

# ADHD bij vrouwen

## humeuren & hormonen

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- Specialismeleider ADHD bij PsyQ
- Universitair docent VUMc



Kenniscentrum  
ADHD bij volwassenen



ADHDFUND  
online crowdfunding

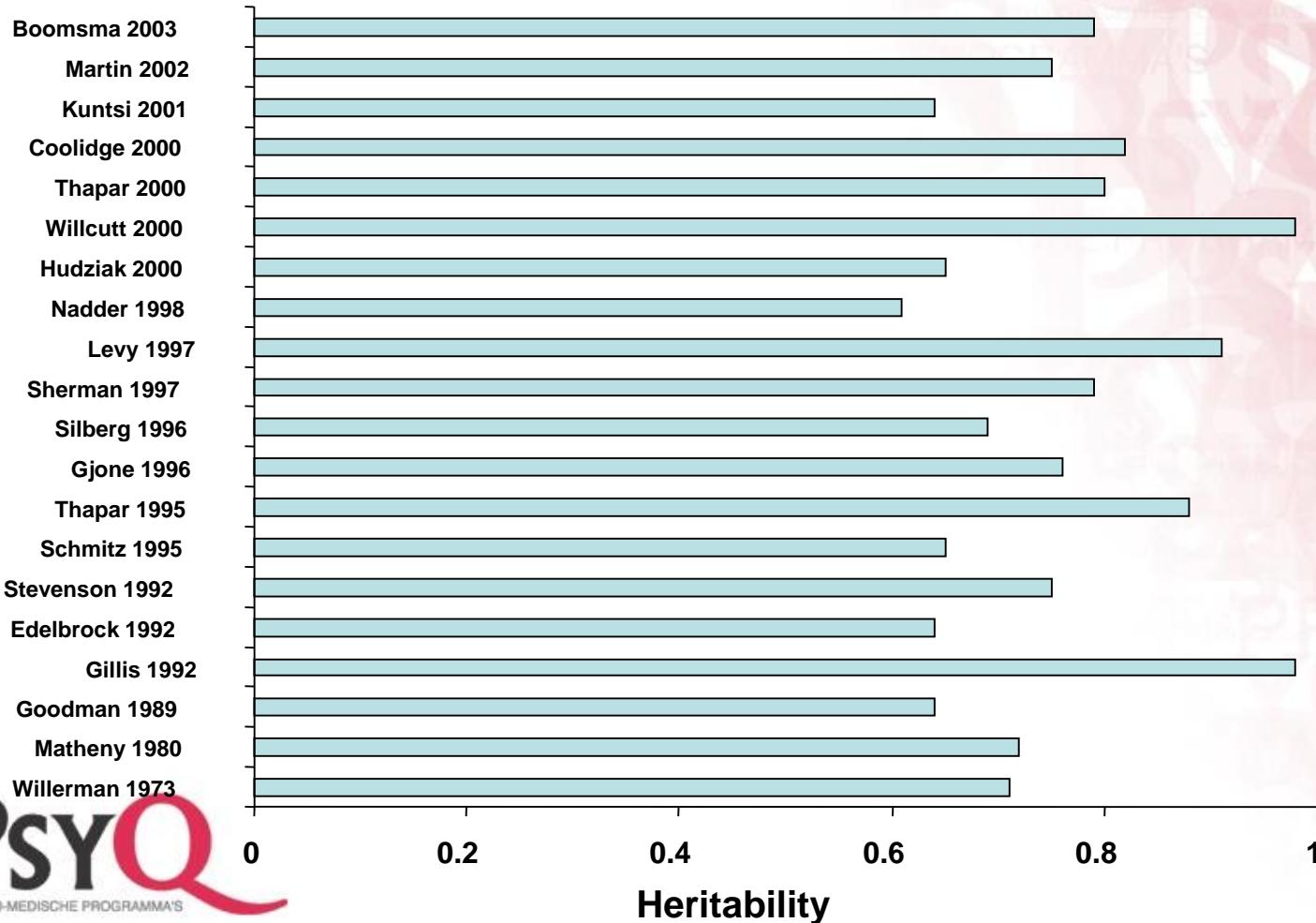
# Subjects

- ADHD: a neurobiological disorder
- Prevalence of ADHD through the lifespan
- Underdiagnosis of girls and women
- Chronic fatigue, moodswings and mooddisorders
- Clinical picture, comorbidity, diagnostic assessment & treatment

# Neurobiology of ADHD

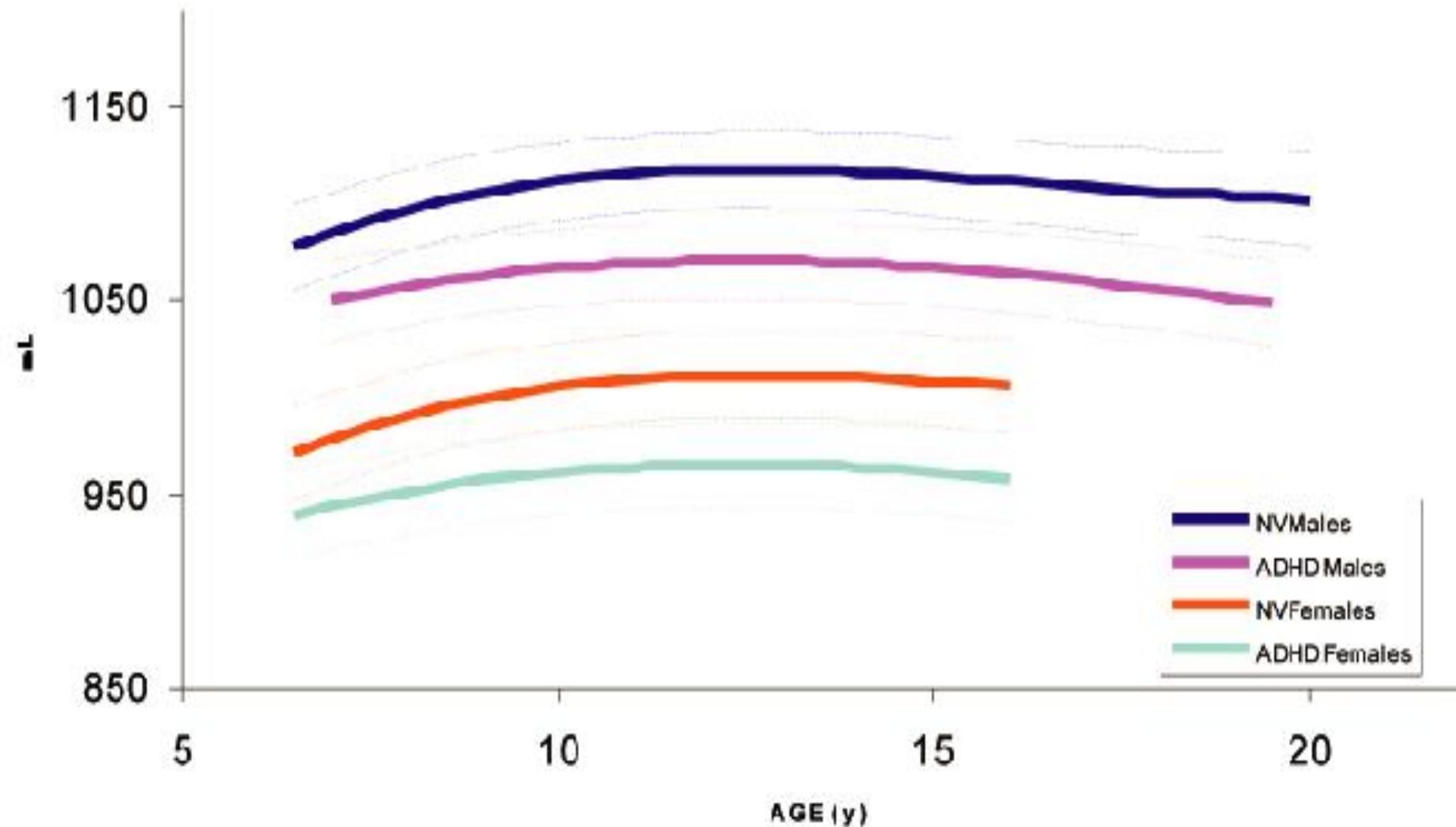
- Highly heritable (80% of variance explained by genetic factors)
- Neurobiological disorder:
  - brain 5% smaller and less active
  - 8 candidate genes, esp. dopaminergic (DRD2,4,5, DAT1)
  - ADHD as an inhibition deficit (no brakes) based on dopamine deficiency
  - Methylphenidate: dopamine agonist; acts as inhibitor of associations, moodswings, restlessness and impulsivity

