

Meet Dr. Santamaria



Dr. Tarin Santamaria is a Pediatric Psychologist in the Down Syndrome Center of Western Pennsylvania (DSC) at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Santamaria earned her Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Psychology from WVU, Master of Science (MS) in Child Psychology from Duquesne University, and Doctorate of Psychology (PsyD) from Duquesne University.

Dr. Santamaria is a State and Nationally Certified School Psychologist and Licensed Psychologist.

Our Contact



412-692-7963



DownSyndromeCenter@chp.edu



www.chp.edu/downsyndrome

DSC Behavioral Health Locations

- UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
4401 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA
Alligator Pod
- Children's South
205 Millers Run Rd, Bridgeville, PA
2nd Floor
- Children's Pine Center
11279 Perry Hwy, Wexford, PA
2nd Floor, Suite 202

DOWN SYNDROME CENTER OF WESTERN PA



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

When to Schedule with Dr. Santamaria?

These are just some common concerns that may lead to a referral for a psychological evaluation:

- challenging behaviors
- anxiety and depression
- issues at school
- toilet training
- social skills
- difficulty with transitions
- tantrums/aggression outbursts/ back-talking
- elopement
- ADHD evaluations
- Autism evaluations

What to Expect

The **first appointment** with Dr. Santamaria is a psychological evaluation. The goal of a psychological evaluation is obtaining background information and history, symptoms, needs, and concerns. A diagnosis may be made, and treatment recommendations will be made. The individual **must be present** for the appointment, and the appointment is up to 2 hours in duration.

The purpose of the psychological evaluation appointment is not for treatment or for behavioral strategies/interventions. This will be done in future outpatient therapy appointments.



Looking forward

Dr. Santamaria may recommend outpatient therapy with her through the DSC, or possibly higher levels of behavioral health care.

Outpatient therapy sessions with Dr. Santamaria are typically 45 minutes. Sessions can be with the individual and/or caregiver(s), depending on the needs and age of the individual.

The frequency of outpatient therapy sessions varies, and can be as often as weekly, but can also be bi-weekly, monthly, or as needed. Some visits may be virtual.

Outpatient therapy may include treatment planning and goals, rapport building, behavioral consultation with parents and other members of the individual's team (e.g. teachers, grandparents, service coordinators), and direct therapy with the individual.