

FOCUS ON

ADHD

ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER

CLINICAL BACKGROUND

Compared to his or her peers, is your child excessively:

- Inattentive—constantly daydreaming?
- Impulsive—habitually acting before thinking?
- Hyperactive—never able to sit still?



If you feel that your child's schoolwork, social life, or personal attitude is affected by the descriptions above, it is possible that he or she has deficit hyperactivity disorder. Be sure to ask your doctor about ADHD, a disorder that affects 3 to 5 percent of all children—about 2 million kids just in the United States.

ADHD can also affect teenagers and adults, causing them to be habitually impulsive or feel restless. Between 30 percent and 70 percent of children with ADHD continue to have symptoms as an adult. Many of these people, however, have never been diagnosed.

Treatment is available. Medical treatment or behavioral therapy can be used alone or together to battle this disorder. Ask your doctor if you feel that you or a loved one may benefit from ADHD testing and treatment.