# ADHD symptom scores in twin studies: highly heritable



# Developmental trajectories of brainvolumes

(Castellanos et al., JAMA, 2002)



Zametkin et. al. 1990



Section on Clinical Brain Imaging, LCM, NIMH

# The brain in ADHD compared to NCs:

Smaller,  
Hypoactive  
&  
Impaired  
functioning



# Prevalence of ADHD through the lifespan

## Children

USA	4 - 8%
% persisting ADHD	50 - 60%

## Adults

USA	4 - 5%
10 countries (mean)	3.4%

## Older people (>65)

Sweden	3.3%
Netherlands	2.8 - 4.2%

# **ADHD and gender: Men more often ADHD?**

	Children M : F	Adults M : F
Clinical studies	2 - 9 x	1 - 2 x
General population studies	2 - 3 x	1 - 1.5x

# Gender differences children and adults

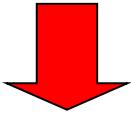
Childhood

$M >> F$



Adulthood

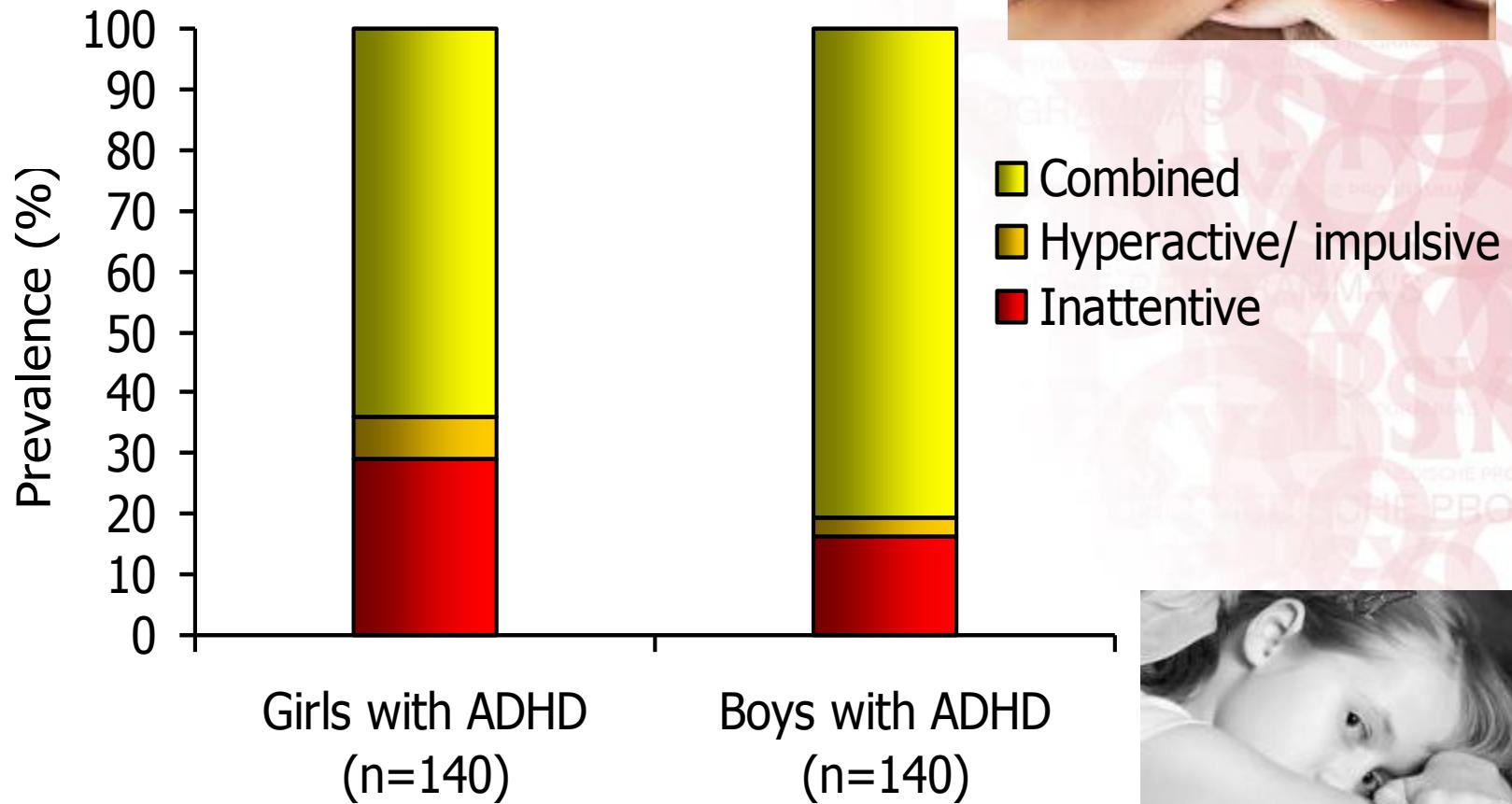
$M = F$



**Underdiagnosis in girls**



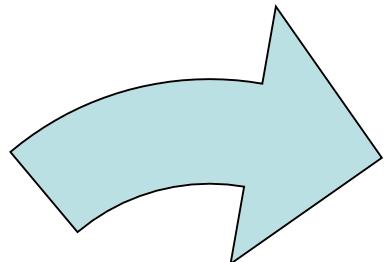
# Girls have more ADD



# Girls and women 2x more often ADHD inattentive type

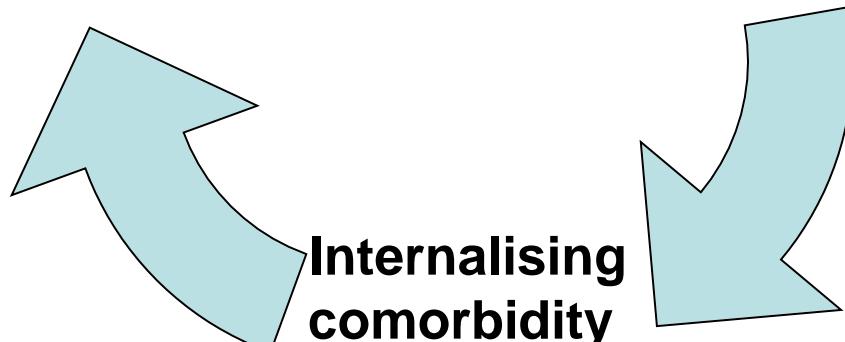
- But majority has still ADHD combined type
- Women have to organise themselves, family, household, childrens' agenda's and their job
- Being a women with ADHD is 'a job from hell', always late, forgetting things ...
- Chaos and tiredness their daily bread
- Low selfesteem and uncertainty about capabilities the result

