### Practical tips for FPs to recognize ADHD in Adults

Sara Binder

## First degree family member with ADHD

 ADHD is a neurodevelopmental D/O

As inheritable as height

• If a child has ADHD, which parent did it come from, or both?

### Emotional Dysregulation

- Road Rage
- Domestic violence
- Marital discord
- Parenting difficulties
- Occupational challenges
- Hard to maintain friends
- Consider ADHD as a primary diagnosis (DDx Bipolar, Borderline)

Consider in patients with Depression or Anxiety who are not in remission with treatment

- High comorbidity of MDD and Anxiety
- Significant Functional Impairment
- Poor response to SSRI's
- Better response to Wellbutrin
- Tendency to self medicate with ETOH, pot, cocaine
- Social Anxiety due to inattention and impulsivity
- GAD "ADHD driven worries"

#### Addictive Behaviours

- ETOH/Drug Abuse
- Gambling
- Sex/Porn
- Internet
- Videogaming
- Binge Eating
- "Adrenaline junky"

# Frequent Accidents & Injuries

- Multiple MVAs
- Many tickets
- Repeated HI/LOC or concussions
- Clumsy/Accident prone
- High risk sports
- Activities leading to injuries

## Unplanned pregnancies or STI's

- Sexual promiscuity impulsivity versus hypersexuality
- Tend not to use protection
- 20% higher STI
- 40% higher unplanned preg's

Post secondary student with 1<sup>st</sup> episode MDD or Anxiety

- Loss of supports and scaffolding
- Up late gaming/internet
- Miss classes
- Don't hand in assignments
- Fall behind
- Start to fail
- Get anxious and avoid
- Get depressed and isolate