

Manifestations of developmental delay and disability

Area of development affected	Manifestation	Possible neurodevelopmental diagnoses
global	delays in more than one area of development	intellectual disability, global developmental delay
motor	persistent primitive reflexes, motor delay, late walking	cerebral palsy, neuromuscular disorder
speech and language	speech delay, limited understanding, unusual or inappropriate use of language	specific language disorder, hearing impairment, autism, intellectual disability
social and behavioural	excessive irritability, reduced or increased activity, aggression, sleep disturbance, odd or obsessive behaviour, narrow or unusual play patterns, interpersonal difficulties, social isolation	autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, intellectual disability
cognitive	difficulty with planning shopping, managing banking and catching public transport	intellectual disability
sensory	not responding to sounds, objects or pictures	hearing or vision impairment