

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version
Grade 2/Year 3
Fast Track Project Technical Report
Cynthia Rains
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Citation

Instrument

DuPaul, G.J. (1990). *The ADHD Rating Scale: Normative data, reliability, and validity*. Unpublished manuscript. The University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, MA.

Report

Rains, C. (2003). *ADHD Checklist—Parent Version* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project website: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org/>

Data Sources

Raw: P3Q

Scored: ADP3

I. Scale Description

The ADHD Checklist is composed of 14 items used to evaluate the occurrence of ADHD symptoms in children. These items are listed as the criteria for ADHD in the DSMIII-R and have been placed into a checklist format (DuPaul, 1990). The same checklist can be used for both parents and teachers (see separate detailed technical reports).

II. Report Sample

These exploratory analyses were conducted on the first cohort on the high-risk control sample (n = 155) and the normative sample (n = 387, 463 with overlap) from the third year of the study. 36 records were missing the complete measure. 13 records were missing from the control sample (4 from Durham, 2 from Nashville, 3 from Pennsylvania, and 4 from Washington) and 29 records were missing from the normative sample (5 from Durham, 10 from Nashville, 7 from Pennsylvania, and 7 from Washington). These numbers may reflect some overlap between the two samples.

III. Scaling

The 14 items evaluate a child's behavior and the likelihood of the child having ADHD. Each item is scored on a response scale of 0 to 3, where 0=not at all, 1=just a little, 2=pretty much, and 3=very much.

There are three derived scores and two diagnostic categorizations for this measure. All of these subscales are summary scores that are based on factor analysis or theoretically derived.

The first scale measures *Inattention*. Items include whether the child often fidgets in the seat (item 1), whether the child has difficulty remaining seated (item 2), whether the child is easily distracted (item 3), whether the child has difficulty following instructions (item 6), whether the child has difficulty sustaining attention to tasks (item 7), whether the child shifts from one uncompleted activity to another (item 8), whether the child does not seem to listen (item 12), and whether the child often loses things necessary for tasks (item 13).

The second scale measures *Impulsivity*. Items include whether the child often fidgets in the seat (item 1), whether the child has difficulty remaining seated (item 2), whether the child has difficulty awaiting turn in a group (item 4), whether the child often blurts out answers to questions (item 5), whether the child has difficulty playing quietly (item 9), whether the child often talks excessively (item 10), whether the child often interrupts or intrudes on others (item 11), and whether the child often engages in physically dangerous activities without considering consequences (item 14).

The next scale measures the *Total of all* the items and includes items 1-14. Those scores in this category that exceed the 1.5 standard deviation mark above the mean for age/sex are considered a clinically significant score. A dichotomous score (0 = "not clinically significant" and 1 = "clinically significant") is formed using a cutoff of 33 for male respondents and 24 for female respondents, based on the norms for age 8 provided by DuPaul.

The last scale measures the *Number of Symptoms Present* and includes all of the items. Adding the number of items rated as 2 or higher scores this scale. A score of 8 or more exceeds the DSMIII-R cutoff for a diagnosis of ADHD. Respondents with a total score at or above the clinical cutoff receive a "1" to indicate a diagnosis of ADHD. A "0" indicates that the respondent was not diagnosed with ADHD.

Cronbach's alphas were calculated for each subscale and are shown in the table below:

Subscales	Cronbach's Alpha	
	Control Sample	Normative Sample
Inattention (ADP3INA)	.87	.87
Impulsivity (ADP3IMP)	.76	.77
Total of all (ADP3TOT)	.90	.90
Number of Symptoms Present (ADP3SYM)	.88	.82

Each of the scales showed a high level of internal consistency for both the control and the normative samples.

IV. Differences Between Groups

A series of t-tests between the high-risk control sample and the normative sample (including the overlap) indicated significant differences for all four of the subscales.

