

Diagnostic Criteria

Concern for symptoms of inattention, hyperactivity, or impulsivity.

Vanderbilt Download:
Use evaluation page
Complete scales in two settings
(home/school) if possible

Score both home and school Vanderbilt assessments using the scoring instructions on page 10 of the downloaded scale

Positive ADHD scores in both settings?

No
Review the scores for the other possible diagnoses per Vanderbilt scoring

Yes
Several symptoms were present before age 12 or patient is currently under 12 years of age

Yes
Several symptoms are present in two or more settings (such as home, school, with friends, or other activities)

Yes
Clear evidence that symptoms interfere with or reduce the quality of social, school or other functioning

Yes
The symptoms are not better explained by another disorder.

Yes
Diagnosis of ADHD
return to main pathway and identify appropriate treatment

Parent Assessment Scale
Predominantly Inattentive subtype ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 6 out of 9 items on questions 1–9 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 48–55 Predominantly Hyperactive/Impulsive subtype ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 6 out of 9 items on questions 10–18 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 48–55 ADHD Combined Inattention/Hyperactivity ■ Requires the above criteria on both inattention and hyperactivity/impulsivity Oppositional-Defiant Disorder Screen ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 4 out of 8 behaviors on questions 19–26 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 48–55 Conduct Disorder Screen ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 3 out of 14 behaviors on questions 27–40 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 48–55 Anxiety/Depression Screen ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 3 out of 7 behaviors on questions 41–47 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 48–55

Teacher Assessment Scale
Predominantly Inattentive subtype ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 6 out of 9 items on questions 1–9 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 36–43 Predominantly Hyperactive/Impulsive subtype ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 6 out of 9 items on questions 10–18 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 36–43 ADHD Combined Inattention/Hyperactivity ■ Requires the above criteria on both inattention and hyperactivity/impulsivity Oppositional-Defiant/Conduct Disorder Screen ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 3 out of 10 items on questions 19–28 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 36–43 Anxiety/Depression Screen ■ Must score a 2 or 3 on 3 out of 7 items on questions 29–35 AND ■ Score a 4 or 5 on any of the Performance questions 36–43

- The Vanderbilt assessment is the best evidence-based tool to screen and monitor progress of therapy in patients with ADHD
- Other tools may be utilized, and if validated, scores from other tools such as the Connor Questionnaire may be utilized in place of a Vanderbilt Assessment
- ADHD may occur alongside other conditions, there are a few resources that briefly describe other common comorbidities below
- A Vanderbilt from one setting may be the only tool available for some patients. Consider impact to the patient's activities of daily life or consider consult with Dayton Children's psychiatry team

Differential Diagnosis Tools

CDC- other concerns and conditions

Florida International University Tools

