

The National Resource Center on ADHD brings *ADHD weekly* with the latest news on ADHD.

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ADHD + Addiction

The father on the other side of the telephone was extremely worried.



“If my child takes medicine for ADHD, won’t that lead him towards abusing drugs when he’s a teenager?” he asked. “But what if we don’t go ahead with medication - will he try something that he could get addicted to because he wants to feel more focused?”

To provide this father with an answer to help him make an informed decision regarding treatment, we look to research on ADHD and addiction.

The Multimodal Treatment Assessment study (Molina et al., 2007) found that the children who were assigned to intensive behavior therapy, with or without medication management, were less likely to initiate substance use in early adolescence. In other words, prevention of adolescent substance use should involve the early psychosocial treatment of risk factors.

Read [Substance Abuse and ADHD](#) that details the risks associated with ADHD and substance abuse, along with how those risks can be managed by the parents of teens.

Is It ADHD or Trauma Symptoms?

Sometimes the symptoms of trauma can overlap with those of ADHD. Can you tell the difference? Heather C. Forkey, MD, was recently interviewed by the National Child Traumatic Stress



Find the Right Summer Camp

It may seem early, but now is the time to sign your child up for summer camp!

Summer camp director John Willson of SOAR has tips for finding the right camp for your child. You can watch this *Ask the Expert* webcast now for ideas to help your child have a summer to remember.

Watch [Finding the Right Summer Camp](#).



Are you a mom with ADHD? Get tips for a calmer home during tomorrow's Ask the Expert.

Wednesday
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2:00 PM EST

Network to explain how children exposed to traumatic events sometimes display symptoms similar in appearance to ADHD. For some children, this could result in an inaccurate diagnosis. Dr. Forkey also has suggestions on how to talk about impulsive and disruptive behaviors with educators and pediatricians to make sure your child gets needed services.

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network's goal is to improve access to care, treatment, and services for children and adolescents exposed to traumatic events. The network is combining knowledge of child development, expertise in the full range of child traumatic experiences, and dedication to evidence-based practices, to change the course of children's lives by changing the course of their care. For information on the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, go to www.nctsn.org.

[Listen now to this podcast.](#)

ADHD Assessment: What to Expect

“What can I expect when my child has an assessment for ADHD?” many parents wonder when it's first suggested their child be evaluated for ADHD.

Once an appointment is made with a pediatrician or a specialist in childhood ADHD, you can expect:

- A physical exam, including a family medical history
- Interviews with you and your child by the clinician
- Clinical observation of your child
- Forms to be completed by teachers, coaches, youth group leaders or other adults who work with your child
- Additional assessments for other challenges your child may have

The assessment should take several visits to the clinician. Generally, a single visit isn't enough to evaluate a child, or an adult, for ADHD. For more information on what to expect, visit our page on [Comprehensive Assessment](#).



Terry Matlen, MSW,
ACSW

Sign Up Now

Did You Know?

Did you know that 8.1 percent of stimulant medication prescriptions are diverted for non-medical use? It's important to talk to your teens and young adults about preventing their medications from being used for non-medical reasons.

[Get more information.](#)



ADHD in the News

- Growing up with ADHD: clinical care issues
- Blue Bell firm wins approval for unique ADHD treatment
- ADHD drugs may actually reduce suicide risk
- Diagnosis is key to helping kids with ADHD

Read these and other articles in the [ADHD in the News](#) weekly digest.

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