Learning disability PCN DES IIF 25/26 Requirements

Every patient on the GP learning disability register age 14y and older should be offered a learning disability annual health check as outlined in the [network-contract-DES-contract-contract-specification-2025-26.pdf](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/network-contract-DES-contract-contract-specification-2025-26.pdf).

The DES minimum requirements for learning disability annual health checks are summarised in the [The Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) Directions 2025](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67e683d737baea91c58c9fd4/primary-medical-services-directed-enhanced-services-directions-2025.pdf)

This includes:

* The offer of an annual health check to every patient on the practice register age 14 and older
* Provision of relevant health promotion advice
* A chronic illness and system enquiry (a check of respiratory, cardiovascular and other systems even if they not currently present as a health problem)
* A physical examination
* A consideration of whether the patient suffers from epilepsy
* Consideration of the patient’s behaviour and mental health
* A specific syndrome check
* The production of a health action plan
* A check on the appropriateness of any prescribed medicines
* A review of coordination arrangements with secondary care
* A review of any transitional arrangements ( where appropriate)

An appropriate emis template needs to be use.

Any staff involved in the annual health checks needs to have received training.

Decline codes

For patients who decline the annual health check a code “Learning disability health check declined” can be added.

Before adding this code we advise to

* Check that reasonable adjustments have been put in place to encourage the patient’s attendance. Making reasonable adjustments is a requirement under the Equality Act. This can include contacting patients in their preferred way, providing easy read invitations and information materials and adjusting the appointment time and place to suit their needs.
* Follow up non responders and patients who miss their appointments with consideration to their mental capacity and ability consent.
* Consideration if the patient is vulnerable and if there are any safeguarding concerns. Please refer to the ICB was not brought policy for vulnerable adults [bnssg-vulnerable-adult-wnb-policy-v3-jan25.pdf](https://remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/media/4kyfchwq/bnssg-vulnerable-adult-wnb-policy-v3-jan25.pdf) and for children [bnssg-childrens-wnb-policy-v3-jan25.pdf](https://remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/media/v4tbugcl/bnssg-childrens-wnb-policy-v3-jan25.pdf)

Support

We are keen to offer training and support to practices in all aspects of the annual health checks, health action plans and the practice register. This includes the offer of training of individuals and practices.

Please contact juline.matthies@nhs.net for further information

Our Remedy page [Resources for Learning Disability Annual Health Checks and Health Action Plans (Remedy BNSSG ICB)](https://remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/adults/learning-disabilities/resources-for-learning-disability-annual-health-checks-and-health-action-plans/) has a wealth of resources including a link to the [Learning Disability Annual Health Check Toolkit](https://remedy.bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/media/c3albnjo/sw-learning-disability-annual-health-check-toolkit.pdf). This toolkit supports annual health check from invitation to creating a health action plan with links for patients, supporters and clinicians to further information.