

# **Diagnostic Criteria for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder**

## A. Either (1) or (2):

1. six (or more) of the following symptoms of inattention have persisted for at least 6 months to a degree that is maladaptive and inconsistent with developmental level:

### **Inattention**

- a. often fails to give close attention to details or makes careless mistakes in schoolwork, work, or other activities
  - b. often has difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or play activities
  - c. often does not seem to listen when spoken to directly
  - d. often does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish schoolwork, chores, or duties in the workplace (not due to oppositional behavior or failure to understand instructions)
  - e. often has difficulty organizing tasks and activities
  - f. often avoids, dislikes, or is reluctant to engage in tasks that require sustained mental effort (such as schoolwork or homework)
  - g. often loses things necessary for tasks or activities (e.g., toys, school assignments, pencils, books, or tools)
  - h. is often easily distracted by extraneous stimuli
  - i. is often forgetful in daily activities
2. six (or more) of the following symptoms of hyperactivity-impulsivity have persisted for at least 6 months to a degree that is maladaptive and inconsistent with developmental level:

### **Hyperactivity**

- a. often fidgets with hands or feet or squirms in seat
- b. often leaves seat in classroom or in other situations in which remaining seated is expected
- c. often runs about or climbs excessively in situations in which it is inappropriate (in adolescents or adults, may be limited to subjective feelings of restlessness)
- d. often has difficulty playing or engaging in leisure activities quietly
- e. is often “on the go” or often acts as if “driven by a motor”
- f. often talks excessively

### **Impulsivity**

- g. often blurts out answers before questions have been completed
- h. often has difficulty awaiting turn
- i. often interrupts or intrudes on others (e.g., butts into conversations or games)

- B. Some hyperactive-impulsive or inattentive symptoms that caused impairment were present before age 7 y.o.
- C. Some impairment from the symptoms is present in 2 or more settings (e.g., at school [or work] & at home)
- D. There must be clear evidence of clinically significant impairment in social, academic, or occupational functioning.
- E. The symptoms do not occur exclusively during the course of a Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Schizophrenia, or other Psychotic Disorder and are not better accounted for by another mental disorder (e.g., Mood Disorder, Anxiety Disorder, Dissociative Disorder, or a Personality Disorder).

Code based on type:

314.01 ADHD, Combined Type: if both Criteria A1& A2 are met for the past 6 months

314.00 ADHD, Predominantly Inattentive Type: if Criterion A1 is met but Criterion A2 is not met for past 6 mo

314.01 ADHD, Predominantly Hyperactive-Impulsive Type: if Criterion A2 is met but Criterion A1 is not met for the past 6 months

Coding note: For individuals (especially adolescents and adults) who currently have symptoms that no longer meet full criteria, “In Partial Remission” should be specified.