

Types of disability evidence

For each primary disability, these treating health professionals are the most appropriate to provide the standardised assessments that are considered "best practice" in evidence.

Primary disability - Acquired brain injury

Treating health professional

Any member of a multidisciplinary team:

- ABI health professionals

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Care and need scale (CANS) (17 years and over)
2. World Health Organisation disability assessment schedule (WHODAS) 2.0 (17 years and over) or PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)

Primary disability - Autism

Treating health professional

Any member of a multidisciplinary team:

- Psychologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Therapist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, fifth edition (DSM-V)
2. Vineland adaptive behavior scale (Vineland-II)
3. World Health Organisation disability assessment schedule (WHODAS) 2.0 (17 years and over) or
4. PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)

Primary disability - Cerebral palsy

Treating health professional

- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Pediatrician
- Physiotherapist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Gross motor functional classification scale (GMFCS)
 2. Other: Manual ability classification scale (MACS)
 3. Other: Communication function classification system (CFCS)
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Primary disability - Hearing impairment

Treating health professional

- Audiologist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Hearing impairment responses and groupings guide (17 years and over) or,
 2. PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)
 3. Other: Hearing acuity score
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Primary disability - Intellectual disability, Developmental delay, Global developmental delay, Down syndrome

Treating health professional

- Psychologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Therapist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, fifth edition (DSM-V)
 2. Vineland adaptive behavior scale (Vineland-II)
 3. World Health Organisation disability assessment schedule (WHODAS) 2.0 (17 years and over) or PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)
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Primary disability - Multiple Sclerosis

Treating health professional

- Neurologist
- Disease steps trained Nurse examiner

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Disease steps
 2. Patient determined disease steps (PDDS)
 3. Other: Expanded disability status scale (EDSS)
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Primary disability - Psychosocial disability

Treating health professional

- HoNOS trained clinical mental health staff
- Clinical psychiatric staff

- Mental Health Occupational Therapist Psychologist
- Psychiatrist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Health of the nation survey (HONOS)
 2. Life skills profile – 16 item (LSP-16)
 3. World Health Organisation disability assessment schedule (WHODAS) 2.0 (17 years and over) or,
 4. PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)
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Primary disability - Spinal cord injury

Treating health professional

Any member of a multidisciplinary team:

- Neurologist
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Recreational Therapist
- Psychologist
- Psychiatrist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Level of lesion, or
 2. American spinal injury association impairment scale (ASIA/AIS)
 3. World Health Organisation disability assessment schedule (WHODAS) 2.0 (17 years and over) or
 4. PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)
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Primary disability - Stroke

Treating health professional

Any member of a multidisciplinary team

- Neurologist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Modified Rankin Scale (mRS)
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Primary disability - Vision impairment

Treating health professional

- Ophthalmologist

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. Vision impairment questionnaire (17 years and over) or

2. PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)
3. Other: Visual acuity rating

Primary disability - Other

Treating health professional

- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Social Worker

Disability evidence (in preference order)

1. World Health Organization disability assessment schedule
2. (WHODAS) 2.0 (17 years and over)
3. PEDI-CAT (16 years and under)

For some disabilities, information about impact on functionality may not be required. These disabilities are listed in the [Operational Guidelines](#).

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