Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) as predictor of ADHD: performance between SCT rates and "Hyperactivity/Impulsivity" and "inattention" domains of ADHD in a clinical sample.

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Abstract

Introduction:
Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) is an international screening tool widely used for research and clinical practice on child and adolescents. Objective: The aim of this study was to explore the relationship between SDQ indices and “Hyperactivity/Impulsivity" and "inattention" domains of specific ADHD scale.

Method:
The SDQ and ADHD-RS-IV were administered to parents and teachers of a sample of 212 children aged between 6 and 16 years old with a prior diagnosis of ADHD.

Results:
A significant relationship between "Hyperactivity/inattention" Scale (SDQ) and "hyperactivity/impulsivity" and "inattention" ADHD dimensions was confirmed. However, other SDQ scales were also related, depending of informant and ADHD domain. For the family, "hyperactivity/impulsivity" domain was related with high scores on "behavior problems" scale, while the "inattention" was related with "emotional symptoms" scale.

Conclusions:
This results suggest the possibility of to take into account rating scores on SCT scales to increase the sensitivity of the scale to discriminate ADHD clinical subtypes.