



Assessment Children & Young Adults

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Children

- ✦ Age Range

- ✦ Common Challenges;

- Developmental
- Behavioural
- Learning



Developmental

- ✦ Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- ✦ Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ✦ Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder



Behavioural

- ☛ Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- ☛ Aggressive Behaviours
- ☛ Anger Management
- ☛ Attachment Difficulties
- ☛ Separation Anxiety
- ☛ Generalized Anxiety
- ☛ Depression
- ☛ Self Harm
- ☛ Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- ☛ Eating Disorders



Learning

- Intellectual Disability

- Learning Disability

Developmental Issues – ADD / ADHD

- Problems with inattentiveness, over-activity, impulsivity, or a combination.
- They must be out of the normal range for the child's age and development.
- It is usually first diagnosed in childhood and often persists into adulthood.
- Diagnosis can be made reliably using well-tested diagnostic interview methods.
- Treatment may include medical, educational, behavioral, and/or psychological interventions.
- ADHD is a lifelong disorder that can negatively impair many aspects of daily life if not treated, including home, school, work, and interpersonal relationships.

DENNIS THE MENACE



**"BY THE TIME I THINK ABOUT WHAT I'M
GONNA DO... I ALREADY DID IT!"**

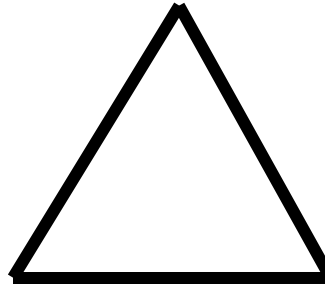
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Developmental Issues - ASD

- ✚ Biologically based disorder
- ✚ Developmental disorder that lasts throughout life
- ✚ Not always characterised by special or “savant” skills
- ✚ Found at all IQ levels – accompanied by general learning difficulties
- ✚ Severe disorder of communication, socialization and imagination

Autistic Spectrum Disorder

A TRIAD



Communication of all types

- o Inability to understand meaning of gestures
- o Facial expression
- o Tone of voice
- o Impairments in maintaining conversations
- o Monotone/accented voice
- o Comprehension delays
- o Difficulty with metaphors/idioms/jokes
- o Body language

Social interpersonal relationships

- Aloof
- Indifferent to people
- Lack of appreciation of social cues
- Lack of desire to interact with peers
- Little or no ability to form friendships.

Cognition

Rigidity/imagination/behaviour/thoughts

- Literal understanding
- Tendency to focus on detail
- Difficulty with problem solving
- Sequencing
- Understanding the bigger picture

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

- ✦ A pattern of mental and physical defects that can develop in a foetus in association with high levels of alcohol consumption during pregnancy.
- ✦ Alcohol crosses the placenta barrier and can stunt foetal growth or weight, create distinctive facial stigmata, damage neurons and brain structures, which can result in psychological or behavioral problems, and cause other physical damage.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders



