

Editorial

Worry Over Attention Deficit Cases

By [THE EDITORIAL BOARD](#),

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It is hard not to be concerned about the large number of children who have been given a diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, a condition that impairs the ability to focus on a task or to control impulses. A new analysis of government data found that almost one in five boys of high school age in the United States and 11 percent of school-age children over all had been reported to have the disorder at some point in their lives. The troubling question is whether they had or still have A.D.H.D. that actually needs treatment with potent drugs.

The data was gathered in a nationwide survey of more than 76,000 parents, interviewed by phone about children's health issues by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from February 2011 to June 2012. The parents were asked if they had ever been told by a health care provider that their child had A.D.H.D. or various other medical conditions.

The Times reporters Alan Schwarz and Sarah Cohen [obtained the new data](#) from the C.D.C. and compiled the results. The survey estimated that 6.4 million children ages 4 through 17 had received a diagnosis of A.D.H.D. at some point in their lives, up from 5.4 million in 2007 and 4.4 million in 2003, as reported previously by the same parental survey.

Health providers diagnosed the disorder in 19 percent of high school boys and 10 percent of high school girls; about one in 10 high school boys currently takes prescription stimulants like Ritalin or Adderall to treat the disorder. Dr. Thomas Frieden, the director of the C.D.C., said the right drugs can help many people, but he also warned that "misuse appears to be growing at an alarming rate." Other data have shown a big rise in stimulant use, which can lead to addiction, anxiety and even psychosis.

The increase in reported cases, experts say, has been fueled by awareness of the disorder, drug company advertising, and parental pressure on doctors to prescribe drugs to help children focus. With the growing concern that many young people may be sharing or abusing these drugs, it is crucial that parents and doctors are vigilant about overmedication.

More Diagnoses of [Hyperactivity](#) Causing Concern— Doctors Worry That Too Many Children Are Being Medicated

New York Times. April 2, 2013

[Fred A. Baughman Jr., MD](#), wrote the following response to an earlier NYT article. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology and the author of “The ADHD Fraud”

The CDC estimates that 6.4 million children 4-17 have received a “medical diagnosis” of ADHD—a 53 percent rise in the past decade. The 2010 study of Garfield, et al, put the total at 10.4 million nationwide.

Diseases are gross, microscopic or chemical abnormalities defined by their microscopic appearance—their pathology. There are no abnormalities in psychiatry—no diseases, no pathology. And psychiatrists and all physicians who “diagnose” and “treat” such invented diseases, know it.

Since 1948 the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) has awarded separate credentials in neurology and psychiatry, recognizing that neurology deals with physical abnormalities—diseases (like the rest of medicine) and psychiatry with things functional—emotions and behaviors.

Psychiatric entities/diagnoses are contrived and voted into existence in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) Committee of the American Psychiatric Association—not one a disease or “medical diagnosis” as alleged in the present article.

Addressing the subject: “Is [ADHD](#) a Valid Disorder?” at the 1998, NIH, Consensus Conference, Carey concluded:” What is now most often described as ADHD in the United States appears to be a set of normal behavioral variations.

With no proof with which to counter Carey’s assertions, the final statement of Consensus Conference Panel (11/18/98) was: “...we do not have an independent, valid test for ADHD, and there are no data to indicate that ADHD is due to a brain malfunction.” Nor is there proof that ADHD or any psychiatric diagnosis in any edition of the DSM is a physical abnormality—a disease.

In 2005 American Psychiatric Association (APA) president, [Steven Sharfstein](#), let slip that American psychiatry had “allowed the bio-psycho-social model to become the bio-bio-bio model” accepting “kickbacks and bribes” from pharmaceutical companies leading to the over-use of medication and neglect of other approaches.

Last week I got word that the 42 year-old son of a close friend had been found dead in bed—no pills around. The pills came as a schoolchild beginning with Ritalin, leading to a life of addiction from which Phillip could never escape. His parents had never given informed consent because they were never informed. No one is. They were never told that Ritalin and all of the other amphetamine treatments caused addiction—not the ADHD. And caused brain atrophy—not the ADHD. And they were never told of the seven-fold increase in sudden cardiac death—from the ADHD wonder drugs (Gould et al, 2009), never from ADHD—not a disease.

Never a disease, never anything “bio,” ADHD is, and always has been, the greatest, health care fraud of all time.

Top Psychiatrist explains in one hour how ADHD is tied to nutrition/diet and can be healed through nutritional supplements. This is a bio-chemical approach at it's best:

👉 **James Greenblatt, M.D.**

[Integrative Therapies for the Treatment of ADHD](#) (1 hr 1 min)

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