

Quarterly Client Characteristics Report

Glossary of Terms

Age Groups

Individuals by age group.

Autism

Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder with multiple etiologies defined as a syndrome causing gross and sustained impairment in social interaction and communication with restricted and stereotyped patterns of behavior, interests, and activities that appear prior to the age of three. Specific symptoms may include impaired awareness of others, lack of social or emotional reciprocity, failure to develop peer relationships appropriate to developmental level, delay or absence of spoken language and abnormal nonverbal communication, stereotyped and repetitive language, idiosyncratic language, impaired imaginative play, insistence on sameness (e.g., nonfunctional routines or rituals), and stereotyped and repetitive motor mannerisms. Because the CDER has not been updated since March 1986, "autism" for purposes of the Quarterly Client Characteristics Report includes both Autism - full syndrome and Autism - residual state.

(Take) Behavior Modifying Drugs

Behavioral Medication

Behavior modifying drugs are prescribed for maladaptive behavior, which includes hyperactivity, self-injurious behavior, aggression, and poor impulse control as well as behaviors or symptoms associated with psychiatric diagnoses (i.e., behaviors associated with thought disorders, hallucinations, depression, mania, severe mood swings, or anxiety).

Cerebral Palsy

Cerebral Palsy includes two types of motor dysfunction: (1) nonprogressive lesion or disorder in the brain occurring during intrauterine life or the perinatal period and characterized by paralysis, spasticity, or abnormal control of movement or posture, such as poor coordination or lack of balance, which is manifest prior to two or three years of age, and (2) other significant motor dysfunction appearing prior to age 18.

Community Clients

Individuals residing in a residential setting other than a state developmental center.

Destroy Property

Property destruction includes acts of aggression and/or destruction perpetrated by the individual on an inanimate object. This does not refer to an isolated incident, but to a customary pattern.

Developmental Center Clients

Individuals residing in a state developmental center.

Dual Diagnoses

Dual Diagnoses include individuals having both a developmental disability and a mental disorder. Developmental Disability is a disability attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or other conditions similar to mental retardation that require treatment similar to that required for individuals with mental retardation. Mental Disorder, as defined in the DSM-IV, is a clinically significant behavioral or psychological pattern or syndrome, which may be either functional or organic in cause. This item does not include persons with Substance-Related Disorders, such as Alcohol Dependence, as these conditions are documented under the Chronic Major Medical Condition section.

English Spoken

Individuals whose primary language is English.

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Epilepsy

Epilepsy is defined as recurrent, unprovoked seizures. Data is collected on the type, frequency, severity, and (when known), the causes of an individual's seizure disorder. A modification of the "International Classification of Epileptic Seizures" is employed for describing seizures.

Ethnicity

Ethnicity is the primary ethnic identification of each individual. Asian consists of Other Asian, Cambodian, Chinese, Asian Indian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Hmong, Thai, and Vietnamese. Polynesian includes Guamanian, Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander Group, and Samoan. Individuals with multiple or unknown ethnicities are recorded as Other.

(Must Be) Fed

Individuals who cannot feed themselves or need assistance.

Gender

Individuals who are male or female.

Hearing Problems

Hearing Problems include individuals who have severe or worse hearing loss without correction (e.g., use of hearing aid).

(Are) Incontinent

Individuals are considered incontinent if they do not have complete bladder control.

Level of Retardation

Mental Retardation is characterized by significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning (i.e., an IQ of approximately 70 or below) with concurrent deficits or impairments in adaptive functioning and onset before 18 years of age. Levels of retardation are reported as mild, moderate, severe, profound, or as not present or unknown.

Medical Problems

Medical Problems include the presence of chronic medical conditions that limit or impede the individual or impact the provision of service. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, diabetes mellitus, congenital heart disease, hepatitis, hypertension, and upper respiratory infections.

Other Developmental Disabilities

Other Developmental Disabilities are those handicapping conditions similar to mental retardation that require treatment (i.e., care and management) similar to that required by individuals with mental retardation. This does not include handicapping conditions that are solely psychiatric or physical in nature. These handicapping conditions must occur before age 18, result in a substantial handicap, be likely to continue indefinitely, and involve brain damage or dysfunction. Examples of conditions might include intracranial neoplasms, degenerative brain disease or brain damage associated with accidents.

Psychotropic Medication

The type of medication the individual is receiving that is specifically prescribed to control maladaptive behavior. An individual may have multiple drugs prescribed.

Recency of Evaluations

The recency of each individual's CDER.

