

What is ADHD?

- One of the most common mental disorder effecting children, is 3% to 7% of school-age children.
- Neurobehavioral developmental disorder.
- Having trouble paying attention .
- Having trouble controlling impulsive behaviours.
- Being overly active .

Types of ADHD

- Inattentive ADHD.
- Hyperactive/impulsive ADHD
- Combined ADHD.(BOTH)

Etiology

Biochemical factors:

- Brain injury
- An elevation of dopamine and norepinephrine
- One study found that in adults with ADHD the dopamine transporter in the brain was elevated by 70% compared to a person without ADHD

Genetics factors:

- Siblings of ADHD patients have twice the risk of developing ADHD.
- Higher chance for twins.

Symptoms



Short Attention Span

Child is easily distracted from the task at hand and frequently directs their attention to multiple different tasks at a time.

Careless Mistakes

Child lacks attention to detail and often makes errors on tasks where they must follow instructions, like homework.



Fidgeting

Child is unable to sit still, especially in quiet settings for long periods of time. They may play with their hands, or get up from their chair frequently.

Act Without Thinking

Child speaks without thinking, makes decisions on a whim, and/or is unable to wait their turn (interrupting, cutting in line, etc.).



Forgetfulness

Child is forgetful of daily activities, such as household chores, packing their backpack for school, completing their homework, or brushing their teeth.

Risk Factors

- Smoking and/or drinking during pregnancy.
- Premature birth.
- Birth complications (causing brain damage/injury)
- Environmental factors (social media, smoking and drinking)

Treatment for ADHD

Although there is no cure for ADHD, treatments may help reduce symptoms and improve functioning.

- Stimulants: Methylphenidate and Dextroamphetamine (side effects include insomnia, dizziness and irritability).
- Non-stimulants: Imipramine and Bupropion.
- Psychotherapy, including behaviour therapy.

Summary

Hyperactivity disorder effects a person's ability to concentrate has no cure, but treatments may help reduce symptoms and improve performance.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/adhd/facts.html#:~:text=Causes%20of%20ADHD&text=Recent%20studies%20link%20genetic%20factors%20with%20ADHD.&text=l n%20addition%20to%20genetics%2C%20scientists,or%20at%20a%20young%20a ge>
<https://medlineplus.gov/attentiondeficithyperactivitydisorder.html>