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version--Subscales
The TTEST Procedure

Variable	Normative Sample		Control Sample		DF	t Value	Pr > t
	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev			
Inattention (ADP3ATT)	6.96	4.26	11.48	5.19	425	9.57	<.0001
Impulsivity (ADP3IMP)	4.84	3.21	8.09	3.69	425	9.39	<.0001
Total of all (ADP3TOT)	11.80	6.95	19.57	8.36	425	10.16	<.0001
Number of Symptoms Present (ADP3SYM)	0.65	1.48	2.07	3.04	425	6.49	<.0001

The frequency distribution of the *Total of all* diagnostic criterion among the high-risk control and normative samples was:

Table of ADP3diag2 by group				
ADP3diag2 (Diagnosis for Total of all)		group		Total
Frequency	Column Percent	Control	Normative	
Not clinically significant	0	133 93.66	277 97.19	410
Clinically significant	1	9 6.34	8 2.81	17
Total		142 33.26	285 66.74	427 100.00
Frequency Missing = 36				

With $\chi^2 (1, N = 427) = 3.0912, p < 0.0787$, the hypothesis of independence between risk category (normative or high-risk control) and diagnosis of being clinically significant was rejected for these data.

In addition, the frequency distribution of the *Number of Symptoms* diagnostic criterion among the high-risk control and normative samples was:

Table of ADP3diag1 by group			
ADP3diag1 (Diagnosis for Number of Symptoms)	group		Total
Frequency Column Percent	Control	Normative	
Non-ADHD diagnosis 0	136 95.77	284 99.65	420
ADHD diagnosis 1	6 4.23	1 0.35	7
Total	142 33.26	285 66.74	427 100.00
Frequency Missing = 36			

With $\chi^2 (1, N = 427) = 8.8235, p < 0.0030$, the hypothesis of independence between risk category (normative or high-risk control) and diagnosis of ADHD was rejected for these data. (The small cell sizes may be influencing the chi square results.)

Finally, it should also be noted that only 2 children received a score of "1" for both categories (i.e. *Total of all* diagnostic criterion and the *Number of Symptoms Present* diagnostic criterion). More children scored a "1" in just one category rather than in both categories.

Table of ADP3diag1 by ADP3diag2			
ADP3diag1 (Diagnosis for Number of Symptoms)	ADP3diag2 (Diagnosis for Total of all)		Total
Frequency Percent Row Percent Column Percent	0	1	
0	405 94.85 96.43 98.78	15 3.51 3.57 88.24	420 98.36
1	5 1.17 71.43 1.22	2 0.47 28.57 11.76	7 1.64
Total	410 96.02	17 3.98	427 100.00
Frequency Missing = 36			

V. Recommendations for Use

Analysts should note that three of the subscales showed a fairly normal distribution for both the normative and control samples. These subscales were *Inattention*, *Impulsivity*, and *Total of all the items*. Both the normative and the control samples were positively skewed for the *Number of Symptoms Present*.

The normative sample for *Number of Symptoms Present* showed a floor effect with 91% of the responses to be between 0.0 and 3.0. The control sample for *Number of Symptoms Present* showed a floor effect with 76% of the responses to be between 0.0 and 3.0. The highest possible score for this scale was 14.0.

VI. Item and Subscale Means and SDs

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version Items Year 3 Normative Sample

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
P3Q1	Often Fidgets or Squirms in Seat	358	1.2122905	0.8694406	0	3.0000000
P3Q2	Has Difficulty Remaining Seated	358	1.0111732	0.8949834	0	3.0000000
P3Q3	Is Easily Distracted	358	1.2765363	0.8850183	0	3.0000000
P3Q4	Has Difficulty Awaiting Turn in Group	358	0.7960894	0.7852180	0	3.0000000
P3Q5	Often Blurts Out Answers to Questions	358	1.0837989	0.8426416	0	3.0000000
P3Q6	Has Difficulty Following Instructions	358	0.7932961	0.8177031	0	3.0000000
P3Q7	Has Difficulty Sustaining Attention	358	0.9050279	0.8143856	0	3.0000000
P3Q8	Often Shifts from 1 Uncompleted Activity	358	0.8631285	0.8765435	0	3.0000000
P3Q9	Has Difficulty Playing Quietly	358	0.7206704	0.9013949	0	3.0000000
P3Q10	Often Talks Excessively	358	1.3854749	1.0489483	0	3.0000000
P3Q11	Often Interrupts or Intrudes on Others	358	1.0223464	0.7918019	0	3.0000000
P3Q12	Often Does Not Seem to Listen	358	1.0251397	0.7461831	0	3.0000000
P3Q13	Often Loses Things Necessary to Task	358	0.7206704	0.7707304	0	3.0000000
P3Q14	Often Engages in Dangerous Activities	357	0.4089636	0.7233880	0	3.0000000