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Residence Type

Residence Type is the residential setting of the individual. Home of Parent/Guardian – individuals residing in the home of the natural or adoptive parents or family member(s) or with a person appointed by the Superior Court to care for the individual. Community Care - community care facilities licensed to provide 24-hour non-medical residential care for children or adults, including foster homes and Family Home Agency homes. Independent Living – home rented or owned and under the control of an adult individual either receiving supported living services (supported living) or not receiving supported living services (independent living). ICF (Intermediate Care Facility) – residential facility providing inpatient care to ambulatory or non-ambulatory individuals who have recurring need for skilled nursing supervision and supportive care, but do not require continuous skilled nursing care. Developmental Center (DC) – 24-hour direct care and supervision for individuals whose care is supplemented with appropriate medical and dental care, health maintenance services and assistance with daily living and training. Includes Sonoma DC, Lanterman DC, Porterville DC, Fairview DC, Agnews DC, Sierra Vista Residential Facility, and Canyon Springs Residential Facility. SNF (Skilled Nursing Facility) - residential facility where medical care is provided on a 24-hour basis. Other – includes correctional institutions, psychiatric treatment centers, acute/general hospitals, rehab centers, etc.

Risk Factors

Risk Factors such as prematurity, accidents, environmental toxins, etc. that may have caused or been associated with the individual's developmental disabilities.

(Will) Run Away

Individuals who misuse independence by wandering or running away or who do not follow along on group excursions.

(Are) Self-Injurious

Individuals who engage in behavior that causes personal physical injury such as repeatedly picking at skin, slapping oneself on the ears, biting oneself on the arm, head-banging, using objects to inflict injury on oneself.

(Have) Severe Behavior Problem

Severe Behaviors

Severe Behaviors are defined by a composite of ratings from eight evaluation elements (i.e., aggression, frequency of self-injurious behavior, severity of self-injurious behavior, smearing of feces, destruction of property, running or wandering away, reaction to frustration, and temper tantrums) resulting in a score ranging from 0 through 75. A composite score greater than 29 indicates having severe behaviors.

(Have) Severe Hearing Loss

Severe Hearing Loss includes individuals who have severe or profound hearing problems without correction (e.g., use of hearing aid).

(Have) Severe Loss of Sight

Severe Loss of Sight includes individuals who have moderate to severe vision problems without glasses or contact lenses. This refers to the limitation of functional vision only.

Special Conditions or Behaviors

Special conditions or behaviors may affect the individual's placement in a suitable living arrangement or day program. These behaviors include inappropriate sexual behavior, assaultive behaviors, attempted suicide, habitual acts of theft, vandalism or property destruction, conviction of substance-abuse or alcohol-abuse related offenses, recent history of abusing drugs or alcohol, history of habitual lying, or behaviors that could result or have resulted in fire setting.

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(Need) Special Health Care Item

Special Health Care Requirements

Special Health Care Requirements include individuals requiring special treatments such as feeding or mobility aids, equipment, positioning on an on-going basis.

(Do Not Understand) Spoken Word

Individuals who cannot comprehend language (including those who cannot hear and are unable to read lips).

Staffing Classification

Level of care staffing allocations for Developmental Centers are based upon the individual's preferred program assignment. Preferred program is calculated from the individual's age, autism level, hearing loss uncorrected, vision loss uncorrected, control factor (the average of certain evaluation element scores such as aggression, self-injurious behavior, destruction of property, inappropriate undressing), motor count (the average of certain evaluation element scores such as rolling and sitting, hand use, arm use, ambulation), self-sufficiency (the average of certain evaluation elements such as eating, toileting, personal hygiene, bathing, dressing), and chronic major medical condition.

Status

High Risk Infant (Status 1) – a child, generally less than 36 months of age, whose genetic, medical, or environmental history is predictive of a substantially greater risk for developmental disability than that for the general population. Active Client (Status 2) – an individual determined to be developmentally disabled and eligible for regional center services and who is currently receiving services.

Developmental Center (Status 8) – an individual who is eligible for regional center services and resides in a state developmental center.

Technology Dependent

Technology Dependent is a subset of Special Health Care Requirements and includes individuals who for life support depend daily on a mechanism or device such as ostomy care, catheter, apnea monitor, tracheostomy, suctioning daily, inhalation therapy, oxygen, respirator, nasal gastric tube/gastrostomy, or parenteral equipment.

(Need Help) Toileting

Individuals who require assistance in toileting.

(Have) Unacceptable Social Behavior

Unacceptable social behaviors are those that interfere with positive social functioning, for example, taking items away from others, excessive screaming, teasing others, lying, etc.

(Are) Violent

Individuals who have violent episodes involving physical attacks directed at others.

Vision Problems

Vision Problems include individuals who have moderate or worse vision problems without glasses or contact lenses and refer to the limitation of functional vision only.

(Both) Vision and Hearing Problems

Individuals with both vision and hearing problems.

(Does Not) Walk Well

Individuals who cannot walk well without assistance.

Walks Without Support

Individuals who walk well without assistance.