

Is Memory Loss Permanent?

There are many types of memory loss. Some are longstanding and some can be reversed. Determining which type of memory loss/cognitive impairment a person is experiencing can be done with the help of an appropriately trained licensed clinical psychologist. How does one know which type of memory loss can be reversed? Medical doctors will run tests to rule out vitamin deficiencies, metabolic imbalances and other causes of temporary memory loss.

Doctors of psychology are trained to interview, administer, score and interpret psychological and neuropsychological tests. Once the testing is completed the person meets with the licensed clinical psychologist for the results of the assessment. A report is written with the client receiving a copy.

The Certificate in Clinical Neuropsychology allows the Doctor of Psychology to evaluate and treat cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer's Disease, Vascular Dementia, Lewy Bodies Dementia, strokes and other disorders related to brain deterioration. The cognitive impairments resulting from these disorders are not reversible.

If you or someone you know is experiencing memory loss, confusion, a change in personality, decline in personal hygiene, financial mistakes or other symptoms that are not consistent with their overall personality, a Licensed Clinical Psychologist with a Certificate in Clinical Neuropsychology is the qualified professional to work with your healthcare team to confirm the diagnosis. Once the diagnosis is confirmed, treatment suggestions surrounding lifestyle changes are given.

Dr. Matthews is a member of Mature Resource Network, a group of dedicated professionals committed to serving the needs of the mature population in the greater Decatur area.