# Causes of underdiagnosis of ADHD in girls



Referral bias

ADD subtype

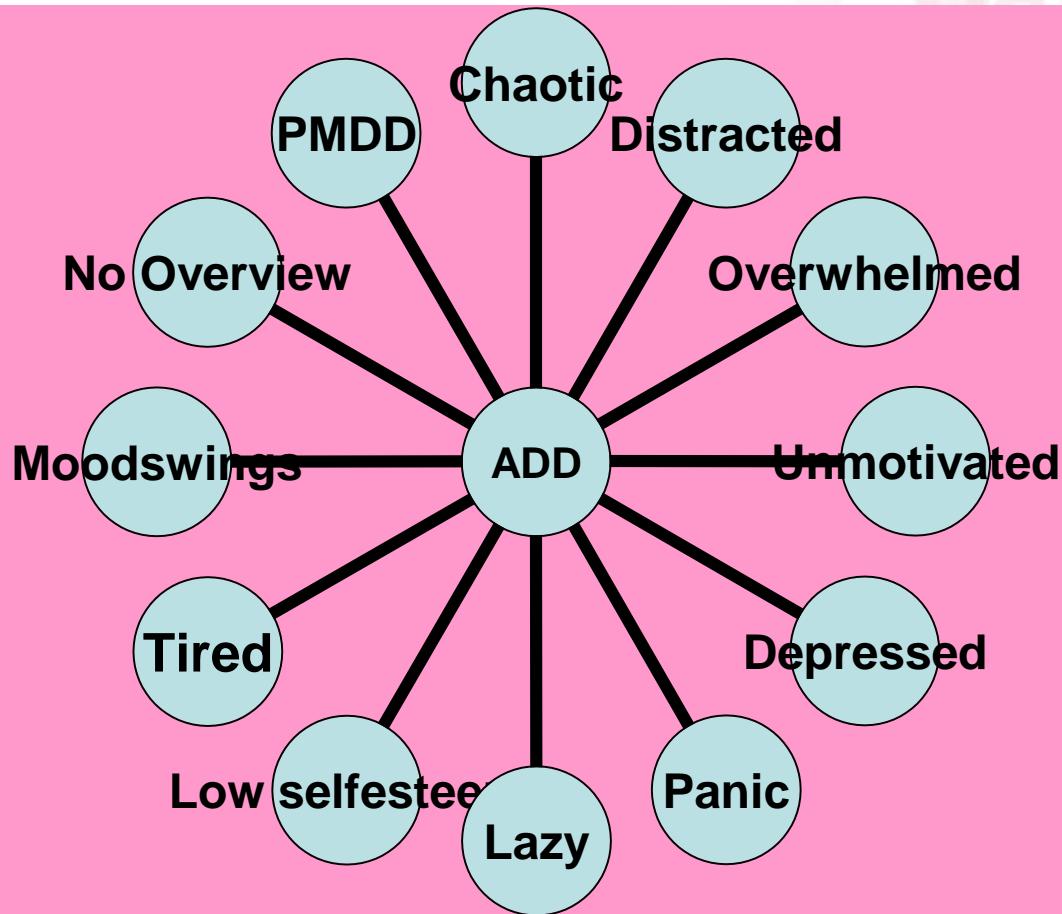


**Internalising  
comorbidity**  
(depression, anxiety,  
premenstrual dysphoric disorder)



**PsyQ**  
PSYCHO-MEDISCHE PROGRAMMA'S

# Complaints girls and women with AD(H)D



## Room with a view?



# Is ADHD like Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS)?

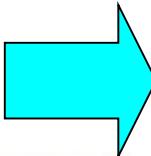
## Inattentive girls referred for being 'tired'?

- Clinical studies: boys more often ADHD
- Epidemiological research: girls similar percentage ADHD as boys

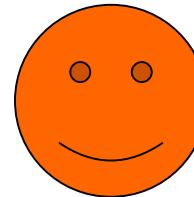
**ADHD in girls is less well known, and their behaviour less disruptive than in boys ...**

Boys have more often:

- ADHD, combined type
- More severe hyperactivity
- Externalising comorbidity (oppositional defiant or aggressive behaviour)



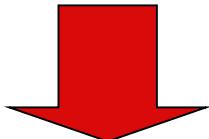
**Being disruptive helps to get help....**



# **Girls are not disruptive ...**

Inattention takes continuous mental effort,

leading to exhaustion ...



**... but may be chronically tired!**



# Clinical picture of ADHD

Lifetime symptoms of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder:

- **Inattention:** distracted, chaotic, forgetful, late, difficulty making decisions, organising and planning, no sense of time, procrastination
- **Hyperactive:** (inner) restlessness, tense, talkative, busy; coping by: excessive sporting/alcohol abuse/avoiding meetings
- **Impulsive:** acting before thinking, impatient, difficulty awaiting turn, jobhopping, binge eating, sensation seeking

In addition in 90% of adults, lifetime:

- **Moodswings** (5x/day) and **Anger outbursts**

# Impairment in adult ADHD

In clinical as well as epidemiological samples compared to controls:

- Learning problems (60%)
- Less graduated
- Lower education
- Lower income
- Less employed, more sickness leave
- More job changes (longest job 5 yrs)
- More often arrested, divorced and more social problems
- More driving accidents, early death, teenage pregnancies, suicide attempts
- Higher (mental) health care costs

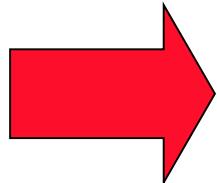


# Ultrakorte screener voor ADHD bij volwassenen

1. Ben je doorgaans rusteloos?
2. Ben je doorgaans snel afgeleid of chaotisch?
3. Doe je doorgaans dingen zonder eerst na te denken?

