

# Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)



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# Some Basics



- ADHD = ADD
- Global prevalence is approximately 5%.
- Boys vs. Girls?
- Considered to be a chronic disease (30%-50%)

# Diagnostic Criteria (DSM-IV)



- **Diagnostic criteria for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (cautionary statement)**
- A. Either (1) or (2):
  - (1) *inattention*: six (or more) of the following symptoms of inattention have persisted for at least 6 months to a degree that is maladaptive and inconsistent with developmental level:
    - (a) often fails to give close attention to details or makes careless mistakes in schoolwork, work, or other activities
    - (b) often has difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or play activities
    - (c) often does not seem to listen when spoken to directly
    - (d) often does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish school work, chores, or duties in the workplace (not due to oppositional behavior or failure to understand instructions)
    - (e) often has difficulty organizing tasks and activities
    - (f) often avoids, dislikes, or is reluctant to engage in tasks that require sustained mental effort (such as schoolwork or homework)
    - (g) often loses things necessary for tasks or activities (e.g., toys, school assignments, pencils, books, or tools)
    - (h) is often easily distracted by extraneous stimuli
    - (i) is often forgetful in daily activities