Medication Management for ADD

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Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) Key Terms

Attention defines the ability to converge focus.

Deficit defines a decrease from what is expected.

Disorder defines a genetic and structural variation.

Core Symptoms of ADD

- 1. Inattention to detail, sequencing and memory
- 2. Inability to sustain focus over time.
- 3. Easy distraction from external or internal stimuli.

Sub-types of ADD

Quiet Inattentive Type

Hyperactivity Type

Combined Sub-type

ADD: Treatment Options

1. Structure the time line of daily life activities.
2. Maintain regularity and predictability in daily routine.
3. Maintain consistency in weekly patterns.
4. Consider medication when the above fail.

ADD: Medication Options

- Stimulants (methylphenidate and amphetamine salts)
- Non-Stimulant SNRI (atomoxetine and guanfacine ER)
- Non-Stimulant SSRI (ie. Sertraline)

Adverse Events: Stimulants

- Appetite loss and weight loss
- Agitation and irritability
- Rapid heart rate and increase in BP
- Headache
- Digestive Changes

Adverse Events: Non-Stimulants

Sleepiness

Light headedness

Digestive Changes

Expressiveness

ADD:
Optimal Management

- Scheduling that promotes optimal executive function.
- Academic support, accommodation and coach.
- Routine, consistency and health lifestyle.
- Medications that deliver smoothly, effectively all day.
- Week end use of medication is recommended.

QUESTIONS?