Diagnosis and Management of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Primary Care for School Age Children and Adolescents

Evaluation Algorithm

1. Learning/behavior problems (suspect ADHD)

2. Crisis?
   - yes
   - no

3. Immediate assessment and/or referral

4. Evaluate for key features of ADHD using DSM-IV/DSM-PC criteria:
   - Symptoms
   - Onset
   - Duration
   - Pervasiveness
   - Impairment

5. Screen for other primary conditions and comorbidities including all of the following:
   - A. Biomedical conditions
   - B. Emotional/psychiatric problems
   - C. Family/psychosocial problems
   - D. Speech/language problems
   - E. Academic/learning problems

6. Are other primary condition(s) or comorbidity(s) suspected?
   - yes
   - no

7. Assessment of suspect condition(s) and comorbidity(s):
   - A. Biomedical conditions
   - B. Emotional/psychiatric problems
   - C. Family/psychosocial problems
   - D. Speech/language problems
   - E. Academic/learning problems

8. Primary diagnosis other than ADHD accounting for symptoms?
   - yes
   - no

9. Related comorbidity identified?
   - yes
   - no

10. Desire subspecialty consultation for ADHD medical management?
    - yes
    - no

11. DSM-IV/DSM-PC criteria confirmed?
    - yes
    - no

12. Out of guideline – need for further evaluation

13. ADHD diagnostic formulation (see Management algorithm)

14. Coordinate care with subspecialty(s) as indicated

15. Out of guideline – coordinate care with subspecialty(s) as indicated

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