

The relationship of Internet addiction with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; effects of anxiety, depression and self-esteem.

Kahraman Ö, Demirci EÖ.

Pediatr Int. 2018 Apr 4.
doi: 10.1111/ped.13573

Abstract

AIM:

Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is one of the most common neurodevelopmental disorders of childhood. Behavioral disinhibition, poor neurocognitive skills and immediate reward preference in children with ADHD have been suggested as risk factors for internet addiction. In our study, we aimed to determine relationship between internet addiction with depression, anxiety, self-esteem in adolescents with ADHD and the features of internet use that predicts internet addiction.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

We studied 111 patients with ADHD aged 12 -18 and 108 healthy controls. Patients and control groups were asked to complete sociodemographic data form, Internet Addiction Scale (IAS), Children's Depression Inventory, Childhood Screening Scale for Anxiety of Children, and Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale.

RESULTS:

IAS total scores of adolescents with ADHD was found significantly higher in comparison to the control group. When compared to the control group, ADHD group depression scale scores were significantly higher, self-esteem scores were statistically lower. There was no difference between the groups in scores of anxiety. IAS scores had positive correlation with depression and anxiety scores, while negatively correlated with self-esteem scores.

CONCLUSION:

In the present study, relationship between internet addiction scale scores with depression, anxiety and self-esteem scale scores are similar in the ADHD and the control group. In addition, IAS subscale and total scores were significantly higher in ADHD group than control group even after controlling the effects of self-esteem, depression and anxiety scores. Thus, ADHD is thought to be an independent risk factor from depression, anxiety and self-esteem for the internet addiction. This article is protected by copyright. All rights reserved.