

Review of: "Neuropsychiatric and Social Consequences of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Females"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article captured many of the varied difficulties experienced by girls and women with ADHD. I have the following suggestions for improving the text:

General / major comments:

1. The introduction would benefit from a couple of sentences at the end stating the nature and purpose of this review article. It would also be helpful for potential readers to state in the title of the article that this is a narrative review of the topic.
2. There are certain parts of the text that make statements without citing where this information has been obtained. For example, in the introduction, the authors list several descriptions of symptoms and experiences attributed to females with ADHD, without citing any specific sources. Is this based on the authors' clinical experiences or qualitative research studies or anecdotes? I think it is important to attribute this clearly, even if there isn't a specific academic citation to provide. Another example is in the section titled "Early adulthood" where there are some examples of how ADHD symptoms could be masked. If these are hypothetical examples, rather than findings from previous academic or clinical work, then I think this needs to be rephrased to be more hypothetical. This comment applies to other aspects of the review article (e.g. a variety of cardiovascular & other conditions mentioned under physical health) so it would be good to check for this throughout. If there is a limit on allowed references, there is still a need to make sure everything is cited appropriately so perhaps some details need to be missed in order to make sure that no statements are missing their source.
3. In some sentences (e.g. "ADHD females more often report feeling bullied" or "Memory also appears to function differently in ADHD females") it would be helpful to state the age group that the sentence relates to, as well as who the ADHD females are being compared against. This comment applies to many sentences so it might be helpful to check this throughout to make sure that this is clear.
4. Related to my point 3 (and also point 1), it is not clear to what extent much of the writing applies specifically to females with ADHD, as opposed to everyone who has ADHD, regardless of gender/sex.
5. The order of the sections could be optimised for improved flow of ideas - at the moment it seems to go back and forth on the same topics - e.g. the issues of emotional processing and masking/camouflaging are mentioned early on and later on and it might read better to merge those early/late sections or have them next to each other.
6. The section on neurobiology could benefit from some brief statements about the high heritability of ADHD (in both males and females) and the fact that recent genetic studies have begun to uncover some of the biological basis of ADHD in a hypothesis-free manner (see e.g. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41588-018-0269-7>)

Minor comments:

- I suggest you check for duplicate references, e.g. 23 & 26 are the same, as are 83 & 85.
- The study referenced by citation number 83 was a study of only males so it should not be used to support the statement in the text about girls