• A clinical assessment will take approximately two hours and includes a health check, a full alcohol history and a biopsychosocial assessment of the person.
• Clinical assessments are conducted by qualified AOD clinicians.
• A person does not have to undertake an assessment or the recommended therapeutic support.
• A person that does not undertake the recommended therapeutic support cannot reduce their ban.
• A person may access an assessment at any time even if they are not on the BDR.

**What is involved in a clinical assessment?**
A clinical assessment involves undertaking a biopsychosocial assessment, including alcohol use history and health check of the person. Assessment can include blood tests, cognitive tests, consideration of underlying chronic health conditions and seeking information on the home and support system of a person.

The assessment takes around two hours to complete.

**When is a clinical assessment required?**
A person who goes onto the BDR will be able to access an assessment through the BDR Registrar’s office, if they would like to consider undertaking a therapeutic support and/or having their ban time reduced.

A person can choose to undertake an assessment at any time even if they are not on the BDR or have already completed a ban.

**What if a person refuses to undertake an assessment?**
A person will not be forced to undertake an assessment. In the case of authorised person referrals, not attending the assessment will not prevent a person from being put on the BDR if the BDR Registrar determines on the evidence that they meet the criteria for a Banned Drinker Order.

**What is a therapeutic support?**
Therapeutic supports can include a range of therapies from counselling, other psychosocial interventions to residential rehabilitation.

The clinical assessment will determine what therapeutic support is best suited to each person’s situation and recommend a suitable program.

**What happens if a person does not finish their therapeutic support program as recommended?**
They will not be eligible to reduce their ban.

A person who does not finish their program and wants to reduce their ban length will need to seek advice from the BDR Registrar.

**Can a person source their own assessment and therapeutic support to reduce their ban?**
A person can organise their own assessment and therapeutic support. If they wish to have their ban time reduced, they will need to provide evidence of participation in and completion of assessment and the recommended therapeutic support.

**What happens when a person completes their recommended therapeutic support?**
As the service provider, you will be requested to fill in a form confirming that the person has participated in and completed the recommended therapeutic support. This form will be lodged with the BDR Registrar who will then make the variation if satisfied that the therapeutic support has been completed as required.

**If a person leaves their therapeutic support without completing, can they come back later and complete the therapeutic support and have their ban reduced?**
A person can leave and return to the program, subject to place availability, however a ban will not be reduced if the program is not completed.

A person who does not finish their program and wants to reduce their ban length will need to seek advice from the BDR Registrar.
**Can a person be detained while undergoing a therapeutic support?**
No.

**How does a person access an assessment or therapeutic supports?**
More information on seeking an assessment or therapeutic support is available online at [www.banneddrinkerregister.nt.gov.au](http://www.banneddrinkerregister.nt.gov.au) and needs to be emailed to BannedDrinkerRegister.doh@nt.gov.au.