

# Social Determinants of Health

- Patient requiring an interpreter as they don't speak English
- A child in foster care or in welfare custody
- An adult lives alone and lacks their own transportation
- An adult lacks literacy skills
- Homelessness, risk of homelessness (housing insecurity) or inadequate housing (lack of electricity, plumbing, heat)
- Extreme poverty causing lack of access to necessities
- Unemployment
- Family disruptions i.e. divorce

## 6. Pediatric Social Determinants of Health

A premature baby presents for a follow-up evaluation of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). The temporary foster custodian is present for the problem-focused examination. The diagnosis is Zone 1, Stage 1 ROP with progression, and follow-up is needed in one or two weeks. Strict compliance with return visits is crucial for appropriate monitoring and treatment. The physician documents that diagnosis and treatment may be significantly limited by social determinants of health (SDOH) related to the patient being in foster care and the instability of his permanent custodial care.

**Code this:** E/M level 4, 99214.

**Not:** E/M level 3, 99213 or Eye visit code, intermediate, 92012.

**Explanation:** Although a problem-focused exam was performed and documentation meets the requirements of CPT code 92012, that Eye visit code is not the best code to select. Also, the level 3 E/M code 99213 is not correct as the overall medical decision making is not low. The problem is moderate and the risk of complications is moderate, as the diagnosis or treatment is significantly limited by SDOH. To support a higher-level E/M code, make sure that you report ICD-10 code Z62.21 *Child in welfare custody*.

[coding](#)

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