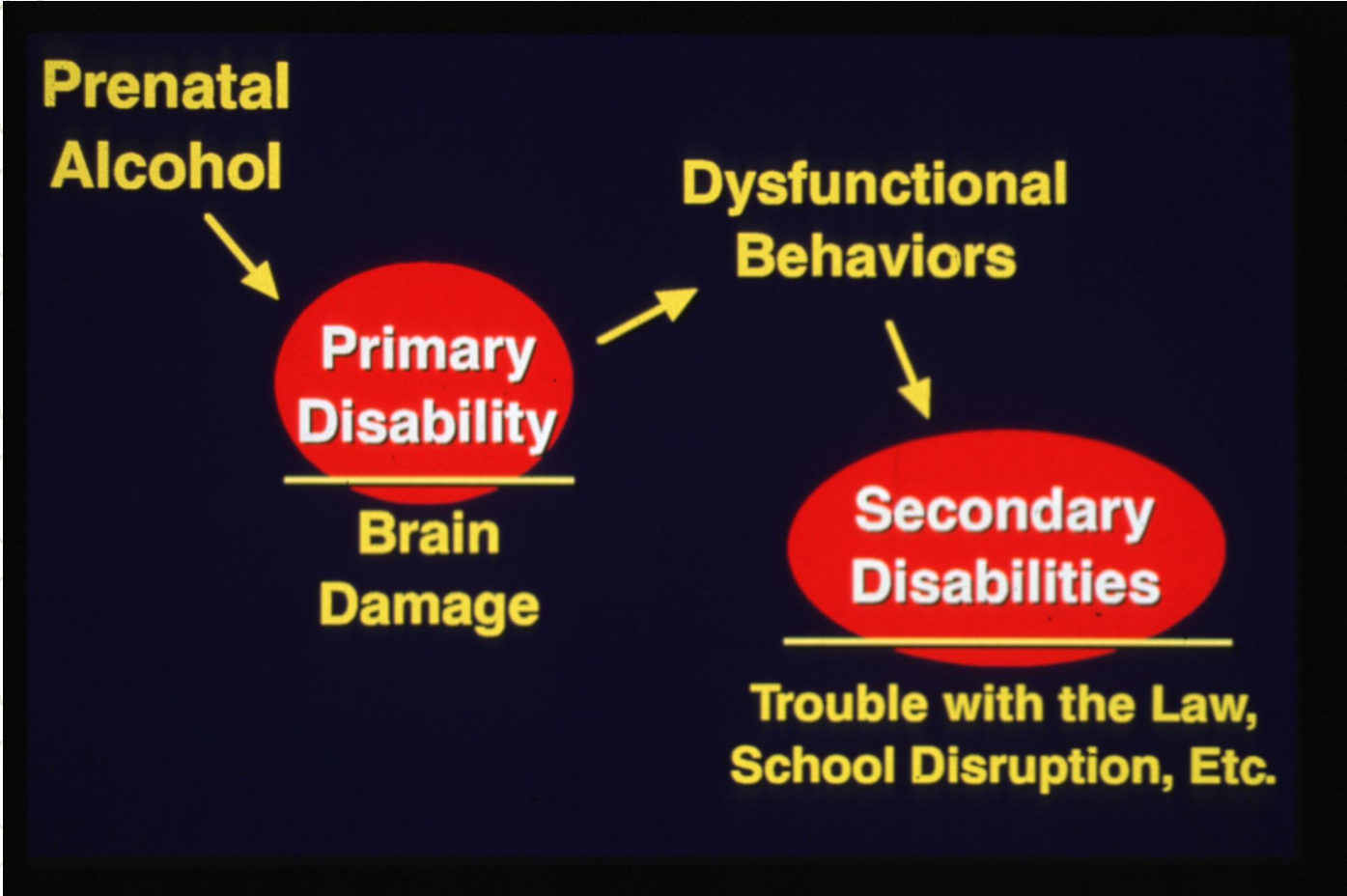
FASD : Umbrella term used to describe a range of adverse effects,
Chudley et al 2005

Disabilities in FASD

PRIMARY disabilities, direct result of the insult to the brain and other organs

SECONDARY disabilities which can result from cognitive and functional needs going unmet.

- ☛ mental health disorders
- ☛ educational failure,
- ☛ alcohol and drug problems
- ☛ employment problems
- ☛ trouble with the law.



