

The Prevalence of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) among Primary School Pupils of Benin Metropolis, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT This study investigated the prevalence of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder among pupils in primary schools in Benin City, Edo State through a teacher questionnaire. Three selected public schools were drawn purposively from schools in Benin City, Edo State. The pupils were selected from primary one to six, and the age range was between 5 to 12 years (mean age was 9.13yrs). The instrument used was the Disruptive Behaviour Disorder rating scale. Six research questions were generated and the statistical tool used was percentages. Four hundred pupils were sampled, 94 (23.15%) were screened as having symptoms of ADHD of which 45 (47.87%) had the Hyperactivity type, 20 (21.28%) had the Inattention type and 29 (30.85%) had ADHD combined type. The result confirmed that pupils in primary schools suffer more from ADHD hyperactivity type than inattention and the combined type. The sex ratio for ADHD combined type and Inattention type is about 2:1, while hyperactivity is about 1:1. Gender difference was found to vary across ADHD type. Boys being generally rated as more impaired in the combined with a prevalence of 21 (8.90%) but equally or less impaired with hyperactivity-impulsive subtype 28 (11.86%) and 9 (3.81%) in the inattention group. These findings suggest that there is a prevalence of ADHD in Edo State.