



ADHD – DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

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DIFFERENTIATE

- Early childhood: age appropriate behavior in healthy, active children. e.g. Running around, being noisy, short attention span, etc.
- Caregiver expectations/special circumstances

ADHD - Differential Diagnosis

- I. GENERAL MEDICAL CONDITIONS
- II. NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
- III. MEDICATIONS
- IV. ENVIRONMENTAL
- V. PSYCHIATRIC/ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS

ADHD – GENERAL MEDICAL CONDITIONS

- Hypo/hyperthyroidism
- Severe Anemia
- Lead Poisoning
- Chronic Illness: allergies, asthma, apnea
- Hearing/Vision Impairment

ADHD – Neurological Conditions

- Sleep Disorders
- Seizure Disorder
- Learning Disabilities
- Language Disorders
- Mental Retardation (Fragile X, FAS)
- Regulation D. of Sensory Processing

SENSORY INTEGRATION

- “SI like an orchestra. You need the woodwinds, the strings, the percussion, the piano to all be in tune, ***playing in key at the right volume, all perfectly coordinated with each other.*** With SI dysfunction, the conductor isn't controlling the music well. Different sections in the orchestra are ***out of tune and out of sync*** so it doesn't sound right.” [Lindsey Biel](#), co-author of Raising a Sensory Smart Child

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400. REGULATION DISORDERS OF SENSORY PROCESSING

- DC: 0-3R [Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood: Revised Edition]
- Constitutionally based responses to sensory stimuli
- Patterns of behavior manifest:
 - 1) across settings
 - 2) within multiple relationships

400. REGULATION DISORDERS OF SENSORY PROCESSING

Three features for diagnosis

1. Sensory processing difficulties
2. Motor difficulties
3. Specific behavioral pattern

400. REGULATION DISORDERS OF SENSORY PROCESSING

Three types:

- 410: Hypersensitive
Type A: Fearful/Cautious
Type B: Negative /Defiant
- 420: Hyposensitive/Underresponsive
- 430: Sensory Stimulation-Seeking/Impulsive

ADHD - MEDICATIONS

- Anticonvulsants
- Antihistamines
- Decongestants
- Beta agonists

ADHD

ENVIRONMENTAL/SOCIAL

- Prenatal drug exposure
- Child abuse or neglect
- Family dysfunction/Family violence
- Disruptive learning environment
- Parental psychopathology
- Homelessness
- Stressful living circumstances

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ADHD – PSYCHIATRIC/ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS

- Tourette's (70% with Tics have ADHD)
- ODD (33 % of ADHD patients)
- CD (25 to 50% of ADHD patients)
- Anxiety Disorder (25% of ADHD patients)
- Major Depression (20% of ADHD patients)
- Substance abuse (if onset in adolescence)