

# Impact of Nocturnal Enuresis on Self Esteem of Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

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**Background:** Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a chronic, pervasive childhood disorder that shows a high prevalence of presentation in psychiatric clinics. It is now well established that ADHD is usually associated with the presence of one or more major psychiatric disorders and that these problems are at least as important as ADHD in predicting the long-term outcome of the individual child. Comorbidity between nocturnal enuresis NE and ADHD a prevalence of 40% of all children, data revealed that the inattention problems were predominant in the enuretic group.

**Aim of the study:** In this study we aimed at screening the outpatient psychiatric clinic in 6 month period for ADHD cases, identify ADHD cases with Nocturnal Enuresis and determine impact of comorbidity.

**Subjects & Methods:** Six month screening 73 cases revealed 36 cases of ADHD, predominantly males with hyperactive impulsive presentation. Only 13 full filled the criteria of the study. Cases of co-morbid ADHD and nocturnal enuresis were 30.8%, while 69.2% were an-enuretic. Co-morbid ADHD and Enuresis Impact on self esteem did not show any significant difference.

**Results:** Cases of co-morbid ADHD and nocturnal enuresis were 30.8%, while 69.2% were an-enuretic. Co-morbid ADHD and Enuresis Impact on self esteem did not show any significant difference.

**Conclusion:** ADHD has a prevalent presentation in child psychiatric clinic, most cases are of the hyperactive impulsive type with tendency to be males. Comorbid ADHD and NE showed no significant impact on self esteem.

**Keywords:** ADHD, Nocturnal Enuresis, Self esteem.

## Abbreviations:

ADHD: Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder

MR: Mental Retardation

LD: Learning Disability

DL: Delayed Language development

NE: Nocturnal Enuresis

UTI: Urinary Tract Infection

ODD: Oppositional Defiant Disorder

CD: Conduct Disorder

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## INTRODUCTION

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a chronic, pervasive childhood disorder characterized by developmentally inappropriate activity level, low frustration tolerance, impulsivity, poor organization of behavior, distractibility, and inability to sustain attention and concentration (American Psychiatric Association, 2000). It is one of the more common childhood disorders, occurring in 3% to 7% of school-age children and representing one third to one half of referrals to child mental health services (Angold, et al. 2000 and Faraone, et al. 2003). The core symptoms of ADHD are associated with impairments in several domains of functioning, including academic achievement and deportment at school, interactions with parents and siblings, and peer relationships (Root and Resnick, 2003 and Barkley, 2005). Children diagnosed with ADHD also have a higher likelihood of coexisting psychiatric disorders and usually continue to have problems attributable to ADHD as adults that require treatment (Resnick, 2000 and Brassett-Harknett and Butler, 2007).

It is now well established that ADHD is usually associated with the presence of one or more major psychiatric disorders and that these problems are at least as important as ADHD in predicting the long-term outcome of the individual child. It is estimated that as many as two in three children with ADHD in the general population meet criteria for one or more DSM-IV-TR (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Forth Edition) diagnoses (Jensen, et al. 2001; Kadesjo and Gillberg, 2001 and Gillberg, et al. 2004). The most common coexisting disorders in ADHD are developmental coordination disorder, oppositional defiant disorder (ODD), conduct disorder (CD), depression and anxiety disorder, bipolar disorder, tic disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder, and autism spectrum disorder (Steinhausen, et al. 2006 and Banaschewski, et al. 2007). Learning disabilities are also common, including central auditory processing disorder, reading disorder, disorder of written expression, dysgraphia, mathematics disorder, and mental retardation (Gomez and Condon, 1999; Pliszka, 2000 and Luca, et al. 2007).