Als 1 vd 3 antwoorden = ja:

4. Heb je dit al je hele leven/ben je altijd zo geweest?



Zo ja, verdere diagnostiek van ADHD



# DIVA 2.0

Diagnostisch  
Interview voor  
ADHD bij volwassenen

In 18 talen

All DIVAs are online free of  
charge at: [www.divacenter.eu](http://www.divacenter.eu)

DIVA 2.0 App:



NEDERLANDS

DIVA 2.0

D i a g n o s t i c h I n t e r v i e w  
V o o r A D H D b i j v o l w a s s e n e n

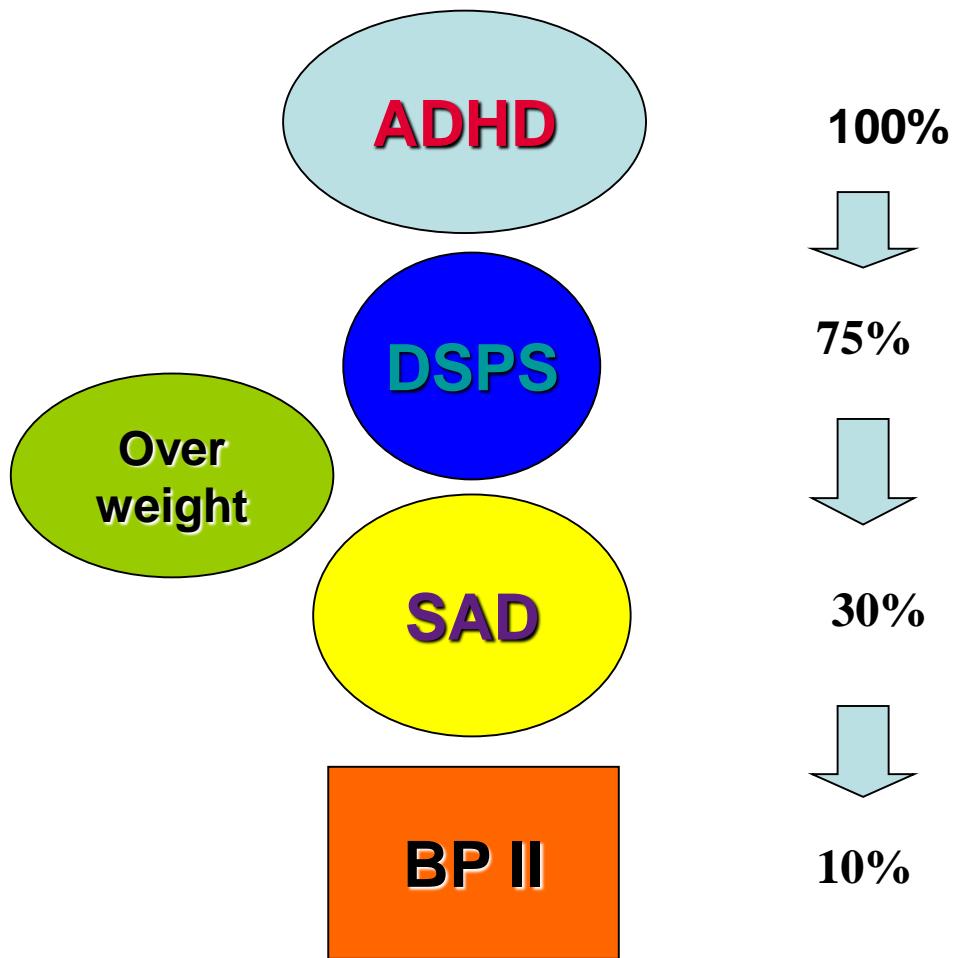
# ADHD is highly comorbid with circadian based disorders

75% has comorbidity (mean 3 disorders):

- Depression (60% SAD) 25-50%
- Anxiety 25%
- Substance Use Disorders 20-45%
- Personality Disorders 6-25%
- Eating Disorders (BN) 9%
- Binge eating 86%
- Obesity 30%
- Sleepproblems, DSPS pattern 80%

Kooij 2001 NTG;145(31):1498-501; Kooij 2004, Psychol Med;34(6):973-82, Kooij 2010, book Adult ADHD; van Veen 2010, Biol Psychiatry 67(11): 1091-6; Biederman 1993, AJP;150(12):1792-8; Kessler 2006, AJP;163(4) :716-23; Pagoto 2009, Obesity;17(3):539-44. Davis 2009, J Psychiatr Res;43(7):687-96.

# ADHD, circadian rhythm, sleep, mood and season



Goikolea 2007, Amons 2006, Lewy 2006,  
van Veen 2010, Bijlenga 2013



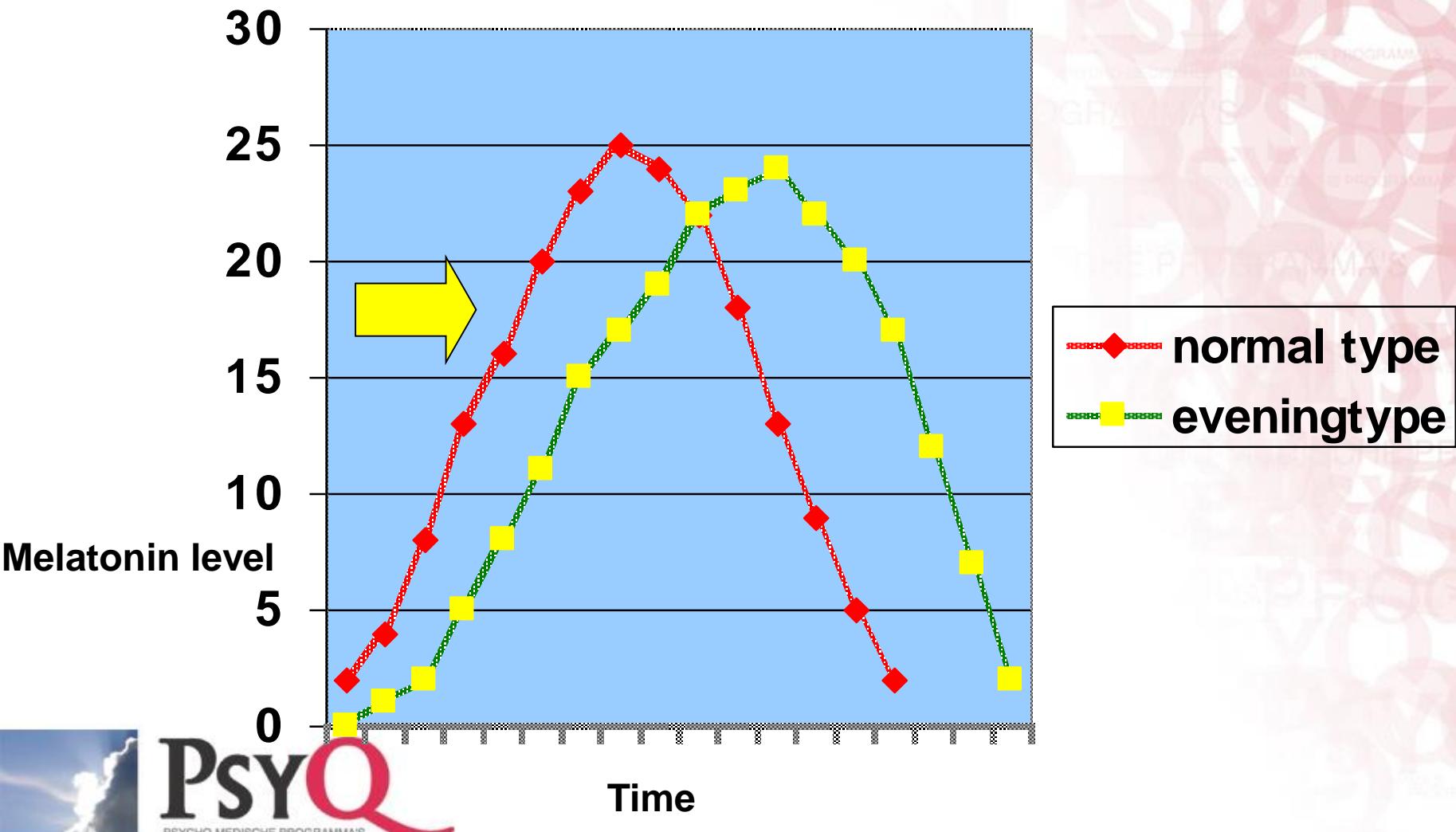
# Are most adults with ADHD evening types?

