

6.10 Disability

6.103 Psychiatric Disability Determination Criteria for Dependents

Description of Services: Disability is defined as the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically or psychologically determinable physical or mental impairment(s), lasting or expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 6 months.

A mental impairment must be established by objective medical/psychological evidence consisting of demonstrable and measurable signs, symptoms, laboratory and psychological test findings. Subjective reporting alone is not adequate as a source of measurement. Sources of medical/psychological evidence generally include examination by licensed physicians, by licensed or certified psychologists, or by other health care practitioners. In addition, information from other sources may also help show the extent to which a person's impairment(s) affect his or her ability to function or to perform activities of daily living. Other sources include public and private social welfare agencies and non-medical sources such as teachers, day care providers, social workers and employers. Licensure and credentialing requirements specific to facilities and individual practitioners do apply and are found in our provider manual/credentialing information.

Important: While level of care determinations are considered in the context of an individual's treatment history; Beacon Health Options never requires the attempt of a less intensive treatment as a criterion to authorize any service.

Criteria

<p>Admission Criteria for Psychiatric Disability Status</p>	<p><i>All of the following criteria are necessary for determination:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Must be eligible for consideration as a dependent under the policyholder's benefit plan. 2. Symptomatology is consistent with a DSM (the most current version of the DSM diagnosis, resulting in a documented mental impairment. 3. The impairment must have lasted or is expected to last at least six months. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The impairment must be severe enough to cause the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity despite medical and therapeutic intervention. This is demonstrated by consistent disruptions in role functioning (e.g. school, work, parenting or household responsibility, self-care, basic living skills) where contribution is marginal, ineffective or consistently below usual expectations for cognitive/developmental level. <li style="text-align: center;">OR b) The impairment must cause serious to severe functional limitations. "Serious to Severe functional limitations" are demonstrated by at least moderate functional deficits, requiring constant supervision, support and special programming in most areas: academics; peer relations; authority relations; free time/leisure; hygiene; self-help; intellectual; vocational.
<p>Continued Stay</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The individual continues to meet admission criteria as described above.

Reviewed: 12/08/05, 12/14/06, 12/13/07, 11/18/09, 11/21/11, 11/19/12, 11/18/13, 11/17/14, 2/5/15, 11/17/15

Page 1 of 2

Revised: 11/18/09, 11/30/10, 11/21/11, 11/19/12, 11/17/14, 2/5/15

This criterion is consistent with NCD and/or LCD.

<p>Criteria for Disability Status</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The individual is participating in a regular treatment protocol as recommended by the attending physician/primary clinician/treatment team 3. When medically necessary, appropriate psychopharmacological intervention has been evaluated and prescribed when indicated. Regular psychopharmacological reviews are performed. 4. Treatment includes an ongoing assessment of individual's ability to function utilizing measurable, documented indicators.
<p>Exclusion Criteria</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substance abuse, alone, which results in impaired functioning and is uncomplicated by serious co-morbid psychiatric condition(s) is excluded. 2. Non-participation in treatment which might reasonably be expected to improve or stabilize the dysfunction. 3. The condition is considered to be a medical disability.

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Page 2 of 2

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