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version Items Year 3 Control Sample

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
P3Q1	Often Fidgets or Squirms in Seat	142	1.6197183	0.9049305	0	3.0000000
P3Q2	Has Difficulty Remaining Seated	142	1.4436620	0.9713969	0	3.0000000
P3Q3	Is Easily Distracted	142	1.7746479	0.9022774	0	3.0000000
P3Q4	Has Difficulty Awaiting Turn in Group	142	1.3098592	0.8766725	0	3.0000000
P3Q5	Often Blurts Out Answers to Questions	142	1.4929577	0.8315284	0	3.0000000
P3Q6	Has Difficulty Following Instructions	141	1.3120567	0.8546909	0	3.0000000
P3Q7	Has Difficulty Sustaining Attention	142	1.4084507	0.9082360	0	3.0000000
P3Q8	Often Shifts from 1 Uncompleted Activity	142	1.3309859	0.9800986	0	3.0000000
P3Q9	Has Difficulty Playing Quietly	142	1.1338028	0.9544883	0	3.0000000
P3Q10	Often Talks Excessively	142	1.7816901	0.9610588	0	3.0000000
P3Q11	Often Interrupts or Intrudes on Others	141	1.5248227	0.8584168	0	3.0000000
P3Q12	Often Does Not Seem to Listen	142	1.4647887	0.7779038	0	3.0000000
P3Q13	Often Loses Things Necessary to Task	142	1.1197183	0.8462047	0	3.0000000
P3Q14	Often Engages in Dangerous Activities	141	0.8510638	0.9851481	0	3.0000000

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version Subscales Year 3 Normative Sample

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
ADP3INA	Inattention - ADHD-Parent	358	7.8072626	4.8344298	0	24.0000000
ADP3IMP	Impulsivity - ADHD-Parent	358	5.4173184	3.4852280	0	17.0000000
ADP3TOT	Total of all - ADHD-Parent	358	13.2238934	7.8184392	0	39.0000000
ADP3SYM	Number of Symptoms Present - ADHD Parent	358	0.9385475	1.9057984	0	11.0000000

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version Subscales Year 3 Control Sample

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
ADP3INA	Inattention - ADHD-Parent	142	11.4798793	5.1934454	1.0000000	24.0000000
ADP3IMP	Impulsivity - ADHD-Parent	142	8.0929577	3.6876379	0	18.0000000
ADP3TOT	Total of all - ADHD-Parent	142	19.5693391	8.3565679	1.0000000	42.0000000
ADP3SYM	Number of Symptoms Present - ADHD Parent	142	2.0731311	3.0439081	0	14.0000000

V. Item and Scale Correlations

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version Items Year 3 Report Sample

