Barriers and opportunities for ADHD awareness and care in the UK

Blandine French, Elvira Perez-Vallejos, Kapil Sayal, David Daley

Video Byte

Keywords: Attention-deficit, hyperactivity disorder, ADHD, diagnosis, treatment, undertreated, general practitioners, GPs, awareness, UK, primary care, stakeholder, healthcare, healthcare system, global, educational resource, lack of services

Posted Date: September 20th, 2019

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.2.15178/v1>

License: This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.
[Read Full License](#)

Abstract

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) affects 3-5% of the global population While diagnosis is an important first step to accessing proper care ADHD often goes undiagnosed or undertreated, including in the UK To understand why that might be, researchers interviewed general practitioners (GPs) and patients across the country The team discovered several barriers, including the sheer complexity of pathways to care lack of services limited GP recognition and knowledge of ADHD and communication difficulties among GPs and patients The findings suggest that GPs might be ill equipped to identify and manage ADHD in primary care And they highlight areas of improvement specific to the UK healthcare system For their part, the team has devised an educational resource to enhance understanding of ADHD, accessible at www.adhdinfo.org.uk Although limited to the UK, the findings overlap with those from countries like the US and Australia pointing to ways to improve ADHD awareness and care around the globe French et al. "Awareness of ADHD in primary care: stakeholder perspectives."