

Depressive Disorder Coding And Diagnostic Criteria

Major Depressive Disorders	The essential feature of a Major Depressive Episode is a period of at least 2 weeks during which there is either depressed mood or the loss of interest or pleasure in nearly all activities.	
296.2x	Single Episode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Presence of a single major depressive episode ■ Diagnostic criteria 1&2.
296.3x	Recurrent Episode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Presence of two or more major depressive episodes. Note: to be considered separate episodes, there must be an interval of at least 2 consecutive months in which criteria are not met for a major depressive episode. ■ Diagnostic criteria 1&2.
Dysthymic Disorder	A mild depression that lasts for two years without a break	
300.4	Dysthymic Disorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Depressed mood for most of the day, for more days than not, as indicated by subjective account or observation by others. ■ Presence, while depressed of two or more of the following: Poor appetite or overeating, insomnia or hypersomnia, low energy or fatigue, low self esteem, poor concentration, feelings of hopelessness. ■ During the 2-year period the person has not been without symptoms ■ Diagnostic Criteria 2. ■ The disturbance does not occur during the course of a chronic Psychotic disorder. ■ The symptoms are not due to the direct physiological effects of a substance (drug abuse or medication) or of a general medical condition. ■ The symptoms cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational or other area of function.
Depressive Disorder NOS	The Depressive Disorder Not otherwise Specified (NOS) category includes disorders with depressive features that do not meet criteria for Major Depressive Disorder or Dysthymic Disorder	
311	Depressive Disorder NOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Premenstrual dysphoric disorder ■ Minor depressive disorder – episodes of at least 2 weeks but with fewer than the 5 items required for MDD. ■ Recurrent brief depressive disorders ■ Post psychotic depressive disorder ■ A MDD superimposed on delusional disorder, Psychotic Disorder NOS or the active phase of Schizophrenia ■ Situations in which the clinician has concluded that a depressive disorder is present but is unable to determine whether it is primary, due to a general medical condition, or substance induced.

DSM-IV-TR Diagnostic Criteria:

1. The depressive episodes are not better accounted for by Schizoaffective Disorder and are not superimposed on Schizophrenia, Schizophreniform Disorder, Delusional Disorder, or Psychotic Disorder Not Otherwise Specified.
2. There has never been a manic episode, a mixed episode, or a hypomanic episode. Note: This exclusion does not apply if all of the manic-like, mixed-like, or hypomanic-like episodes are substance or treatment induced or are due to the direct physiological effects of a general medical condition.