



Learning Disability Register Inclusion Tool

- This is a checklist for GPs to assist them in identifying a person with a learning disability.
- This is not a diagnostic tool so always apply sound clinical judgement.
- The aim of this tool is to identify people who would benefit from being on the GP practice’s Learning Disability register
- Inclusion on the register does not mean that the person will automatically be eligible for specialised learning disability services – that decision is based on needs.

Definition of a learning disability: A significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills (Significantly impaired intelligence)
AND A reduced ability to cope independently, (Impaired social / adaptive functioning)
AND Which started before adulthood (onset before aged 18) with a lasting effect on development

*Consider the following for reasons why a person cannot achieve these things at the time of the assessment: - sensory impairment (hearing or sight impairment), English is not their first language

Questions to consider	Yes ✓	No ✗
Did person attend any special schools or were they statemented in mainstream school? Do they have an educational health care plan		
Is there a diagnosis of a learning disability/mental handicap in any notes? IQ under 70 (please refer to read code list of definite and potential diagnosis of a learning disability)		
Is the person known to the Learning Disability Service?		
Is the person under the care of a consultant psychiatrist for learning disabilities?		
Has anyone ever told the person that they have a learning disability? Did the person achieve qualifications at school?(GCSE at low grades could indicate LD but high grade GCSE, A Levels or university education then LD is not likely		
How does the person function in society? Does the person need support with activities of daily living? Tell me what you do during the day. Does this indicate that they require support to undertake daily living activities?		
Does the person need help to read i.e. appointment letters or other official letters?		
Does the person have problems with simple numerical calculations? (i.e. “If I gave you £5 to buy milk. Milk costs £1.50 – how much change would you have left?)		
Does the person need assistance with transport? (unable to get around independently?)		

Does person have difficulty with:		
Communicating needs	Yes	No
Writing	Yes	No
Self-Care	Yes	No
Living independently	Yes	No
Interpreting social cues	Yes	No
Controlling their behaviour	Yes	No
Co-ordinating movement	Yes	No
Learning new skills	Yes	No
Understanding new or complex information	Yes	No
Do they have a sensory impairment?	Yes	No
Is English their first language?	Yes	No
Several 'yes' answers could indicate the presence of a Learning Disability*		

Factors which MAY indicate
No learning disability

Factors that MAY indicate a
learning disability

- Normal development until other factors impact (before 18).
- Diagnosis of ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia or Asperger's
- Successfully attended a mainstream education facility without support.
- Gained qualifications (GCSE and/or A 'Levels)
- Able to function socially without support
- Independently manage their financial commitments
- Able to drive a car.
- Contact with mental health services
- Recorded IQ above 70
- Communication difficulties due to English as a second language

- Record of delayed development/difficulties with social functioning & daily living before the age of 18.
- Requires significant assistance to undertake activities of daily living (eating & drinking, attending to personal hygiene, wears appropriate clothing) and/or with social/ community adaptation (e.g. Social problem solving/reasoning). NB need for assistance may be subtle.
- Presence of all three criteria for LD i.e. Impairment of intellectual functioning/social adaptive functioning and age of onset.
- Range of information presenting a picture of difficulties in a number of areas of function, not explainable by another 'label'
- Contact with specialist Learning Disability consultant.
- Attendance at specialist education facility for people with intellectual delay

If you believe that the patient should be included on the learning disability register the please use the code for "on learning disability register" as below:		
EMIS/version 2 – 918e	System 1/version 3 – XaKYb	SNOMED – 416075005