

## **Brief Psychiatric Evaluation – Rapid Access**

### **Overview – What is a Brief Psychiatric Evaluation?**

A Brief Psychiatric Evaluation is a fast-access, specialist consultation designed to provide immediate insight into emotional or behavioral symptoms. It is particularly indicated when symptoms arise suddenly, escalate over a short period, or begin to interfere with relationships, work, or daily functioning.

This type of psychiatric assessment is not a generic screening, but a structured, expert-led process that helps distinguish between acute stress reactions, early signs of psychiatric conditions, or non-pathological emotional fluctuations. It is especially valuable in situations where patients experience anxiety, irritability, low mood, sleep disruption, or mental fatigue, and are uncertain whether clinical care is needed.

The consultation focuses on diagnostic clarification and clinical risk stratification, using validated tools and specialist judgment to guide the next steps. These may include short-term monitoring, psychoeducation, pharmacological treatment, or referral to psychotherapy. Consultations are typically available within 24 hours, either in person or via secure video call, allowing timely access to psychiatric care when clarity is essential.

### **What to Expect**

- A targeted clinical interview exploring emotional symptoms, recent stressors, psychiatric history, and functional impact
- Use of validated screening tools to assess symptom severity and clinical risk
- A diagnostic impression and clear recommendations shared at the end of the session

- Coordination with other professionals or family members, with consent, when appropriate
- A defined clinical plan, which may include short-term follow-up, therapeutic referral, or pharmacological support

### Session Format

- Sessions last 45 minutes
- Consultations can be held in person or via secure video call
- A summary of recommendations is provided at the end of the consultation

### Areas of Focus

- Sudden mood changes, anxiety, or emotional distress
- Difficulty coping with recent life events or acute stress
- Uncertainty about whether symptoms require professional care
- Concern about the need for medication or psychotherapy
- A desire for immediate psychiatric input and guidance

### Our Approach

This service was designed to meet the growing need for timely and high-quality mental health care. It provides rapid access to specialist psychiatric input without waiting times, while maintaining a structured and rigorous clinical standard.

We offer a compassionate, evidence-based approach that focuses on helping you understand your current symptoms, reduce uncertainty, and make informed decisions about your mental health. Whether the issue is temporary or the start of something more complex, early intervention can make a significant difference.



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