

# Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder

Psychology



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## **Attention-deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder**

2 May Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a kind of disorder associated with the development of a child. The patient of ADHD experiences attentional problems along with hyperactivity in most of the cases, though the two problems may occur alone in rare cases. Symptoms of ADHD show up before the child becomes seven years old. ADHD is amongst the most frequently encountered developmental disorders in children. A significant population of the children who experience ADHD in the childhood continue to experience these problems in the adulthood. Adults suffering from ADHD try to compensate for the impairments by building coping mechanisms.

There are various biological and psychological causes of ADHD. One of the most common biological causes of ADHD is genes. “ Children with ADHD who carry a particular version of a certain gene have thinner brain tissue in the areas of the brain associated with attention” (Martin). Maternal smoking may also causes ADHD in children. Children exposed to lead and children consuming more sugar and food additives develop increased risk of acquiring ADHD. The psychological causes of ADHD include abuse, depression, and bullying.

Medications commonly prescribed for the treatment of ADHD include stimulant and non-stimulant drugs. Stimulant drugs for the treatment of ADHD include Dexedrine, Concerta, and Adderall (“ Treatments and drugs”). Stimulant drugs work by balancing and boosting the level of chemicals known as the neurotransmitters in the brain, thus improving the signs of impulsivity, lack of attention, as well as hyperactivity. If the stimulant drugs

are found ineffective for a certain patient or if it shows side effects, the patient is given Atomoxetine which is a non-stimulant drug. Atomoxetine is effective in reducing anxiety along with the symptoms of ADHD.

Occasionally, Atomoxetine may cause sedation and weight loss in the patient.

Works Cited:

Martin, Ben. " Causes of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD)." 2 May 2012. Web. 2 May 2012.

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" Treatments and drugs." 2012. Web. 2 May 2012.

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