



# Prairie View

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Prairie View Offers Driving Capacity Evaluation**

Newton, Kan. – As loved ones age, driving safety often becomes a concern.

Prairie View offers a Driving Capacity Evaluation that can be helpful in identifying the potential of a serious driving problem.

The Driving Capacity Evaluation is a brief outpatient screening assessment which usually takes 30 to 60 minutes to complete. The evaluation measures normal central vision, attention and visual processing speed. It helps determine the ability to perceive information in a timely manner and assesses the risk of having a motor vehicle accident due to impairment in these areas

“This test does not assess the person’s reaction time,” said Mary Carman, Ph.D., Vice President of Older Adult Services. “It assesses attention, brain processing speed and divided attention.”

The Useful Field of View Test is a computer-based assessment that evaluates brain processing speed, attention and divided attention.

“You do not have to be familiar with using a computer in order to take the test. It is not a timed session and people can take all the time they need to respond,” said Carman.

The test is normed for different ages because an 80-year-old driver functions differently than an 18-year-old driver. Scores range from 1 to 5, with a 1 indicating a low likelihood of a motor vehicle accident and a 5 indicating the person is at a very high risk for a motor vehicle accident.

“Taking the test will provide objective data about whether or not a person is a risk on the road,” said Carman.

Results and recommendations are shared immediately following the test and a formal written report is also provided. Insurance does not cover the cost of the Driving Capacity Evaluation and a flat fee of \$125 will be charged.

The evaluation is offered in Prairie View’s Newton, Wichita, McPherson and Hutchinson offices. It will soon be offered in the Prairie View office in Hillsboro.

To schedule an appointment to take the test, or for more information, call 316-284-6400 or 1-800-362-0180.

Prairie View is a faith-based, private behavioral and mental health services provider, offering a complete range of behavioral and psychiatric services for children, adolescents, adults and older adults, as well as consultation services to businesses and organizations. In addition to the main campus, including outpatient offices and a psychiatric hospital in Newton, Prairie View has outpatient locations in Hillsboro, Hutchinson, McPherson and Wichita.