

Checklist of ADHD Symptoms

ADHD is an associated disorder of Tourette Syndrome (TS). The hallmarks of ADHD are distractibility (inattention), hyperactivity and impulsivity. The following are the symptoms as listed in the DSM IV published by the American Psychiatric Association.

| Behaviours that May Be Observed | Often Observed | Often Causes Disruption |
|---|----------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Inattention</i> | | |
| Fails to give close attention to details or makes careless mistakes in schoolwork, work, activities. | | |
| Has difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or play activities. | | |
| Does not seem to listen when spoken to directly. | | |
| Does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish schoolwork, duties (not due to oppositional behaviour or failure to understand instructions). | | |
| Has difficulty organizing tasks or activities. | | |
| Avoids, dislikes or is reluctant to engage in tasks that require sustained mental effort, e.g., schoolwork or homework). | | |
| Loses things necessary for tasks or activities, e.g., assignments, pencils, books or tools. | | |
| Is easily distracted by extraneous stimuli. | | |
| Is forgetful in daily activities. | | |
| <i>Hyperactivity</i> | | |
| Fidgets with hands or feet or squirms in seat. | | |
| Leaves seat in classroom or in other situations in which remaining seated is expected. | | |
| Runs about or climbs excessively in situations in which it is inappropriate (in adolescents, may be limited to subjective feelings of restlessness). | | |
| Has difficulty playing or engaging in leisure activities quietly. | | |
| Is "on the go" or acts as if "driven by a motor." | | |
| Talks excessively. | | |
| <i>Impulsivity</i> | | |
| Blurts out answers before questions have been completed. | | |
| Has difficulty waiting for turn. | | |
| Interrupts or intrudes on others, e.g., butts into conversations or games. | | |
| | | |