



# Effective Health Care

## Childhood Developmental Disabilities Nomination Summary Document

### Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Childhood developmental disabilities is too broad to develop as a systematic review. However, the topic will be considered for potential in-depth topic generation activities in the future.

### Topic Description

**Nominator:** Individual

**Nomination Summary:** The nominator is interested in research efforts to identify topics for comparative effectiveness research related to a broad range of developmental disabilities. She poses questions related to the burden of these conditions, screening practices, rehabilitation services, utilization of therapies, emerging technologies and interventions, and future research needs.

#### **Staff-Generated PICO**

**Population(s):** Children in the US

**Intervention(s):** Screening tools to identify developmental disabilities, diagnostic tools, treatments

**Comparator(s):** See above

**Outcome(s):** Identification of children with developmental disabilities, benefits and harms of treatments, utilization of treatments

**Key Questions from Nominator:**

1. What is the burden and incidence of childhood developmental disabilities (hearing loss, kernicterus/jaundice, intellectual disability and visual impairment) in the US?
2. When is screening for childhood developmental disabilities indicated and in what care setting?
3. What is the comparative effectiveness of current screening tools and methods for the diagnosis of developmental disabilities?
4. What is the effectiveness of screening tools on assessment, access to care and interventions for developmental disabilities?
5. What is the comparative effectiveness of different models of child development and rehabilitation services on improving functional, social, and health outcomes of children with developmental disabilities?
6. What are the current rates of utilization of current therapies and interventions for developmental disabilities?
7. What are the harms and benefits of current therapies and interventions for developmental disabilities?
8. What are emerging technologies, interventions, and models of care to screen, diagnose, and treat developmental disabilities?
9. What are the future effectiveness and comparative effectiveness research needs of

developmental disabilities?

## Considerations

- Developmental disabilities are a diverse group of severe chronic conditions that are due to mental and/or physical impairments. Developmental disabilities begin anytime during development up to 22 years of age and usually last throughout a person's lifetime. Less than half of affected children are diagnosed with a developmental disability prior to beginning school and may miss opportunities for early intervention and treatment. People with developmental disabilities may have difficulties with major life activities such as language, mobility, learning, self-help, and independent living.
- This topic nomination could be considered for in-depth topic generation activities in the area of developmental disabilities in order to identify topics that may be appropriate for new comparative effectiveness research and reviews.