As children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) age out of childhood and adolescence and into adulthood, their symptoms often persist. Faced with increasing demands from modern life, these patients often request treatment to help optimize functioning in work and home settings. The aim of treating adult ADHD is to help patients control distraction/inattention and to minimize psychomotor agitation. Once the diagnosis of ADHD is ascertained in adults, general treatment principles, including the use of stimulants, should be followed but they must be weighed against an increased risk of diversion of stimulant medications in adults. Stimulants include amphetamines (with the closely related methylphenidate formulations often thought of as stimulants as well despite a different mechanism of action) and constitute the gold standard in the treatment of ADHD. Nonstimulants such as atomoxetine, however, can play an extremely important role in treatment as well.