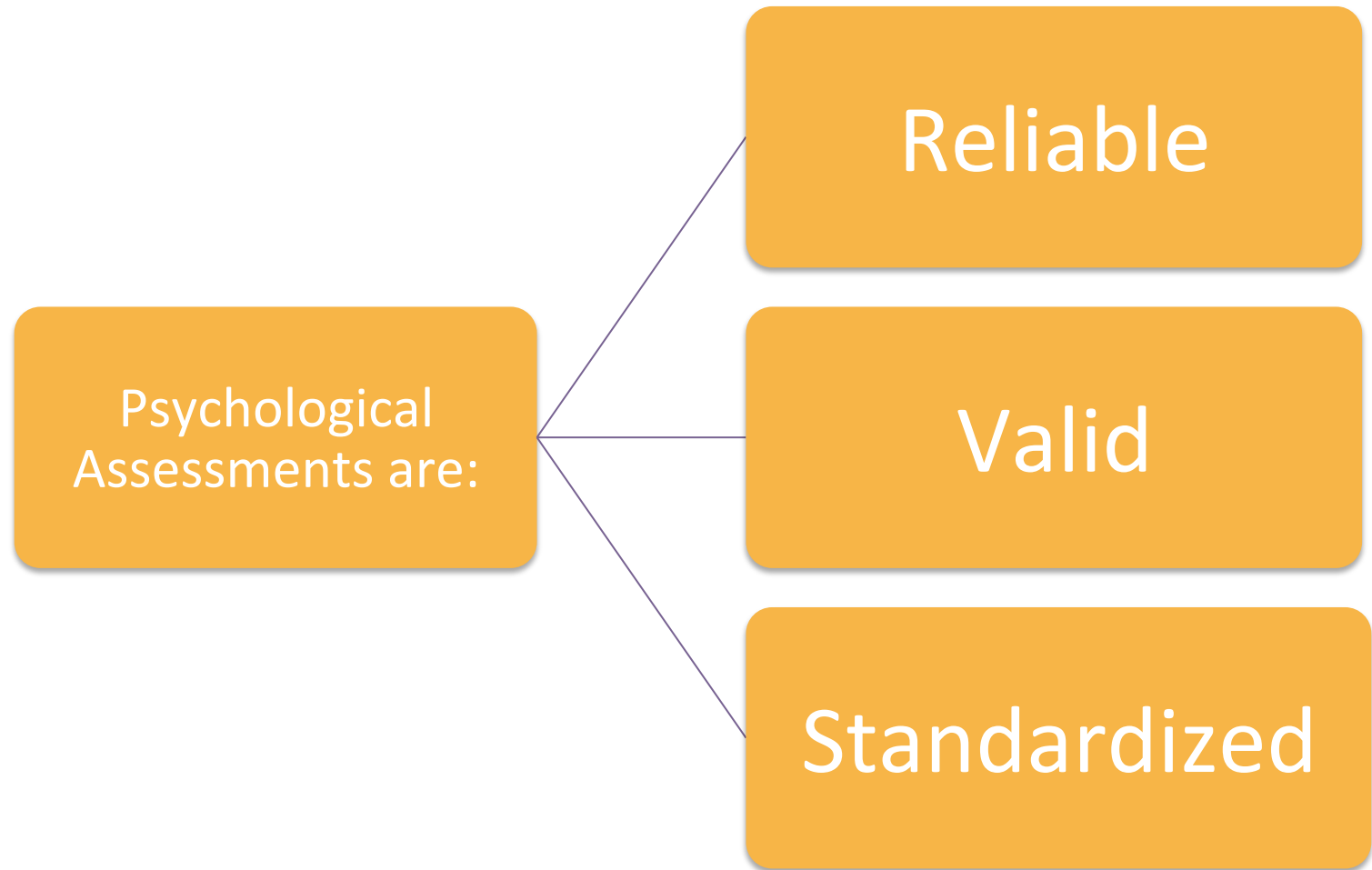
Psychological Evaluation

- Assessment - collecting relevant information in an effort to reach a conclusion
 - To understand the individual (idiographic)
 - To predict behavior
 - To plan for treatment
 - To evaluate treatment outcome
 - To evaluate service eligibility
- Clinical diagnosis – the process of determining whether the individual meets the criteria for a psychological disorder