- Evening types are more active at night, prefer to go to bed late
- They get up late as well
- Evening types may be late due to a delayed onset of melatonin
- If sleeping longer is not possible due to work or school obligations, a chronic sleep dept can result
- Working in evening- or nightshifts may be adaptive
- Question: do adults with ADHD work more often in nightshifts?
- And if so, is that a problem?
- Morningness is associated with low impulsiveness / sensation seeking.
- Eveningness the other way round...



Barkley 1997, J Dev Behav Pediatr, 18(4):271-9. Caci 2004, Eur Psychiatry., 19(2):79-84.  
Levitin 2004, Biol Psychiatry; 56(9):665-9. Van Veen 2010, Biol Psychiatry 67(11): 1091-6;  
Kooij 2012, book Adult ADHD

# Sleep phase delay in ADHD



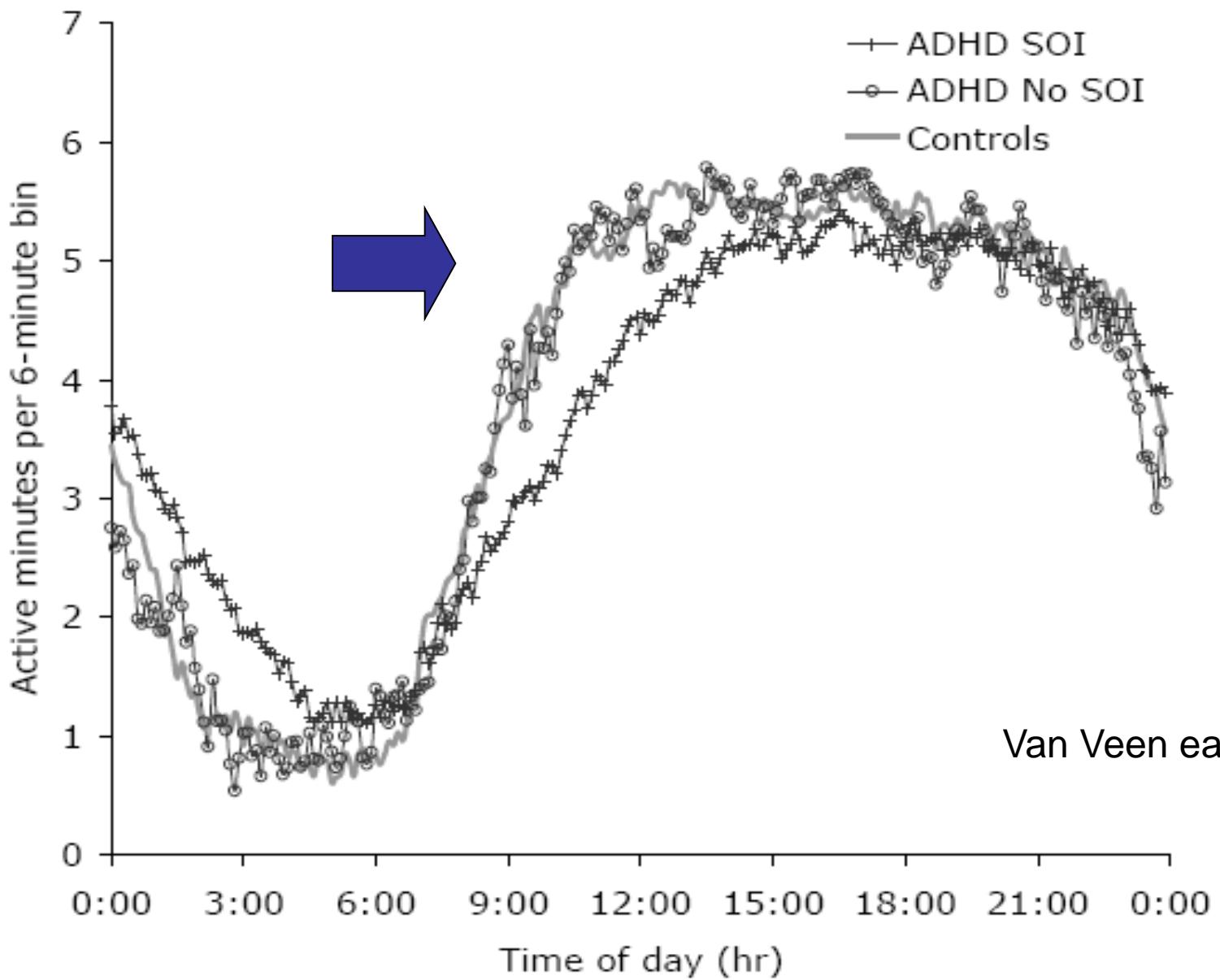
# Dim Light Melatonin Onset (DLMO): delayed

