

In order to determine a diagnosis of Pediatric ME/CFS, the child must report fatigue as well as classic ME/CFS symptoms in each of the following categories for a duration of at least 3 months in addition to a frequency and severity rating:

Classic ME/CFS Symptom Category

- a. Fatigue
- b. Post-exertional malaise
- c. Sleep
- d. Pain At least one symptom from: Myofascial pain, Joint pain, Abdominal, or Head pain
- e. Neurocognition At least two symptoms
- f. Other Category
At least one symptom from two of the following three categories:
Autonomic manifestations
Neuroendocrine manifestations
Immune manifestations

Members of the IACFS Pediatric Case Definition Working Group has developed a new measure, called the "DePaul Pediatric Health Questionnaire" that was created to better identify children with ME/CFS. The DePaul Pediatric Health Questionnaire measures the six Classic ME/CFS Symptoms (as noted above, a-f) for children and adolescents between the ages of 5-17. The DPHQ classifies children into the following categories: Pediatric ME/CFS, Pediatric ME/CFS-like Illness, and Atypical ME/CFS.

Instructions for the DePaul Pediatric Health Questionnaire

The DePaul Pediatric Health Screening Questionnaire (DPHQ) is used among children that are under the age of 18 years old. It can be administered to 12 -17 year olds as a self-report. In addition, an adult guardian-report of the child's status can be completed. For children younger than 12 years old, an adult guardian should fill out the questionnaire along with the child. The adult guardian should record the answers given by the child, unless the child is unable to recall information.

There are two types of report:

Child Version: Filled out by the child (age 12-17)

Adult Version: Filled out by the adult guardian and child together (for children 5-11)

* If you would like to use the DPHQ for your own evaluation or to bring to your child's physician, you may download the questionnaire and scoring instructions from this web page.