

Course ID: CMEC33

ADHD throughout life

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Educational Objectives: To support the novel knowledge about Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) throughout life, according to the different stages of life.

Course description: Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a chronic disabling disorder that often persists to adulthood (70%). It is a developmental syndrome expressed along three domains: inattention, hyperactive-impulsive and combined type. Both environmental and genetic factors contribute to the aetiology of this complex disorder, as evidence from family based studies suggests genes play a substantial role in the aetiology of ADHD. ADHD throughout life is another much discussed subject, that is studied more and more in the last decade. In contact to past knowledge, ADHD is now believed to continue as a characteristic or as a disturbance in most of the adults who suffered from it as children. But, its characteristics change over the years. Due to these characteristics, interest is increasing and many new studies are performed each year.

We will concentrate on the following topics, in respect to the different age groups (children, adolescents, adults):

1. The aetiology of ADHD, including genetic, physiological and biochemical aspects.
2. The environmental influences on the expression of ADHD and its final characteristics in the individual.
3. The chronicity of ADHD and its development.
4. Diagnostic issues, including rating scales and continuous performance tests.
5. Therapeutic issues, including pharmacotherapy, psychotherapy (individual and group therapy), educational management and classroom management.

Educational methods and course material: Reference lists for further readings

Target audience: General psychiatrics, Child and Adolescents psychiatrics.

Course level: No previous experience or knowledge is needed.