

ADHD Guideline Summary

For the diagnosis of ADHD, the guidelines recommend:

- PCP initiates an evaluation for ADHD in a child 6-12 years old
- Child must meet DSM-IV criteria.
- The assessment requires evidence obtained from parents or caregiver **AND** classroom teacher.
- Evaluation should include assessment for coexisting conditions.
- Other diagnostic test are not routinely indicated to establish the diagnosis of ADHD but may be used for the assessment of other coexisting conditions.

For treatment of ADHD, the guidelines recommend that primary care clinicians:

- Establish a treatment program that recognizes ADHD as a chronic condition
- Specify appropriate target outcomes to guide management
- Recommend stimulant medication and/or behavioral therapy as appropriate to improve target outcomes
- Provide a systematic follow-up for the child with ADHD
- When a child has not met target outcomes, evaluate:
 - the original diagnosis, medication, and/or behavioral therapy as appropriate to improve target use of all appropriate treatments
 - adherence to the treatment plan
 - presence of coexisting conditions when a child has not met target outcomes