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H ₀ : Rho=0 Number of Observations								
	P3Q1	P3Q2	P3Q3	P3Q4	P3Q5	P3Q6	P3Q7	P3Q8
P3Q1 Often Fidgets or Squirms in Seat	1.00000 <.0001 427	0.67510 <.0001 427	0.53153 <.0001 427	0.43010 <.0001 427	0.34614 <.0001 427	0.39308 <.0001 426	0.41061 <.0001 427	0.43270 <.0001 427
P3Q2 Has Difficulty Remaining Seated	0.67510 <.0001 427	1.00000 <.0001 427	0.57875 <.0001 427	0.57160 <.0001 427	0.39170 <.0001 427	0.47257 <.0001 426	0.50407 <.0001 427	0.50118 <.0001 427
P3Q3 Is Easily Distracted	0.53153 <.0001 427	0.57875 <.0001 427	1.00000 <.0001 427	0.42685 <.0001 427	0.36658 <.0001 427	0.48922 <.0001 426	0.52419 <.0001 427	0.47325 <.0001 427
P3Q4 Has Difficulty Awaiting Turn in Group	0.43010 <.0001 427	0.57160 <.0001 427	0.42685 <.0001 427	1.00000 <.0001 427	0.44541 <.0001 427	0.53492 <.0001 426	0.52395 <.0001 427	0.49698 <.0001 427
P3Q5 Often Blurts Out Answers to Questions	0.34614 <.0001 427	0.39170 <.0001 427	0.36658 <.0001 427	0.44541 <.0001 427	1.00000 <.0001 427	0.31198 <.0001 426	0.35275 <.0001 427	0.34664 <.0001 427
P3Q6 Has Difficulty Following Instructions	0.39308 <.0001 426	0.47257 <.0001 426	0.48922 <.0001 426	0.53492 <.0001 426	0.31198 <.0001 426	1.00000 <.0001 426	0.63301 <.0001 426	0.54157 <.0001 426
P3Q7 Has Difficulty Sustaining Attention	0.41061 <.0001 427	0.50407 <.0001 427	0.52419 <.0001 427	0.52395 <.0001 427	0.35275 <.0001 427	0.63301 <.0001 426	1.00000 <.0001 427	0.62040 <.0001 427
P3Q8 Often Shifts from 1 Uncompleted Activity	0.43270 <.0001 427	0.50118 <.0001 427	0.47325 <.0001 427	0.49698 <.0001 427	0.34664 <.0001 427	0.54157 <.0001 426	0.62040 <.0001 427	1.00000 <.0001 427
P3Q9 Has Difficulty Playing Quietly	0.39573 <.0001 427	0.44685 <.0001 427	0.46973 <.0001 427	0.43902 <.0001 427	0.34982 <.0001 427	0.42781 <.0001 426	0.44842 <.0001 427	0.47651 <.0001 427
P3Q10 Often Talks Excessively	0.36407 <.0001 427	0.43450 <.0001 427	0.42020 <.0001 427	0.35847 <.0001 427	0.39174 <.0001 427	0.31705 <.0001 426	0.36619 <.0001 427	0.38056 <.0001 427
P3Q11 Often Interrupts or Intrudes on Others	0.37063 <.0001 426	0.43268 <.0001 426	0.39761 <.0001 426	0.51710 <.0001 426	0.49496 <.0001 426	0.47930 <.0001 425	0.47307 <.0001 426	0.42584 <.0001 426
P3Q12 Often Does Not Seem to Listen	0.39122 <.0001 427	0.46202 <.0001 427	0.46428 <.0001 427	0.47129 <.0001 427	0.35647 <.0001 427	0.55177 <.0001 426	0.50465 <.0001 427	0.42514 <.0001 427
P3Q13 Often Loses Things Necessary to Task	0.30304 <.0001 427	0.29156 <.0001 427	0.39199 <.0001 427	0.33856 <.0001 427	0.29122 <.0001 427	0.46092 <.0001 426	0.40712 <.0001 427	0.40350 <.0001 427
P3Q14 Often Engages in Dangerous Activities	0.34183 <.0001 425	0.37955 <.0001 425	0.29245 <.0001 425	0.37146 <.0001 425	0.27979 <.0001 425	0.36851 <.0001 424	0.38868 <.0001 425	0.36112 <.0001 425

