

MYTH: ADHD is caused by bad parenting.

FACT: Parents do not cause ADHD.

The disorder arises from the accumulation of many environmental and genetic risk factors.

There is no evidence that poor parenting leads to the inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity that define ADHD.



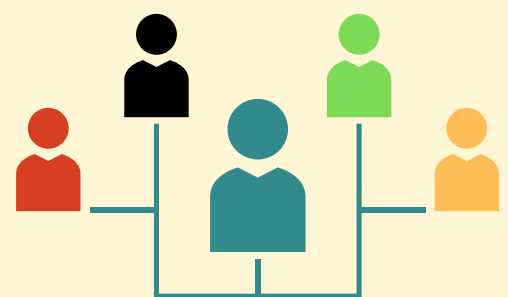
Scientific studies have discovered the causes for ADHD symptoms. These fall into two categories: the genes we inherit from our parents and adverse environmental conditions.

Twelve areas of the human genome harbor risk genes for ADHD. Each individual gene, in itself, has only a small impact on the risk for ADHD.



Scientists have discovered many environmental risk factors for ADHD. Most of these risks occur very early in the development of the brain.

Most cases of ADHD are due to the accumulation and interaction of many genetic and environmental effects that change the brain in a manner that leads to the symptoms of ADHD.



Find out more at ADHDAwarenessMonth.org

Information adapted from "Parents Don't Cause ADHD"
by Stephen V. Faraone, PhD