Behavioural - Oppositional

- ✦ Oppositional Defiant Disorder

- ✦ Anger

- ✦ Aggressive Behaviours

- Verbal
- Physical

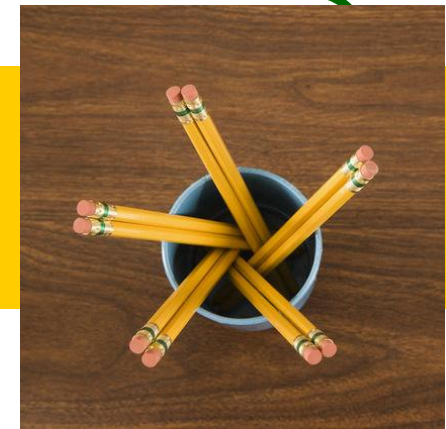


Behavioural - Anxiety

- ✦ Separation Anxiety Disorder
- ✦ Generalized Anxiety Disorder



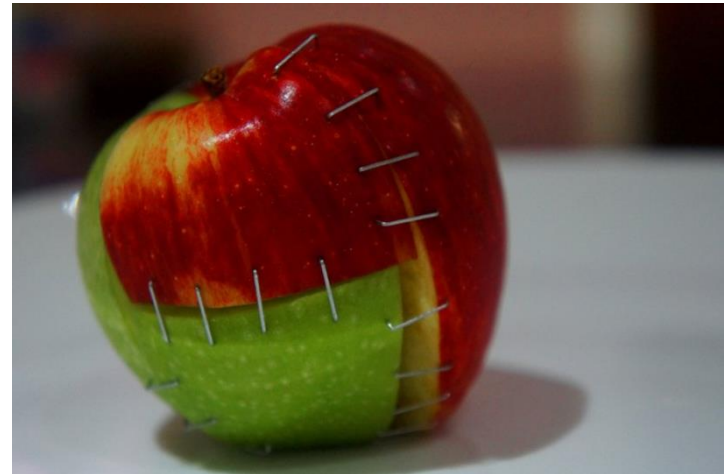
Behavioural - OCD



- ✦ Prevalence in older children
- ✦ Marked by rigidity, control, perfectionism, and an over concern with work at the expense of close interpersonal relationships.
- ✦ Persons with this disorder often have trouble relaxing because they are preoccupied with details, rules, and productivity.
- ✦ They are often perceived by others as stubborn, stingy, self-righteous, and uncooperative.

Behavioural - Depression

- ✦ Adult concept?
- ✦ 2% prevalence in children
- ✦ Beyond normal sadness
- ✦ Suicide / Self harm
- ✦ Eating Disorders



Behavioural - Attachment

- ✦ Long term relationships between humans.
- ✦ Primary care-giver for social / emotional development



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Learning

- ✱ Disability that occurs in childhood characterized by substantial limitations in intellectual functioning and adaptive skills.
- ✱ Difficulties with communication, conceptual skills, social skills, self-care, home living, social skills, community use, self-direction, health and safety, functional academics, leisure, and work.
- ✱ Diagnosis is performed through
 - a) standardized testing;
 - b) determining an individual's strengths and challenges in intellectual and adaptive behavior skills, psychological and emotional considerations, physical and health considerations, and environmental considerations; and
 - c) determining supports needed through an interdisciplinary team.

Learning – Specific LD

- ✚ Group of neurological disorders which become evident in childhood and which are characterized by difficulty learning, sorting, and storing information.
- ✚ Usually affected individuals have with average / above average intelligence.
- ✚ Children with learning disabilities may have one or more difficulties with skills such as listening, speaking, reading, writing, reasoning, or mathematical abilities.
- ✚ Often these disabilities are not identified until a child reaches school age.

Assessment

- 🔦 Clinical Interview
- 🔦 Family & School information
- 🔦 Standardised Tests
- 🔦 School Observations
- 🔦 Co-morbidity
- 🔦 Holistic



Interventions - Family

- ☛ Parenting Programme
- ☛ Psychoeducation
- ☛ Behaviour Programme



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Interventions - School

- ✦ Academic
- ✦ RTLB, GSE, Buddy system
- ✦ Social Skills Group
- ✦ Special Units



Intervention - Child

- ✦ Therapy Programmes
- ✦ Group Sessions
- ✦ Individual
- ✦ Buddy Pairing

Your Turn.....



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