N=40 adults with ADHD w/wo Sleep Onset Insomnia  
versus healthy controls

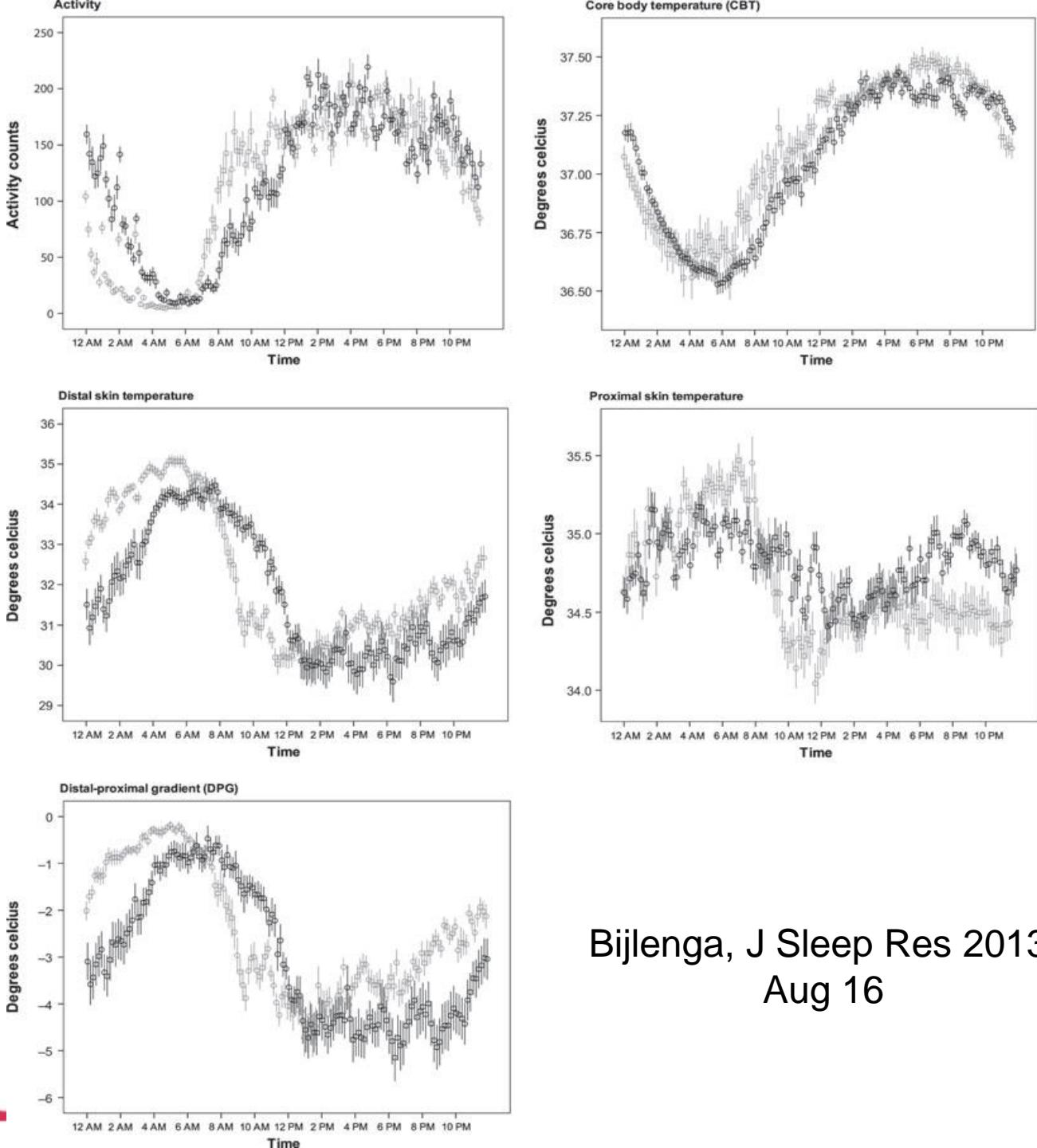
	ADHD Total	SOI	no-SOI	HC	p: ADHD vs HC	p: SOI vs HC
DLMO (hr $\pm$ sd)	22:57 $\pm$ 1:20	23:15 $\pm$ 1:19	22:00 $\pm$ 0:54	21:34 $\pm$ 0:45	0.000	0.000

- 78% of consecutive ADHD patients had SOI
- DLMO: 105 min later in SOI vs HC
- After DLMO, it generally takes another 2 hours to fall asleep

