

Assessment Instruments in DefiniPoint

DefiniPoint offers a variety of psychometrically validated/standardized ADHD rating scales based on DSM-IV diagnostic criteria. DefiniPoint also includes impairment rating scales to measure the impact of ADHD symptoms.

- For children, adolescents, and adults
- With short, medium, and long versions
- Enables you tailor assessments to meet the specific needs of the Client

Instruments in DefiniPoint are also suitable for follow-ups to quantify treatment efficacy and document outcomes.

CHILD ADHD RATING SCALES

Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Rating Scales:

The Vanderbilt ADHD Rating Scales (VADRS) are based on DSM-IV criteria for ADHD diagnosis and include versions specific for parents and teachers. These psychometrically sound measures are easily accessible and simple to interpret. ADHD symptom-specific rating scales effectively discriminate between children with and without ADHD, and accurately predict subtypes. The psychometric properties and clinical utility of both the parent and teacher versions have been demonstrated in studies and described in multiple journal articles since the introduction of the teacher rating scale in 1998¹ and the parent rating scale in 2003.² The psychometric properties and clinical utility for both rating scales were reconfirmed via recent clinical studies and published in 2013.^{3,4} The VADRS have been found to be reliable and well validated with normative data available across sex and age (sample size of 6,591 and 6,171 for the teacher and parent rating scales, respectively).

The SNAP-IV Rating Scale:

The SNAP-IV Rating Scale, based on DSM-IV criteria for ADHD, is psychometrically sound, easily accessible and simple to interpret. This comprehensive ADHD rating scale effectively discriminates between children with and without ADHD, and accurately predicts subtypes (inattention, hyperactivity/ impulsivity and combined). The SNAP-IV is particularly helpful in making a differential diagnosis and includes items to gauge other DSM-IV disorders. The psychometric properties and clinical utility of the SNAP-IV has been demonstrated in multiple studies since its introduction in 2001. Response to treatment and direct classroom observation have established the validity of SNAP-IV, and it was used as the primary outcome measure in the 1999 Multimodality Treatment Study of ADHD.⁵ The SNAP-IV has been found to be reliable and well validated with normative data available from parents (N = 1,613) and teachers (N = 1,205).⁶

The SWAN “Short”:

The Strengths and Weaknesses of ADHD symptoms and Normal behavior rating scale (SWAN) is based on DSM-IV criteria for ADHD diagnosis measuring inattentive, hyperactive, and impulsive behaviors. The SWAN is a revised version of the SNAP-IV, in which wording of the 18 ADHD symptoms was adapted to measure positive attention and impulse regulation behaviors in the normal population. Psychometrically identical to the original SWAN and SNAP-IV, this updated SWAN “short” has the same distribution of individuals. The SWAN “short” is psychometrically sound, easier for informants to use, and simple to interpret. This ADHD symptom-specific rating scale effectively discriminates between children with and without ADHD, and accurately predicts subtypes. The psychometric properties and clinical utility of the SWAN has been demonstrated in studies and described in multiple journal articles since its initial introduction⁷. Recent clinical studies reconfirmed the findings.^{8,9}

References:

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