

Diagnostic criteria for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

In contrast to *developmental variations* expected within the range of expected behaviors for the age group and to *behaviors serious enough to disrupt functions (but not severe enough to meet criteria of a mental disorder)*

- > **Six (or more) of the following symptoms**
- > **Have persisted for at least 6 months**
- > **To a degree that is maladaptive and inconsistent with developmental level:**
- > **Symptoms present before age 7**
- > **Impairment in two settings (e.g, home/school)**

Inattention e.g. careless mistakes, difficulty sustaining attention, does not seem to listen, does not follow through, has difficulty organizing tasks and activities, reluctant to engage, loses things, distracted by extraneous stimuli, forgetful in daily activities

Hyperactivity e.g fidgets, squirms, leaves seat, runs or climbs excessively, difficulty playing, “on the go”, talks excessively

Impulsivity e.g., blurts out, difficulty awaiting turn, butts into conversations or games