

## Program Service Extensions

The Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD) Program began providing Early Intensive Behavior Intervention (EIBI) services in January 2007. Although many children have since benefited from this program, some of the recipients were unable to have their Initial Assessments completed in a timely manner after the child's enrollment into the PDD Program. In an effort to address this situation, in January 2010, DDSN established the PDD Program Service Extension. This protocol is now being revised to also address concerns of recipients who are unable to have their Line Therapy begin in a timely manner after the child's Initial Assessment has been completed. This protocol will now cover two specific service delay periods:

1. Pre Initial Assessment: For the purpose of this protocol, a Pre Initial Assessment service delay is determined by calculating the difference between the numbers of days from a child's enrollment date to their Initial Assessment date.
2. Post Initial Assessment: Current policy gives EIBI Providers 30 days from the completion of the Initial Assessment to start providing Line Therapy. Therefore, this extension will not be available to a child until the 30-day time period has been exceeded. For the purpose of this protocol, a Post Initial Assessment service delay is determined by calculating the difference between the numbers of days from a child's Initial Assessment date to the start of their initial Line Therapy service, less 30 days. This extension will not cover any future breaks in Line Therapy after the initial Line Therapy has been provided; this includes any breaks that may occur due to a Program Transfer or Line Therapist turnover.

The specifics of the protocol are as follows:

- This protocol will be in effect for a one-year period (i.e. from September 16, 2013 through September 15, 2014).
- A service extension is only applicable after a child has completed their three (3) year enrollment period.
- Upon request from the child's Case Manager or parents, the Autism Division PDD Consultant will review occurrences of service delays to determine if an extension of a child's service period is appropriate. The maximum number of days a program can be extended is 180 days for a Pre Initial Assessment and 180 days for a Post Initial Assessment.
- If a parent or Case Manager believes the child's case should be reviewed, the Case Manager should submit that child's name to the Autism Division PDD Consultant at [PDDInfo@ddsn.sc.gov](mailto:PDDInfo@ddsn.sc.gov) and request that the case be reviewed for an extension.
- Once a child reaches their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday, their case cannot be reviewed as all PDD services end at age 11. If EIBI services to a child have been extended and the child reaches their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday, the services will be terminated at that time. This termination will occur even if the extended period has not been completed.

- If a program extension is granted, the Case Manager will receive written notification that specifies the length of the extension and the dates used to calculate the extension period. The Case Manager should share this information with the child's parents and EIBI Provider. Once this extension period ends, no further extensions will be granted.
- If no extension is granted, the Case Manager will receive written notification. The Case Manager should share this information with the child's parents.
- If a child is receiving PDD EIBI Waiver services, the Case Manager will be instructed to terminate Waiver Case Management, terminate EIBI waiver services, disenroll the child from the PDD waiver, and authorize EIBI State Funded services. This authorization should specify the number of days EIBI services have been extended. During this expansion period, Case Management should be billed as Targeted Case Management. The EIBI termination, disenrollment and new authorization should be forwarded to all appropriate individuals (i.e. the PDD Consultant and EIBI Provider).
- If a child is receiving PDD EIBI State Funded services, the Case Manager will be instructed to issue a new authorization for EIBI State Funded services. This authorization should specify the number of days EIBI services have been extended. The new authorization should be forwarded to all appropriate individuals (i.e. the PDD Consultant and EIBI Provider).
- During this extension period no assessments should be authorized, only State Funded EIBI Plan Implementation, EIBI Lead Therapy, and EIBI Line Therapy.
- If a child is disenrolled from the EIBI Program prior to an extension being granted, the child cannot receive an extension.

**Note:**

- 1. The Post Initial Assessment Extension portion of this protocol will be implemented starting September 16, 2013 and will be available to any child currently receiving EIBI services through the PDD Program as of September 16, 2013. If a child's services have been terminated prior to September 16, 2013 or if an extension has been awarded prior to September 16, 2013, the child is not eligible for this extension program.**
- 2. The PDD Consultant will be responsible for reviewing all cases to determine if a request for an extension meets all required criteria. The PDD Consultant will have the final say in all matters pertaining to extensions.**
- 3. DDSN reserves the right to alter the terms of this protocol or discontinue this protocol at its discretion.**