

This file contains the *Qualitative Study - Participant Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria* from the NIHR CATCH-uS ADHD Transition Research Project (2015 – 2019).

For more information or to ask permission to use this tool please contact catchus@exeter.ac.uk

General inclusion criterion (part of the participant selection procedure)

ADHD commonly co-occurs with other neurodevelopmental disorders, such as learning disabilities. We are not excluding children and young people with comorbidities (including learning disabilities); however, when a person, 16 years old or older, is not able to consent, that young person will not be able to be interviewed.

Clinicians will be asked to use their clinical judgment regarding eligibility of the young person for the study; this includes

- **being able to participate in an interview conversation, and**
- **being asked questions about their condition and their future.**

This will be judged by the treating clinician, on a case-by-case basis.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria specified for each different groups

1. Young people: “pre-drop-out-age”

a. Inclusion criteria:

- Age: 14 – 16 years old
- Diagnosed with ADHD

b. Exclusion criteria

- 17 or older
- No formal diagnosis for ADHD

c. Factors that will guide the recruitment:

- Age: spread of age 14, 15, 16
- Gender: make an effort to recruit girls (balance: 1/4)
- Clinically defined comorbidity (that is: what is in the file of the young person):
 - i. Ensure we have some YP without comorbidities
 - ii. Ensure we have some YP with ASD and some without ASD
 - iii. Possible other comorbidities to include: anxiety, depression

d. Elements we will monitor for this group

- IQ (if available)
- SEN

2. Young people: “recently transferred to adult services”

- a. Inclusion criteria
 - Diagnosed with ADHD
 - Referral from child psychiatrists or paediatrician (private or not)
 - Referral accepted by NHS adult services
 - Treatment gap less than 6 months; unless due to waiting list to see adult MH practitioner
- b. Exclusion criteria:
 - Referred by someone else than child psychiatrists or paediatrician (private or not)
 - No particular age cut-off; important here is that they didn't leave services; no re-entry cases (see next criterion)
 - Any gap in treatment episode more than 6 months; unless due to waiting list to see adult MH practitioner
- c. Factors that will guide the recruitment:
 - Gender
 - HE / Vocational training / Employment / NEETS (not in education or employment or training) – we will try to have a few of each (no clear proportional spread over the different groups)
- d. Elements we will monitor for this group:
 - Current comorbidities
 - Type of childhood service
 - Services they receive: CBT, peer-support, other
 - Relationship status
 - Living with parents vs left home

3. Young adults: “re-entering services in adulthood” (interrupted transition)

- a. Inclusion criteria
 - Diagnosed with ADHD in childhood
 - Accepted referral to AMHS
 - Age: 19 – 29 years (lower age boundary: see comment below)
 - Person has to have been “out-of-services” for at least 1 year (as NICE guidelines prescribe a yearly consultation with services when diagnosed with ADHD and presenting symptoms)
- b. Exclusion criteria:
 - 18 or younger, as we would expect that if the YP has dropped out at earlier stage, he or she should still be eligible for children's services.
 - New case: First diagnosis with ADHD in adulthood
 - Discharged from AMHS for their ADHD, re-entered system for other non-ADHD difficulties (with past history of ADHD)
 - Not referred to AMHS for their ADHD when in children's services; re-entering for other non-ADHD difficulties.
- c. Factors that will guide the recruitment:

- Gender
 - Age: good spread between 19.5-25; possibly some older (up to 29)
 - HE / Vocational training / Employment / NEETS (not in education or employment or training) – we will try to have a few of each (no clear proportional spread over the different groups)
 - Comorbidity
- d. Elements we will monitor for this group:
- Source of referral (GP, or other?)
 - Services they receive: CBT, peer-support, other
 - Criminal justice contact (yes/no)
 - Family situation (single, in a relationship, living with parents, ...)

4. Parents of young person with ADHD

- a. Inclusion criteria
- Child with ADHD / a carer (e.g. foster parent, grandparent, special guardian) of child with ADHD
- b. Exclusion criteria:
- No child with ADHD / not a carer of child with ADHD
- c. Factors that will guide the recruitment:
- Age of the child: two groups – good spread of 14-18 and possibly some 19-25 year olds
- d. Elements we will monitor for this group
- Own diagnosis of ADHD
 - Gender: mothers & fathers
 - Gender of their child: girl/boy

We have a single participant notification sheet for all participants. All inclusion criteria are listed; it is indicated which information needs to be collected for each of the four groups. This sheet will provide the information that we need for recruitment purposes (eg. information under sections “c” and “d”) and or help the researcher to prepare the interview (eg. introduction of the interview, familiarisation with the interviewee and issues regarding safety guidelines etc).