Diagnosis and Stimulant Medication in Children with Attentional Problems
- A Survey of Current Practice

Section A - Who deals with attentional problems?

A1. Please indicate which professional category applies to you: (please tick applicable box)
   - Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
   - Paediatrician

A2. Do you routinely accept referrals of children with these problems?
   - Yes (if you answered yes, please go on to Section B)
   - No (if you answered no, please go on to A3)

A3. If such children are referred to other specialties, please specify:
   ..............................................................................................................................

If you answered ‘No’ to question A2, Sections B and C are not applicable. Thank you for completing this questionnaire and please return it in the stamped addressed envelope provided.

Section B - Aetiology, Diagnosis, and Investigations

B1. Regarding aetiology of attentional problems, please indicate which of the following statements you agree with the most:
   - These problems are more biological in origin (eg neuro-transmitter imbalance, birth trauma)
   - These problems are more due to environmental factors (eg insecure attachment, sub-optimal parenting, psychological trauma)
   - These problems are due to an equal mixture of biological and environmental factors
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B2. How do you routinely describe such problems? (please tick one or more boxes as applicable)

- Problem/symptom list
- ADD/ADDH
- ADHD
- Hyperactivity
- Hyperkinetic disorder
- Other please specify: ..................................

B3. If you use formal diagnoses, which classification system do you currently use on a day-to-day basis, and how tightly do you apply diagnostic/operational criteria?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>‘tightly’ applied</th>
<th>‘loosely’ applied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSM IV</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ICD 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>please specify:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I do not use formal diagnoses

B4. What information beyond the initial appointment do you collect in the process of assessment?

- Phone call/letter from school*
- Checklist from parents
- Checklist from school*
- Psychometric assessment
- Baseline physical data
- Other please specify: ...........................

*if the child attends school
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Section C - What is the relationship of stimulant medication to attentional problems?

C1. Do you use stimulant medication as part of a treatment package for children with these problems?

   often               sometimes           never

C2. If you do prescribe stimulant medication for children with these problems, please indicate which statement most closely applies to you:

   I never prescribe stimulant medication if insufficient criteria are met for a formal diagnosis to be made
   I sometimes prescribe stimulant medication even if insufficient criteria are met for a formal diagnosis to be made
   I often prescribe stimulant medication even if insufficient criteria are met for a formal diagnosis to be made
   I do not use formal diagnoses to describe such problems

C3. How does the presence of other conduct difficulties affect your likelihood to prescribe stimulant medication?

   more likely      no difference      less likely

Section D - Views and expectations of families and referrers

D1. In your experience do parents/carers come to assessments with preconceived ideas that their child has ‘ADHD’ (or equivalent term)?

   often               sometimes           rarely

D2. In your experience, does pressure to prescribe stimulant medication come from any of the sources listed below?

   never
   social services
   education (eg teachers)
   parents/carers
D3. How would such pressure influence your likelihood to prescribe stimulant medication?

- more likely
- no difference
- less likely

Additional Comments:

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Please use the pre-paid addressed envelope when returning the questionnaire, or send to:

Attentional Problems Survey
Diagnosis and Stimulant Medication in Children with Attentional Problems - A Survey of Current Practice

[Address]