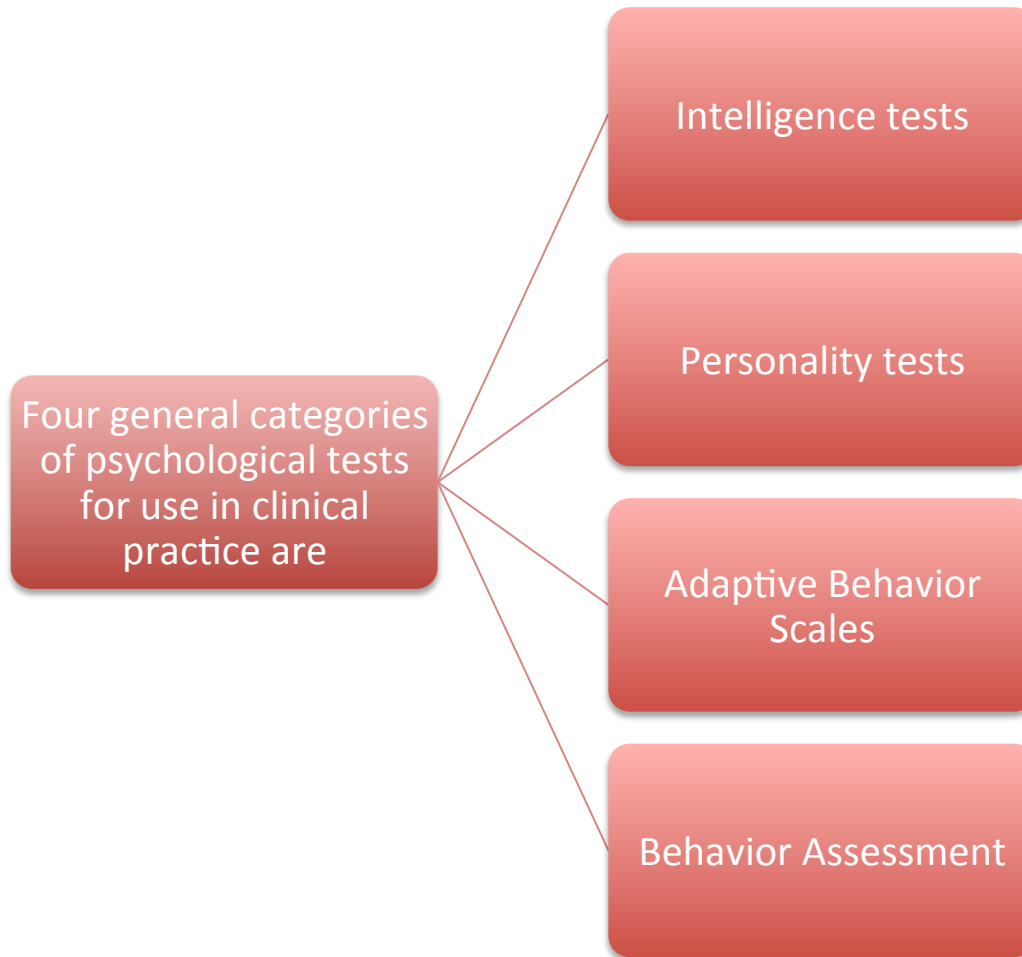
Procedures



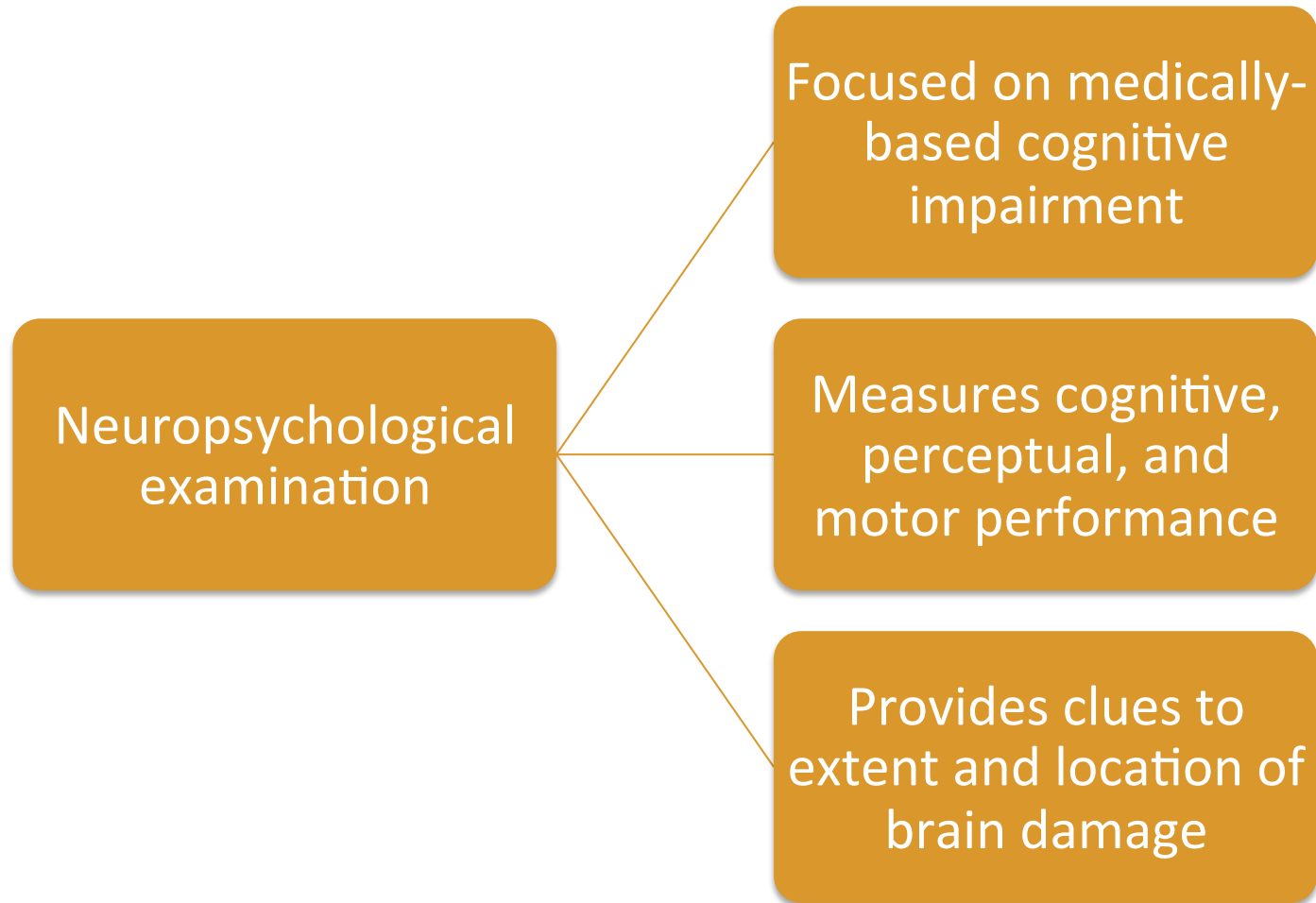
Benefit of Norm-referenced Tests



A Psychologist's Tool Chest



Psychological, or Neuropsychological?



The Referral Question

- Many Psychological Evaluations will use some neuropsychological assessment tools.
- Begin with a Psychological Evaluation.
- In the referral, clearly describe the question(s) you want answered.
- If the question is beyond the scope of our practices, we will recommend that you refer.

Diagnosis

- Assigning a person to one category rather than another.
- Though a Psychological Evaluation results in a diagnosis, generally, the purpose of a Physician-referred Psychological Evaluation will be to assist with clarification of a diagnosis.
- FASD diagnosis follows a specific process in our region

Diagnosis and Recommendations for Treatment Planning

- Diagnosis consists of two intertwined tasks: Classifying the behavior pattern within an accepted diagnostic system, and *determining the nature and source of a person's abnormal behavior* to assist with treatment.
- Diagnosis should be more than mere classification, more than the assignment of a label.

Common Reasons to Refer

- Suspected learning disability
- Suspected intellectual disability
- Concern for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder
- Complex behavioral or psychiatric problems
- Memory complaints (age-related or otherwise)
- Patient would benefit from self-knowledge
- There is a need to establish service eligibility
- Others?

Referral Process

- Discuss your recommendation with your patient
- Discuss their options for psychological evaluation
- Document referral for psychological testing in your note
- Medical case managers have been assisting with forwarding these referrals
- Your feedback: has this been working?

Practical Details

- Typically, testing not conducted on children under five
- Both psychologists bill independently
- Both psychologists take Medicaid and work with clinics to arrange Medicaid travel for village patients
- Also work with private insurance plans
- Both welcome consultation about appropriateness of referrals— give us a call!

Questions and Discussion

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