

## P-257 - THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER ON ADULT DAILY LIFE: RESULTS OF THE EUROPEAN LIFETIME IMPAIRMENT SURVEY

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**Introduction:** Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is the most commonly diagnosed psychiatric disorder in childhood (estimated global prevalence 3-5%). ADHD symptoms and impairments frequently continue into adulthood, but data on lifelong impact are limited.

**Objectives:** The Lifetime Impairment Survey aimed to evaluate the extent of lifetime impairment of individuals with ADHD in six European countries. We analysed the responses obtained from adults with/without ADHD regarding their current situation.

**Methods:** The survey was developed by a committee of ADHD specialists and implemented by a market research organization. Participants were recruited from a database of 487,533 volunteers, and answered questions on ADHD diagnosis and current experiences. Survey items were combined into scales/scores evaluating different areas of impairment. Mean scale scores for ADHD and controls were compared. Cross-country comparisons of impairment scales were also performed.

**Results:** A total of 629 adults with ADHD and 736 controls participated. ADHD was diagnosed after a median of 22 months and after consulting a median of two physicians. Impairments reported by adults with ADHD were significantly greater ( $p < 0.001$ ) than controls in most areas investigated, including work, social and relationship functioning, mood/temper control, rule-breaking behaviour, self-organization/planning, and financial difficulties. Analyses of variance showed that the country effect on impairment scores was generally negligible, explaining only 1-3% of the observed variance.

**Conclusions:** Compared with controls, the impairments reported by adults with ADHD suggest a continued impact of the condition on both personal and professional life; no substantial cross-cultural differences were observed.

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