

Childhood Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: A Stress Factor for African Immigrant Mothers

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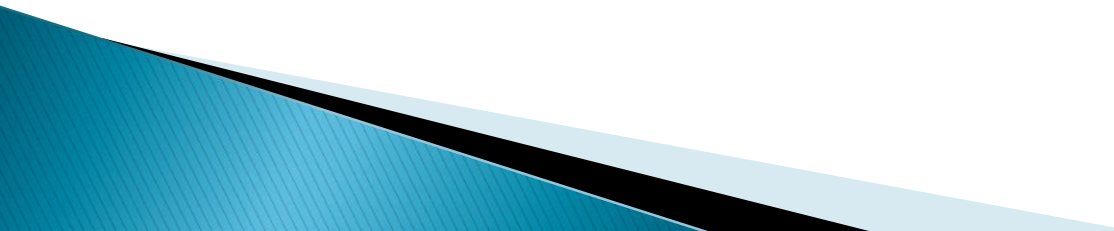
Attention deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: A Street Factor for African Immigrant Women

- ▶ Childhood Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a mental health problem that causes children with the condition to be less compliant, inattentive, less likely to remain on task, and to display more disruptive or hyper behavior than most children of same age.
- ▶ ADHD is one of the most commonly diagnosed mental health conditions of childhood with a large genetic etiology that can progress from childhood, to adolescence and to adulthood. ADHD is a global problem with similar signs and symptoms including, inability to pay attention or remain focused, hyperactivity, and behavior control difficulties.

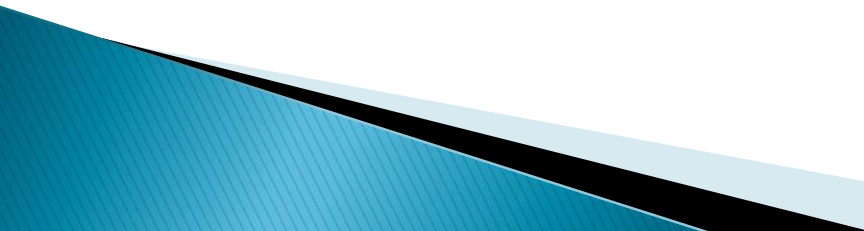
Interpretation and response to the condition varies from culture to culture, by parents, family members, professional care givers and teachers.

Purpose

1. Does a direct relationship exist between childhood ADHD and the level of stress exhibited by the African mothers?

 2. Do African immigrant mothers caring for a child with ADHD have higher stress levels than
 - African American mothers also caring for a child with ADHD ?
 - African immigrant caring for a child without ADHD?
 - African American mothers caring for a child without ADHD?
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Survey Design

- Population based case–control design to measure association and compare relationships, using questionnaire.
 - The study method was quantitative.
 - Quantitative instruments were questionnaires.
 - Instrument: Parental Stress Index–SF IV (PSI–4–SF) specially designed for children ages 6–12 years old. This 36 item parental stress index– short form (PSI–SF) scale with 12 items for each of 3 domains; P–CDI (parent–child Dysfunctional interaction, DC (Difficult child) and the PD (parent distress) scores. The combination of all 3 domains yielded the result for total stress (TSTR) which was used for this study analysis.
 - 9 item demographic survey questionnaire
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Findings

1. There was significant relationship between stress and childhood ADHD for African immigrant mothers caring for a child with ADHD. Results also showed a similar trend African American mothers which was statistically significant at $p < .001$.

Linear regression analysis indicated the presence of the ADHD condition was a strong predictor of maternal stress for the African origin mothers caring for a child with ADHD.

(other co-predictors were child's age and mother's level of education)

All other variables investigated for this populations were not statistically significant