## Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale-V1.1 (ASRS-V1.1) Screener

from WHO Composite International Diagnostic Interview

## © World Health Organization 2003

All rights reserved. Based on the Composite International Diagnostic Interview © 2001 World Health Organization. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Requests for permission to reproduce or translate —whether for sale or for noncommercial distribution—should be addressed to Professor Ronald Kessler, PhD, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School, (fax: +011 617-432-3588; email: ronkadm@hcp.med.harvard.edu).

## Are you living with Adult ADHD?

The questions below can help you find out.

Many adults have been living with Adult Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (Adult ADHD) and don't recognize it. Why? Because its symptoms are often mistaken for a stressful life. If you've felt this type of frustration most of your life, you may have Adult ADHD – a condition your doctor can help diagnose and treat.

The following questionnaire can be used as a starting point to help you recognize the signs/symptoms of Adult ADHD but is not meant to replace consultation with a trained healthcare professional. An accurate diagnosis can only be made through a clinical evaluation. Regardless of the questionnaire results, if you have concerns about diagnosis and treatment of Adult ADHD, please discuss your concerns with your physician.

Adult Self-Report Scale-V1.1 (ASRS-V1.1) Screener from WHO Composite International Diagnostic Interview						
	Date					
OV	eck the box that best describes how you have felt and conducted yourself er the past 6 months. Please give the completed questionnaire to your althcare professional during your next appointment to discuss the results.	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
1.	How often do you have trouble wrapping up the final details of a project, once the challenging parts have been done?					
2.	How often do you have difficulty getting things in order when you have to do a task that requires organization?					
3.	How often do you have problems remembering appointments or obligations?					
4.	When you have a task that requires a lot of thought, how often do you avoid or delay getting started?					
5.	How often do you fidget or squirm with your hands or feet when you have to sit down for a long time?					
6.	How often do you feel overly active and compelled to do things, like you were driven by a motor?					

This Adult Self-Report Scale-V1.1 (ASRS-V1.1) Screener is intended for people aged 18 years or older.

The 6-question Adult Self-Report Scale-Version1.1 (ASRS-V1.1) Screener is a subset of the WHO's 18-question Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale-Version1.1 (Adult ASRS-V1.1) Symptom Checklist.

your healthcare provider about an evaluation.

Add the number of checkmarks that appear in the darkly shaded area. Four (4) or more checkmarks indicate that your symptoms may be consistent with Adult ADHD. It may be beneficial for you to talk with

AT28491 PRINTED IN USA. 3000054636 0903500 ASRS-V1.1 Screener COPYRIGHT © 2003 World Health Organization (WHO). Reprinted with permission of WHO. All rights reserved.

## The Value of Screening for Adults with ADHD

Research suggests that the symptoms of ADHD can persist into adulthood, having a significant impact on the relationships, careers, and even the personal safety of patients who may suffer from it.<sup>1-4</sup> Because this disorder is often misunderstood, many people who have it do not receive appropriate treatment and, as a result, may never reach their full potential. Part of the problem is that it can be difficult to diagnose, particularly in adults.

The Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS v1.1) and scoring system were developed in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Workgroup on Adult ADHD, which included the following team of psychiatrists and researchers:

Lenard Adler, MD Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology New York University Medical School

Ronald Kessler, PhD Professor, Department of Health Care Policy Harvard Medical School

Thomas Spencer, MD Associate Professor of Psychiatry Harvard Medical School

As a healthcare professional, you can use the ASRS v1.1 as a tool to help screen for adult ADHD patients. Insights gained through this screening may suggest the need for a more in-depth clinician interview. The questions in the ASRS v1.1 are consistent with DSM-IV criteria and address the manifestations of ADHD symptoms in adults. Content of the questionnaire also reflects the importance that DSM-IV places on symptoms, impairments, and history for a correct diagnosis.

The screener takes less than 5 minutes to complete and can provide supplemental information that is critical to the diagnostic process.

References:

- 1. Schweitzer, J.B., Cummins, T.K., Kant, C.A. Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. *Med Clin North Am.* 2001;85(3):10-11, 757-777.
- 2. Barkley, R.A. Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: a handbook for diagnosis and treatment (2nd ed.). 1998.
- Biederman, J., Faraone, S.V., Spencer, T., Wilens, T., Norman, D., Lapey, K. A, et al. Patterns of psychiatric comorbidity, cognition, and psychosocial functioning in adults with ADHD. *Am J Psychiatry*. 1993:150:1792-1798.
- 4. American Psychiatric Association. *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders,* (4<sup>th</sup> ed., text revision). Washington, DC. 2000:85-93.