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations						
	P3Q9	P3Q10	P3Q11	P3Q12	P3Q13	P3Q14
P3Q1 Often Fidgets or Squirms in Seat	0.39573 <.0001 427	0.36407 <.0001 427	0.37063 <.0001 426	0.39122 <.0001 427	0.30304 <.0001 427	0.34183 <.0001 425
P3Q2 Has Difficulty Remaining Seated	0.44685 <.0001 427	0.43450 <.0001 427	0.43268 <.0001 426	0.46202 <.0001 427	0.29156 <.0001 427	0.37955 <.0001 425
P3Q3 Is Easily Distracted	0.46973 <.0001 427	0.42020 <.0001 427	0.39761 <.0001 426	0.46428 <.0001 427	0.39199 <.0001 427	0.29245 <.0001 425
P3Q4 Has Difficulty Awaiting Turn in Group	0.43902 <.0001 427	0.35847 <.0001 427	0.51710 <.0001 426	0.47129 <.0001 427	0.33856 <.0001 427	0.37146 <.0001 425
P3Q5 Often Blurts Out Answers to Questions	0.34982 <.0001 427	0.39174 <.0001 427	0.49496 <.0001 426	0.35647 <.0001 427	0.29122 <.0001 427	0.27979 <.0001 425
P3Q6 Has Difficulty Following Instructions	0.42781 <.0001 426	0.31705 <.0001 426	0.47930 <.0001 425	0.55177 <.0001 426	0.46092 <.0001 426	0.36851 <.0001 424
P3Q7 Has Difficulty Sustaining Attention	0.44842 <.0001 427	0.36619 <.0001 427	0.47307 <.0001 426	0.50465 <.0001 427	0.40712 <.0001 427	0.38868 <.0001 425
P3Q8 Often Shifts from 1 Uncompleted Activity	0.47651 <.0001 427	0.38056 <.0001 427	0.42584 <.0001 426	0.42514 <.0001 427	0.40350 <.0001 427	0.36112 <.0001 425
P3Q9 Has Difficulty Playing Quietly	1.00000 427	0.47923 <.0001 427	0.41558 <.0001 426	0.42828 <.0001 427	0.39996 <.0001 427	0.28735 <.0001 425
P3Q10 Often Talks Excessively	0.47923 <.0001 427	1.00000 427	0.44264 <.0001 426	0.38832 <.0001 427	0.32239 <.0001 427	0.18194 0.0002 425
P3Q11 Often Interrupts or Intrudes on Others	0.41558 <.0001 426	0.44264 <.0001 426	1.00000 426	0.57767 <.0001 426	0.39780 <.0001 426	0.40700 <.0001 424
P3Q12 Often Does Not Seem to Listen	0.42828 <.0001 427	0.38832 <.0001 427	0.57767 <.0001 426	1.00000 427	0.48431 <.0001 427	0.41022 <.0001 425
P3Q13 Often Loses Things Necessary to Task	0.39996 <.0001 427	0.32239 <.0001 427	0.39780 <.0001 426	0.48431 <.0001 427	1.00000 427	0.41802 <.0001 425
P3Q14 Often Engages in Dangerous Activities	0.28735 <.0001 425	0.18194 0.0002 425	0.40700 <.0001 424	0.41022 <.0001 425	0.41802 <.0001 425	1.00000 425

ADHD Checklist—Parent Version Subscales Year 3 Report Sample

Pearson Correlation Coefficients, N = 427 Prob > r under H0: Rho=0				
	ADP3INA	ADP3IMP	ADP3TOT	ADP3SYM
ADP3INA Inattention - ADHD-Parent	1.00000	0.78548 <.0001	0.96106 <.0001	0.72118 <.0001
ADP3IMP Impulsivity - ADHD-Parent	0.78548 <.0001	1.00000	0.92590 <.0001	0.68278 <.0001
ADP3TOT Total of all - ADHD-Parent	0.96106 <.0001	0.92590 <.0001	1.00000	0.74480 <.0001
ADP3SYM Number of Symptoms Present - ADHD Parent	0.72118 <.0001	0.68278 <.0001	0.74480 <.0001	1.00000

Appendix

SAS scoring program removed