

Fast Facts about ADHD Disorder

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What is ADHD?

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, (ADHD), is a neuro-biological disorder that is characterized by inattention and/or hyperactivity and impulsivity. ADHD typically becomes apparent in children when they reach preschool or elementary school age. It often results in problems with organization, attention and working memory. In addition, it frequently impacts a child's social and interpersonal functioning. These children often have low self-esteem and an increased accident and injury risk.

ADHD is prevalent at all socioeconomic levels and in all ethnic groups. ADHD frequently co-occurs with other conditions, such as depression, anxiety or learning disabilities. The primary characteristics of ADHD are inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity.

Signs of Inattention:

- Highly distractible
- Difficulty staying with an activity until completion
- Inattention to details and careless mistakes
- Losing and forgetting things

Signs of Hyperactivity:

- Always on the "go"
- Fidgeting and restlessness
- Difficulty sitting still
- Easily bored

Signs of Impulsivity:

- General lack of self-control
- Difficulty waiting for turn/standing in line
- Blurting out answers
- "Acting before thinking"

Resources for Further Information about ADHD

CHADD & National Resource Center on ADHD

4601 Presidents Drive, Suite 300

Lanham, MD 20706

800-233-4050

<http://www.chadd.org>