

The Atlantic Provinces Medical Peer Review



MANAGEMENT OF SPECIFIC DISEASE ENTITIES

PAEDIATRIC #5 - ADHD

It is important to note that these guidelines are meant to be of assistance to assessors in making observations. They should not be taken as standards of any of the Atlantic Provinces Licensing Authorities.

History:

- ✓ major concerns: behaviour; poor attention/achievement; hyperactivity
- ✓ pre-natal, birth & early developmental history; developmental milestones; delayed speech; early or delayed motor development
- ✓ history of physical or mental hyperactivity, inattention, impulsivity, age-appropriate behaviour
- ✓ family & past medical history: significant head injury; history of psychiatric medications; dysfunctional family situation (parental separation, foster home, etc.)

Assessment:

- ✓ symptoms including tics, obsessive-compulsive behaviour, anxiety or phobias, aggression, rage, mood swings, hypomania, mania & depressive symptoms, self-inflicted injuries, hallucination, delusional psychosis
- ✓ observation of behaviour; direct conversation with child; physical exam
- ✓ differential diagnosis: ADHD with/without hyperactivity; co-morbid conditions, learning disability; mental retardation/autism

Ongoing Management:

- ✓ discussion of diagnosis; explanation of basis for ADHD; pharmacological options (including potential benefits & side effects); reading material
- ✓ consideration of referral to community mental health services, private counselling, occupational therapy or psychological/psychiatric consult as appropriate
- ✓ treatment of co-morbid conditions; timely follow-up of patient and family
- ✓ care in prescribing (especially stimulants) and careful trial and monitoring of medications

	N/A	E	S	D
There is evidence that adequate assessment and investigation leads to an appropriate diagnosis				
There is evidence that adequate and appropriate follow-up and monitoring with patient and family takes place				
Prescribed medications are documented, including dosage and duration, and followed up appropriately.				

COMMENTS: _____
