

## **Pediatric Feeding Disorder is Now an Officially Recognized Diagnostic Code**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has officially approved the new Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD) as a stand-alone diagnostic code (R code) in the latest edition of the U.S. International Classification of Diseases (ICD) (October 1, 2021)

This newly approved diagnosis is the culmination of 6 years of work by the world's leading feeding experts and Feeding Matters (the on-line parent support organization for children and families living with feeding challenges [www.feedingmatters.org](http://www.feedingmatters.org)).

Beginning in 2016, Feeding Matters organized and gathered over 20 experts together for a Consortium Meeting. Over the next 2 years, this Consortium created and refined the Pediatric Feeding Disorder diagnosis. In 2020, Feeding Matters and the PFD Consortium was notified that the Pediatric Feeding Disorder diagnostic code had been accepted by the ICD 10 committee and most recently, published in the U.S. International Classification of Diseases (ICD) on October 1, 2021. The results of the Consortium's work is summarized in a position paper published in 2019 proposing the new diagnosis be accepted worldwide. ([Pediatric Feeding Disorder Consensus Definition and Conceptual Framework](#))

### **Definition of Pediatric Feeding Disorder**

*A Pediatric Feeding Disorder is a disturbance in oral intake of nutrients, inappropriate for a child's age, lasting at least 2 weeks in association with 1 or more of the following:*

- *Medical Dysfunction*
- *Nutritional Dysfunction*
- *Feeding Skill Dysfunction*
- *Psychosocial Dysfunction*

*Symptoms are further classified into acute PFD (< 3 months duration) = R63.31 or chronic PFD (> 3 months duration) = R63.32.*

*The impaired oral intake occurs in the absence of the cognitive processes consistent with eating disorders, and is not due to a lack of food or congruent with cultural norms.*

**Please review the following information and resources below on the new PFD diagnosis code.**

### **[Pediatric Feeding Disorder - Consensus Definition and Conceptual Framework](#)**

- Goday et.al. (2019) publication

### **[Pediatric Feeding Disorder \(PFD\) Toolkit](#)**

- Created by [Feeding Matters](#), the PFD Toolkit is an extensive document which contains extremely important information for your clinical practice and the children you work with and/or live with.

The SOS Approach to Feeding is strongly committed to having every child with feeding difficulties be thoroughly assessed and accurately diagnosed. Therefore, we encourage professionals and caregivers to read and access the resources available to you on the subject of pediatric feeding diagnoses. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact:

Feeding Matters – <https://www.feedingmatters.org/contact/>

SOS Approach to Feeding – <https://sosapproachtfeeding.com/contact-us/>