



Education Evaluation and Consultation Center  
OHI – Helpful Information for Specialists

- OHI is a disability category that addresses physical and/or medical conditions that adversely impact a student's progress in the general education curriculum (academic and social)
- These medical conditions must be diagnosed by a health practitioner (i.e. MD, RN, LNP, PA)
- Common medical diagnoses that adversely impact a student's school performance, according to IDEA include;
  - Leukemia, Diabetes, Asthma, ADHD, Epilepsy, Heart Condition, Hemophilia, Lead Poisoning, Nephritis, Rheumatic Fever, Sickle Cell Anemia and Tourette Syndrome
- To be eligible as a child with an other health impairment according to IDEA, the child must meet all of the minimum criteria: (a) The child exhibits limited strength, vitality or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment; (b) The child's limited strength, vitality or alertness is due to a chronic or acute health problem; and (c) The child's condition is permanent or expected to last for more than 60 calendar days. The condition must adversely affect the child's educational performance and the child must need specially designed instruction (not simply accommodations and modifications).
- Mental Health conditions are often diagnosed by a mental health provider and typically impact a student's emotional and behavioral functioning. These mental health diagnoses are often best addressed under either the eligibility categories of Emotional Disturbance or Other Health Impaired. Common diagnosis served under ED and/or OHI:
  - Anxiety
  - Depression
  - Bipolar Disorder
  - PTSD
- Medical conditions that *typically* don't fall under OHI:
  - Autism
  - Down Syndrome
  - Prader Willi
  - Intellectual Disability
- Many of the impacts of health conditions that might be considered under the category of OHI can also be addressed via a 504 plan. The team should consider the extent to which the student needs specially designed instruction (i.e. modified learning objectives).