

Screen Time vs. ADHD: What are the Consequences?

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Background

Due to living in a technologically advanced society, children are being introduced to various forms of electronics at an early age. Screen time rates in certain pediatric age groups have risen to as much as 20+ hours per week. Coincidentally, the prevalence of ADHD within children 17 and under has risen as high as 9.4% of the U.S. pediatric population. This research study proposes to examine the potential correlation of media usage and ADHD development in the pediatric patient population.

Long-Term Outcomes of ADHD

- 32.2% more likely to drop out of high school when compared to their non-ADHD cohorts
- 11 times more likely to be unemployed and not enrolled in post-high school curricular activities
- 61% more likely to be fired and 33% more likely to be laid off from employment
- 2/3 more likely to experience one or more mental health comorbidities



Discussion

From birth to young adulthood, children experience major neurological growth and development. As the prevalence of ADHD continues to rise, it is necessary to examine the etiological factors contributing to its existence. The proposed research study will use a longitudinal, quantitative design to analyze and gather data on the relationship between pediatric screen time/media usage and the development of ADHD.

