

Final Diagnosis from Assessment and Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health and Developmental Disorders

Prepared by Washington Department of Social and Health Services - Research and Data Analysis Division (RDA)
in consultation with Washington Health Care Authority - Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

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Overview

One of the goals of the Mental Health Assessment for Young Children (MHAYC) policy is to support developmentally appropriate mental health diagnosis of young children, including through increased use of the DC:0–5™ (Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood). In order to assess whether MHAYC policies have impacted diagnostic practices, a measure was developed for the final diagnosis from a mental health assessment. The final diagnosis is the primary diagnosis from the final assessment session. For complete information on how to identify a final assessment, please refer to the documentation for multi-session assessments.

To categorize diagnoses, ICD-10 code sets representing Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Disorders (IEC MHD) and Developmental Disorders (IEC DD)¹ were also developed. Each set is divided into groups representing common clinical categorization of disorders. Development of the code sets and groups was informed by review of the [DC: 0-5: Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood](#), the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5), the Health Care Authority's (HCA) [2025 Apple Health DC:0-5 Crosswalk](#), and the mental health and developmental disability diagnosis measures currently in use by the Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis Division (RDA). Clinical guidance and consultation were also provided by Infant and Early Childhood program and clinical staff at HCA.

The full list of diagnosis codes is available in the spreadsheet: "[IEC MH and IEC DD Code Sets](#)."

Unit of Measurement

Prevalence; percentage of eligible population

Measurement Period

Typically a year but may be adapted to other time periods

Data Source

ProviderOne administrative claim and encounter data

Reporting Lag

Six months to account for data entry and maturity

Calculation

Percentage = Numerator / Denominator * 100

¹ MHAYC policy changes primarily impacted mental health providers, who may not have diagnosis of development disorders within their scope of practice. However, because the DC:0-5 and chapter F of the ICD-10 include both mental health and development disorders, both types of disorders were clinically and analytically relevant to the study at hand.

Eligible Population (Denominator)

Children ages 0 to 5 who were Apple Health enrolled for at least one month in the measurement period and received a mental health assessment.

Numerator

Children in the denominator who received a primary diagnosis on their final assessment session from the applicable diagnosis code set, group, or subgroup during the measurement period (see [“IEC MH and IEC DD Code Sets.”](#)).

No Mental Health Disorder Diagnosed

In addition to codes within the IEC MHD and DD code sets, the Final Diagnosis measure also includes a category of No Mental Health Disorder Diagnosed, defined as ICD-10 code Z03.89. Per Apple Health billing guidance, ICD-10 code Z03.89 should be included as the primary diagnosis on a final assessment session when the assessment indicates the client does not have a mental health disorder.

Comparing IEC MHD and DD Code Sets with ICD-10 Chapter F00–F99, Mental and Behavioral Disorders

The IEC MHD and IEC DD code sets primarily draw from ICD-10 Chapter F00–F99, Mental and behavioral disorders. However, because the IEC MHD and IEC DD codes sets are meant to be used to identify mental health and developmental disorders for children under the age of six, they include some additional non F-codes that represent mental health disorders specific to infancy and early childhood, and also excludes some F codes that are not considered mental health conditions or are not applicable to the age range.

Comparing IEC MHD and DD Code Sets with Mental Health and Developmental Disability Diagnosis Measures Currently in Use by the Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis Division (RDA)

The IEC MHD and IEC DD code sets also overlaps with, but are distinct from, the code sets used by HCA and RDA to measure mental health and developmental disability diagnosis in the broader population, including in measures such as mental health treatment need. Because the IEC MHD and IEC DD code sets are meant to be used to identify mental health and developmental disorders for children under the age of six, they includes some additional codes specific to infancy and early childhood, and also excludes some codes that are not applicable to the age range. In addition, some diagnoses are categorized differently in the IEC MHD and IEC DD definitions than in the measures used for the broader population.