

DHHS Children's' Behavioral Health Services
Services for Children with PDD Disorders
September 22, 2009

The MaineCare Benefits Manual, Section 24 is still in effect:

“Specific Eligibility Criteria

The Department of Health and Human Services must classify the individual as meeting the conditions of Section 50.05, Examples of covered ICF-MR Services, and as having a condition or disorder that satisfies the definition of either:

1. Mental retardation, as that phrase is defined at 34-B M.R.S.A. 5001, or
2. Autism, as that term is defined at 34-B M.R.S.A. 6002.”

Diagnosis:

The diagnosis is made by an independently licensed physician or clinician practicing within the scope of his/her state license.

There is not a specific time period required for diagnostic re-evaluations and is not required annually. The Department may request a diagnostic re-evaluation to assure that this is the right service.

Functional Assessment:

If the child has one of the Pervasive Developmental Disorders he/she must also have been assessed as having functional assessment/adaptive behavior score of at least 2 standard deviations below the mean on the composite score on the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales and/or the Adaptive Behavior Assessment Scale (ABAS). Other functional assessment tools must be approved by the Department.

There is not a specific time period for functional assessments. For children requesting authorization of service beyond one year, the Department may request a re-assessment to assure that the service is appropriate and in amount, scope and duration.

Other Services:

If a child is not eligible for Section 24 Day Habilitation Services he/she may be eligible for mental health or EPSDT optional services.