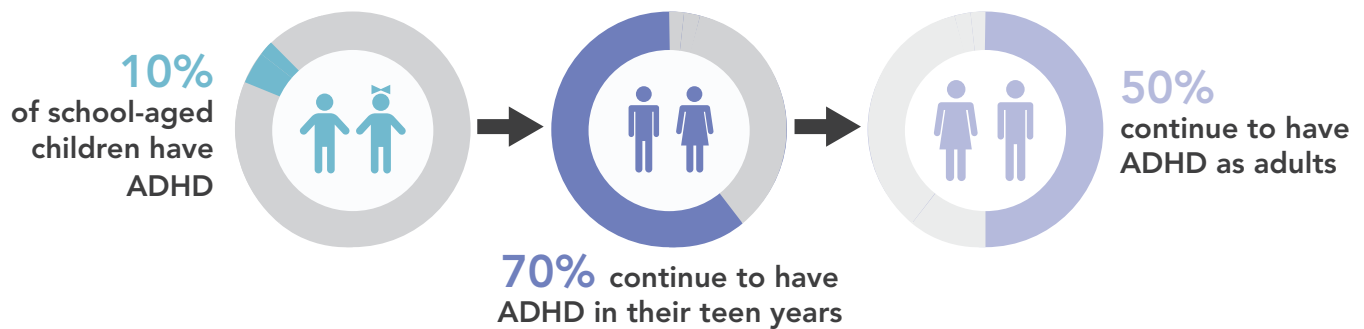
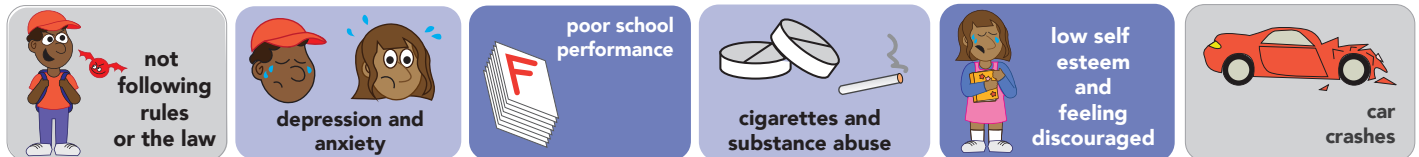


Should I Treat My Child With a Stimulant?



ADHD can have very negative effects on academic achievement, well-being, and social interactions

Possible risks of untreated ADHD in children include:



For children 6 years and older, clinical guidelines recommend treatment with stimulants, behavioral classroom intervention, and parent training in behavior management.

Stimulants are commonly prescribed to children to treat ADHD, but also narcolepsy (a sleep disorder) and obesity

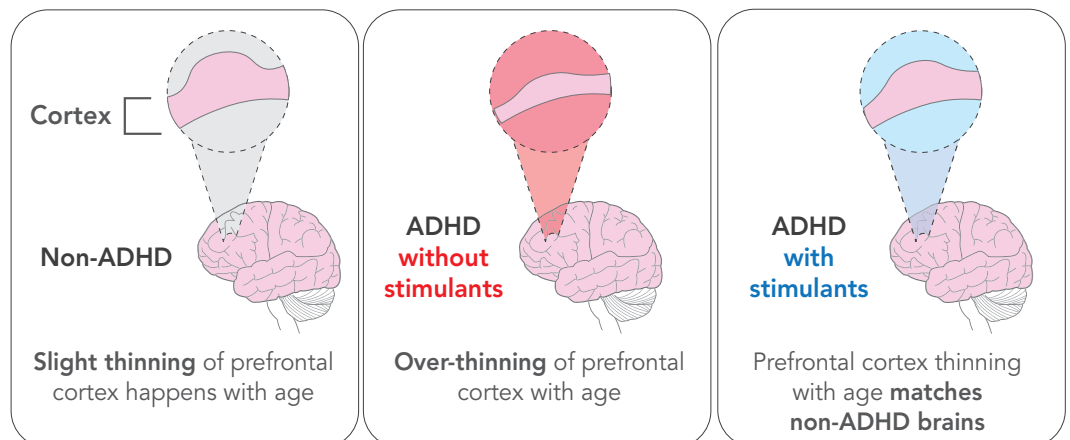
What does the FDA think?

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved two types of stimulants for ADHD, and they are usually used as first-line treatments:

Methylphenidate
(17 formulations)
Amphetamine
(12 formulations)
see next page for more info

ADHD brains can have over-thinning of the prefrontal cortex, which controls behaviors like impulsivity. Stimulants can prevent it.

The cortex is the top layer of the brain



Should I Treat My Child With a Stimulant?



Pros of Stimulants

- About 3 out of 4 children with ADHD will experience symptom relief with a stimulant
- At the correct dose, stimulants improve attention and behavior within 30 to 60 minutes
- Stimulants have been used safely in children for over 40 years
- Early and long-term treatment is linked to a lower risk of cigarette or illegal substance use later in life



Cons of Stimulants

- Short-term side effects like poor appetite, stomachache, headache, and sleep problems
- May cause a slight decrease in height (1–2 cm) that gradually stops after 3 years of treatment
- Rarely, can worsen heart problems and cause irregular heartbeat, shortness of breath, or chest pain

Methylphenidate Formulations for ADHD

Medicines	FDA Approval Age
Methylin, Ritalin IR, Ritalin LA	6–12 years old
Cotempla XR-ODT, Daytrana, Focalin, Metadate CD	6–17 years old
Adhansia XR, Aptensio XR, Azstarys XR, Concerta, Focalin XR, Jornay PM, Methylin ER, Quillivant XR, QuilliChew, Relexxii	6 years and older

Amphetamine Formulations for ADHD

Medicines	FDA Approval Age
ProCentra, Zenzedi	3–16 years old
Evekeo ODT	3–17 years old
Adderall, Evekeo	3 years and older
Dexedrine	6–16 years old
Dyanavel XR	6–17 years old
Adderall XR, Adzenys XR-ODT, Vyvanse, Xelstryl	6 years and older
Mydayis	13 years and older

