Perceptions of Greek female adolescents with ADHD regarding family relationships

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Abstract:

Acknowledging that the ADHD literature is shaped by male experiences, the purpose of this study was to investigate the perceptions of female adolescents with ADHD and the impact of the label in their family relationships. Four Greek adolescents aged 13–18 with a diagnosis of combined-type ADHD were interviewed through a purposive criterion sampling procedure in this small-scale exploratory study. The participants reported their experiences of diagnosis and a 'rich' parental environment encompassing both support and conflicts. It is notable that the participants' beliefs about ADHD presented the label as an academic-oriented difficulty rather than a behavioural one and mainly focus on its academic aspects. It is possible that this understanding of ADHD as an academic-oriented disorder may explain why their self-image was less negatively affected than previous studies would predict.