Increasing numbers of adults are seeking out assessment and treatment for ADHD. However, ADHD is considered to be one of the most misdiagnosed conditions, being prone to both over- and under-diagnosis. This presentation provides a model for a comprehensive diagnostic assessment of ADHD in adults that can be tailored and used by clinicians in practice to increase diagnostic accuracy. Issues related to DSM-5 diagnostic criteria for ADHD, presenting symptoms and problems characteristic of ADHD that are not included in the official criteria, the prevalence and persistence of ADHD into adulthood, testing for ADHD, the issue of malingering, as well as telling clients when their difficulties are not consistent with a diagnosis of ADHD will be discussed.

Dr. Ramsay has authored numerous peer-reviewed professional and scientific articles, as well as many book chapters. He is author of four books, most recently the revised and updated second edition of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Adults with ADHD: An Integrative Psychosocial and Medical Approach and its companion patient guidebook, The ADHD Tool Kit (both Routledge, 2015, with co-author Antony Rostain, MD). Dr. Ramsay serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Attention Disorders. He also serves on the Professional Advisory Boards of the Attention Deficit Disorder Association (ADDAR) and Children and Adults with ADHD (CHADD), and is on the Board of the American Professional Society of ADHD and Related Disorders (APSARD). He is recipient of the Martin P. Szuba Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching & Research from PENN and was inducted into the CHADD Hall of Fame for his contribution to the treatment of adults with ADHD. Dr. Ramsay is frequently interviewed by various media outlets regarding issues related to adult ADHD and has lectured across the country and around the world.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

1. Cite the components required for a diagnosis of ADHD in adulthood as defined by DSM-5, including the recent modifications for adults and ongoing limitations.
2. Summarize models that provide a wider view of symptoms of ADHD beyond those outlined in DSM-5 criteria in order to adequately assess for the presence of the ADHD symptoms drawing from contemporary etiologic models of ADHD.
3. Cite at least one source of corroborative information that can be used to augment patient self-report.
4. Identify at least one way in which testing can aid in the evaluation of ADHD and one way in which testing may hinder the identification of adult ADHD in adults.
5. Name at least one clinical inventory that can be used as a part of an adult ADHD evaluation in clinical practice.

General Information

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Phil Rich, L.C.S.W., and Loren Yeareck, M.S.N., R.N. This approval expires on March 1, 2022. To cancel a registration, go to the Contact page. You will be charged $30 for any cancelled registration.

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