



**THE MORRIS CENTER**  
Unlocking Learning Potential  
*Diagnosis, Prevention, Treatment,  
Professional Development & Research*  
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# Attention & Behavior Interventions:

## The Medical Component

It is not uncommon to find attention difficulties creating additional problems for individuals with L/LD. These issues are most often evidenced by low stamina for routine tasks with inattention and fading earlier than most, especially when doing work that requires language processing. The team physician is a child/adolescent psychiatrist who evaluates and monitors all aspects of treatment and is key to the treatment of any attention problems like ADHD.

To address these attention difficulties, the medical team carefully assesses the patient before treatment begins. Some individuals may have already been diagnosed and on medication. Individuals' attention is monitored and rated at the conclusion of each therapy hour. These hourly ratings are then shared with the doctor. Non-pharmacological measures (such as game breaks, physical activity, et cetera), designed to maximize attention and arousal, are integral to each therapy session. Should those measures be insufficient in allowing the patient to maintain the attention needed for learning, medication may be recommended.

All individuals have the goal of developing good working behavior. This goal is reinforced every hour for appropriate behavior in the areas of listening, respectfulness, positive attitude, and doing what has been asked. Families are taught behavior management techniques as they learn and understand how their child's brain processes information. Should the individual experience emotional or behavioral difficulties requiring more individual counseling, we may recommend that your child see our consulting psychologist. The treatment team meets on a regular basis to discuss comprehensive needs of each individual and modify the treatment plan as needed to best address all of an individual's difficulties.

If you or your child already has a regular pediatrician and/or psychologist, then coordination and communication with your MD and psychologist is an essential component of our treatment.