## 24 hour movement patterns ADHD + SOI compared to controls (actigraphy)

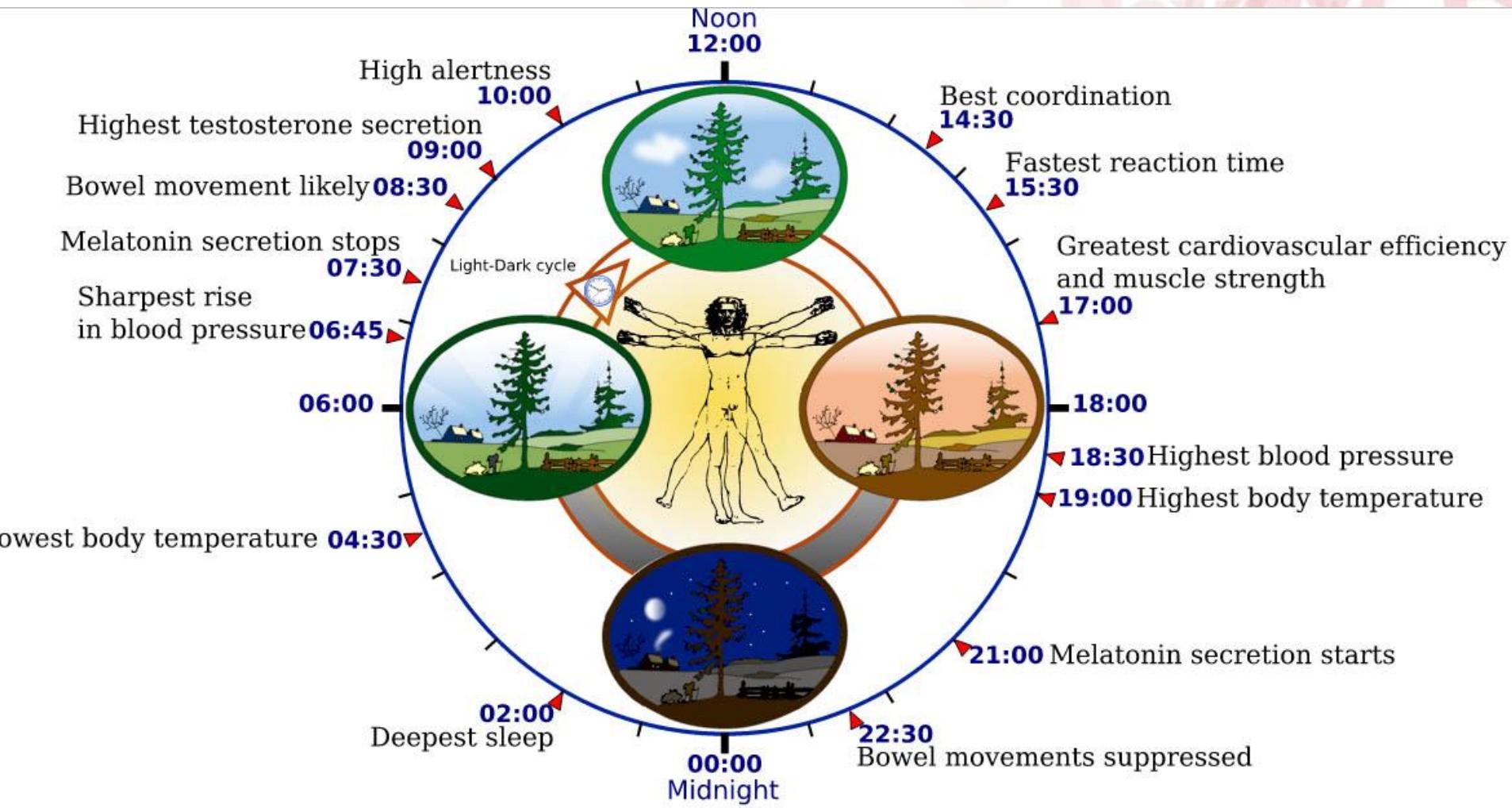


# 24 hr Activity, Core and Skin Temperature, in ADHD versus controls



Bijlenga, J Sleep Res 2013,  
Aug 16

# Biological clock and body rhythms



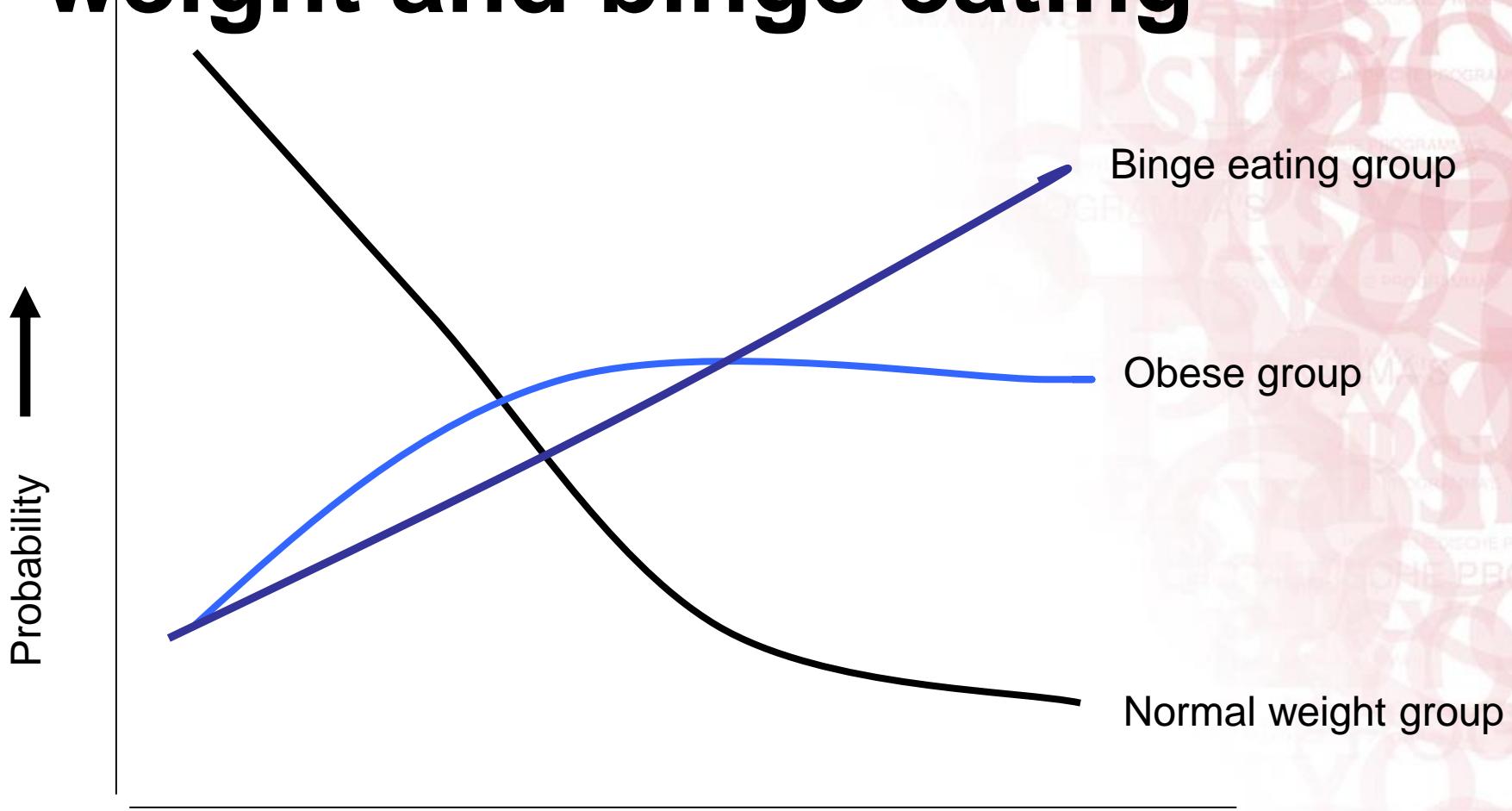
# ADHD & seasonal mood changes



- Adult ADHD co-occurs with lifetime depressive disorder in 55%
- Most of them (60%) have Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) or winterdepression
- Open trial of Light therapy effective for SAD and ADHD, as well as for Delayed Sleep Phase
- SAD has a circadian phase delay in 70%
- Are SAD and ADHD related via circadian disturbances?
- Clockgenes associated with ADHD

Levitian 1999, Compr. Psychiatry, 40(4), 261-7;  
Johansson 2003, Neuropsychopharmacol;28(4):734-9;  
Amots 2006, J Affect Disord;91(2-3):251-5;  
Rybak 2007, Compr Psychiatry;48(6):562-71;  
Lewy 2006, Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A;103(19):7414-9;  
Kissling 2008, Am J Med Genet B, Neuropsychiatr Genet;147(3):333-8.

# ADHD index predicts weight and binge eating



**PsyQ**  
PSYCHO-MEDISCHE PROGRAMMA'S

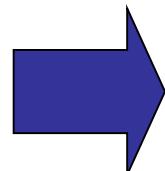
ADHD index  
CAARS



Davis 2009, J Psychiatr Res;43(7):687-96

# Circadian disturbance, ADHD and health

- ADHD is associated with chronic DSPS
- ADHD patients often work in night shifts or are active at night
- May be gene-environment interaction: circadian preference based on (clock)genes and dopaminergic pathways
- But: chronic work (>30 yrs) in night shifts is associated with higher risk of (breast)cancer
- Melatonin acts as a *circadian anti-cancer signal* at night
- Among others (light at night), chronic low melatonin levels may protect less well against development of cancer



is ADHD a high riskgroup for cancer?

Schernhammer 2001, J Natl Cancer Inst;93(20):1563-8;  
Schernhammer 2005, Eur J Cancer;41(13):2023-32; Hansen 2001, J  
Natl Cancer Inst;93(20):1513-5; Blask 2005, Endocrine;27(2):179-88.  
Moser 2006, Conf Proc IEEE Eng Med Biol Soc;1:424-8; Verkasalo  
2005, Cancer Res;65(20):9595-600.

2.00

## Relative risk of breastcancer

First degree relatives

Flight attendants

Hormone Replacement Therapy

**Shiftwork**

1.50

**Alcohol > 45 g/day**

**BMI> 30**

First birth > 35

Current use of contraceptives

Nulliparous



Increased risk

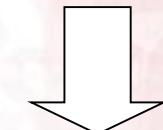
1.00

Physical activity

1 full time pregnancy

First birth <20

Breastfeeding



Decreased risk

0.50

>7 children



# Does cancer risk cluster in ADHD?

Several lifestyle risk factors may cluster in ADHD individuals:

- Night shift work
- High BMI
- Alcohol/drug abuse
- Smoking
- Low melatonin levels?

# Short sleep and cancer risk

- Shift work is considered carcinogenic in the long term (IARC 2007)
- Sleep loss by shiftwork is associated with higher incidence of breast- and prostate cancer
- Short sleep → short exposure to and/or low levels of melatonin
- Melatonin has anti-oxidative properties and protects against cancer growth
- Animal research shows inhibiting effects of melatonin on cancer growth and increased survival
- In humans, first studies with melatonin in cancer patients ongoing

# Cancer risk and exposure to light@night

- Use of artificial light at night stops melatonin production through the eyes, feedback to pineal gland
- The light coming from TV, PC or Ipad also suppresses melatonin production and delays natural sleep onset easily by hours
- Light is the natural antidote to melatonin and wakes us up every day ...
- Timing of light may be crucial for health in general
- Women with total visual blindness have less cancer than sighted women



# HHS Public Access

## Author manuscript

*Endocr Relat Cancer.* Author manuscript; available in PMC 2015 December 01.

Published in final edited form as:

*Endocr Relat Cancer.* 2015 June ; 22(3): R183–R204. doi:10.1530/ERC-15-0030.

