



Inattentiveness of Children with ADHD may Worsen during COVID-19

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ABOUT THE STUDY

The 2019 coronavirus pandemic has closed schools around the world. On April 7, 2020, the Japanese Prime Minister declared a state of emergency in Tokyo, Chiba and other prefectures due to a coronavirus pandemic. Children with ADHD are particularly vulnerable to the stress caused by pandemics and physical distance measurements, and may also have increased behavioral problems. Students are afraid that the new semester will not begin. Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are particularly vulnerable to the stress caused by pandemics and physical distance measurements and may exhibit increased behavioral problems. The European ADHD Guidelines Group says that children with ADHD affected by pandemic quarantine, physicians should avoid increasing drug doses or adding drugs to manage quarantine-related crises and stress. Therefore, we sought to determine if COVID 19 quarantine affected the symptoms of children with ADHD.

Children with ADHD are particularly vulnerable to the stress caused by pandemics and physical distance measurements and may exhibit increased behavioral problems. We interviewed 15 children with ADHD aged 11.8 ± 2.8 . Thirteen were male and two were female. The child's ADHDRS score was assessed by the mother, father, or nursing home staff from before the emergency declaration to after the emergency declaration. There were no changes to the doctor, type or amount of medication, psychotherapy, or reviewer treatment.

The inattention symptoms in children with ADHD were exacerbated after the children were quarantined for COVID 19

without changing treatment. The exacerbation of inattention in our patients is believed to have been associated with quarantine trauma. A very recent study showed that during the outbreak of COVID 19 in China, ADHD symptoms in children were significantly worse than at baseline, and that negative mood in children was associated with ADHD symptoms. It has also been reported that children isolated or quarantined during a pandemic are more likely to develop acute stress disorders, adjustment disorders, and grief. In addition, 30% of isolated or quarantined children met the clinical criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Significant clinical responses to traumatic and stressful events include anhedonia and dysphoric, anger and aggression externalized symptoms, or dissociative symptoms including inattention. According to a recent review, policy makers should be aware of vague evidence when considering the closure of COVID 19 schools and consider these combinations of social distance measurements. In addition, one of the major threats during COVID19 quarantine is the increased risk of domestic violence and child abuse, especially for children with disabilities and traumatic experiences. In conclusion, healthcare providers and families suggest that the potential development of children with ADHD should be considered. ADHD subjects and their evaluators were not evaluated on a mood and anxiety scale. It may be related to lifestyle changes and the natural history of ADHD. Therefore, further research with larger sample sizes of ADHD subjects and their specialists.

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