

#3 Eligibility: *What is the definition of diagnosed mental or physical conditions?*

Response:

The Ohio Help Me Grow rule 3701-8-07; appendix 07-A lists the identified “*diagnosed mental or physical conditions*” that have a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay. These diagnosed conditions make the child eligible for a multidisciplinary family and child assessment to determine the family and child’s need for early intervention services. The service coordinator will need to request and obtain confirmation of the diagnosed condition, and the documentation must be signed by a professional licensed to diagnose and treat mental or physical conditions.

The service coordinator must make sure that they obtain the required documentation within the 45 day time frame. If the documentation is not obtained then the team can complete a developmental evaluation with parent permission.

The following is a brief definition of these diagnosed mental or physical conditions that are listed in Appendix 07-A:

Newborn Conditions: Conditions that are diagnosed at birth or shortly after birth. This eligibility category is **two parts**, in that the newborn or infant must have weighed less than 1,500 grams at birth **AND** had one of the following complications following birth:

Condition
Very Low Birth Weight in addition to:
Intraventricular hemorrhage (Grande III or IV)
Chronic lung disease (bronchopulmonary dysplasia, BPD)
Severe retinopathy of prematurity

Chromosomal Abnormalities: These conditions are almost always diagnosed at birth and are associated with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay and/or disability (e.g., Down Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome):

Cri-du-Chat Syndrome
Down Syndrome
Fragile X Syndrome
Klinefelter’s Syndrome
Prader Willi Syndrome
Triple X Syndrome
Trisomy 18 Syndrome (Edward’s)
Trisomy 13 (Patau’s)
Turners Syndrome
Williams Syndrome

Inborn Errors of Metabolism: These conditions affect the child’s ability to metabolize important nutrients in order to promote optimal brain development:

Galactosemia
Glycogen Storage Disease
Hurler Disease
Methylmalonic academia
PKU
Infants of untreated mother with PKU
Tay Sachs

Neurological Conditions: These conditions refer to any disorder known to affect the central nervous system and directly affect the child’s development; some of these conditions are diagnosed at birth while others are diagnosed later during toddlerhood.

Blindness, including visual impairments
Blind, not otherwise specified
Low vision, not further specified
Cerebral Palsy
Deafness, including hearing impairments
Epilepsy/Seizure disorder
Hydrocephalus
Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE), severe
Intraventricular hemorrhage, Grade IV
Microcephaly
Muscular Dystrophy
Spina bifida
Spinal muscular atrophy
Traumatic brain injury

Other: The other category lists diagnoses that do not fit in the above four categories but have been determined to have a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay. Some of these conditions on the list are diagnosed mental conditions (e.g. Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome and Attachment Disorder). Some of these conditions fall into medical disorders such as “Autism Spectrum Disorder”, “AIDS”, “Cranio-facial anomalies”, “cyanotic congenital heart disease”, and “Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.”

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
Autism Spectrum Disorder
Cranio-facial anomalies
Cyanotic congenital heart disease
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
Infection, fetal/neonatal (Herpes, syphilis,

cytomegalovirus, toxoplasmosis, and rubella)
Pierre Robin
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Attachment Disorder

Considerations for Planning and Program Implementation:

- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to coordinate the eligibility process for all infants and toddlers referred to HMG EI.
- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to inform families what the eligibility process will look like for their child.
- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to obtain informed consent from the parent and inform the parent that eligibility and child assessment is a required component of HMG.
- The next step for this child and family is for the service coordinator to coordinate the multidisciplinary child assessment to determine the child's need for one or more early intervention services. The team would also offer the family directed assessment to determine the family's resources, priorities and needs related to promoting their child's development.
- If the service coordinator cannot obtain the required documentation within 45 day time frame then the child's eligibility will need to be determined using the appropriate process as outlined in 3701-8-07 (B)(4)(b)
- The service coordinator must pay special attention that all components of this rule are met, specifically, the service coordinator will need to obtain a document signed by the qualifying health provider that names the diagnosis.
- Children eligible due to a diagnosed physical or mental condition on the approved list will need to have their need for EI services re-determined annually and prior to the annual IFSP meeting.

Authorizing Rule: 3701-8-07, Appendix 7.0-A