## Melatonin: an Inhibitor of Breast Cancer

**Steven M. Hill<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>, Victoria P. Belancio<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>, Robert T. Dauchy<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>, Shulin Xiang<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>, Samantha Brimer<sup>2</sup>, Lulu Mao<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>, Adam Hauch<sup>2</sup>, Peter W. Lundberg<sup>2</sup>, Whitney Summers<sup>1</sup>, Lin Yuan<sup>1,3</sup>, Tripp Frasch<sup>1,5</sup>, and David E. Blask<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Structural and Cellular Biology, Tulane University School of Medicine New Orleans, LA 70112

<sup>2</sup>Department of Surgery, Tulane University School of Medicine New Orleans, LA 70112

<sup>3</sup>Tulane Cancer Center and Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium, Tulane University School of Medicine New Orleans, LA 70112

<sup>4</sup>Circadian Cancer Biology Group, Tulane University School of Medicine New Orleans, LA 70112

<sup>5</sup>Tulane Center for Circadian Biology, Tulane University School of Medicine New Orleans, LA 70112

## Abstract

This review discusses recent work on melatonin-mediated circadian regulation and metabolic and molecular signaling mechanisms involved in human breast cancer growth and associated consequences of circadian disruption by exposure to light at night (LEN). The anti-cancer actions of the circadian melatonin signal in human breast cancer cell lines and xenografts heavily involve MT<sub>1</sub> receptor-mediated mechanisms. In estrogen receptor alpha (ERα)-positive human breast

# ASESA: a case-control study

- To explore the sleep/wake patterns, psychiatric and somatic comorbidity, BMI and eating patterns in adults with ADHD (n=202) compared to the general population (n=189)

# General characteristics

	ADHD, n=202	Controls, n=198	p
<b>Women</b>	47 %	65 %	<.001
<b>Age: mean</b>	34.9	33.0	.121
<b>BMI: mean</b>	24.8	23.2	<.001
<b>BMI ≥ 30 (obese)</b>	17 %	4 %	<.001
<b>Unemployed</b>	27 %	6 %	<.001
<b>Smokes</b>	52 %	18 %	<.001
<b>&gt;14 U alcohol p/wk</b>	17 %	7 %	.016

# Self-reported Morbidities

(showing only significant differences)

	% ADHD, n=202	% Controls, n=198	p
<b>Depressed mood</b>	18	6	<.001
<b>Stress/ burnout/ fatigue</b>	5	1	<.001
<b>Pulmonary problems</b>	31	16	<.001
<b>Cardiovascular problems</b>	43	18	<.001
<b>Gastro-intestinal problems</b>	33	19	.001
<b>Metabolic problems</b>	12	6	.042
<b>Immune system problems</b>	7	3	.049
<b>Skeletal problems</b>	50	36	.005

# Sleep characteristics

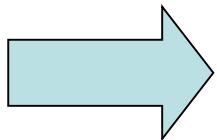
	Age ≤ 30 yrs			Age > 30 yrs		
	ADHD n=83	Controls n=106	P	ADHD n=119	Controls n=83	p
<b>Bed time work days: mean</b>	23:45	23:10	.002	23:33	23:00	.001
<b>Bed time free days: mean</b>	01:02	0:13	<.001	0:20	23:41	.002
<b>Sleep length work days: mean</b>	7:25	7:55	.029	7:01	7:42	<.001
<b>Sleep-onset latency work days: mean</b>	0:39	0:22	.002	0:34	0:12	<.001

Indication of DSPS: 26% in ADHD vs. 2% in controls (p<.001)

# Summary

- More morbidities, complaints, and unhealthy lifestyle in ADHD
- More (extreme) evening chronotype in ADHD
- More sleep problems in ADHD: shorter sleep, longer sleep-onset latency, later mid-sleep, more variable bed times
- DSPS relates to SAD and to health issues
- This is also apparent within the control group
- *Shorter sleep is related to a higher BMI*

# Late sleep = short sleep late meals



Possible impact of a delayed rhythm on weight and health:

- **Sleeping late** may lead to a short sleep duration
- **Short sleep** duration is associated with obesity
- Adults with ADHD tend to **skip breakfast**
- Breakfast skipping is associated with obesity
- ADHD patients suffer from eating problems in 80%, mostly **binge eating**
- Their **weight fluctuates** 10 - 20 kg's
- ADHD is associated with increased BMI
- Obesity is associated with diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer

Kooij 2012, book Adult ADHD;  
Dubois 2009, Public Health Nutr;12(1):19-28;  
Boere 2008, NTG;152(6):324-30;  
Davis 2009, J Psychiatr Res;43(7):687-96;  
Mota 2008, Ann.Hum.Biology;35(1)1-10;  
Copinschi 2000, Novartis Found Symp;227:143-57  
Spiegel 2005, J Appl Physiol;99(5):2008-19

# Sleep loss causes loss of control over appetite

**Leptin (satiety hormone) and ghrelin (hunger hormone):**

- Reducing sleep duration by 2 hours already lowers levels of leptin, the satiety ("fullness") signal
- Sleep restriction study (n=12): leptin ↓ by 18% and ghrelin ↑ by 28%, leading to increased appetite and feelings of hunger
- 13 epidemiologic studies in adults and 8 in children: sleep loss is associated with increased BMI
- Sleep loss is a novel risk factor for insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes

Lauderdale 2006, Am J Epidemiol;164(1):5-16; Lauderdale 2009, Am J Epidemiol;170(7):805-13. Spiegel 2005, J Appl Physiol;99(5):2008-19; Copinschi 2005, Essent Psychopharmacol;6(6):341-7; Shea 2005, J Clin Endocrinol Metab;90(5):2537-44;

# Proposed treatment / prevention of obesity in ADHD

To reset the clock and increase sleep duration:

- Psycho education *on the meaning of time*, the light/dark cycle for sleep, appetite, metabolic entrainment, mood and health
- Sleep hygiene (early to bed and early to rise ...)
- No light@night, shower before going to bed, bedsocks
- Melatonin in evening\*
- Light in morning

To reduce binge eating and weight gain:

- Treatment of comorbidity (depr/anx)
- Treatment of ADHD with stimulant
- Exercise, diet

# Melatonin treatment

- To fall sleep: 3 mg at 22:00 in order to sleep at 23:00
- To reset the clock: 0.1 mg - 0.5 mg between 16:00 and 19:00, *in steps of 1.5 hour/wk from the normal sleep time to the desired bedtime*
- Circadin 2 mg for those who wake up nevertheless at 03:00 am
- No light exposure of tablets of melatonin! (tablets are photosensitive)

Lewy 2005, 2006, continued; Kooij 2012 Boek ADHD bij volwassenen

# Light therapy in the morning: for mood and sleep

- Especially in winter more sleep phase delay in ADHD
- More difficult to get up on time
- Strong early artificial morning light usually works as sunlight in summer
- Melatonin is reduced through closed eyelids by light, which is our natural wake up call
- Light box of 500 W, or Light therapy device of 10.000 lux and timer 30 min before wake up time
- Wake Up Light uses only 75 W and does not wake all patients with delayed sleep phase
- Warning: 500 W light becomes hot and contains UVA+B



Rybak ea 2006



**PSYQ**  
PSYCHO-MEDISCHE PROGRAMMA'S

# Vrouwen humeuren & hormonen

- Vrouwen i.h.a. vaker depressie dan mannen (3-8%)
- PMDD bij 20-30%
- Postnatale depressie bij 13-19%
- Perimenopauzaal weer verhoogde kans

# Stemming bij ADHD vrouwen

- ADHD vrouwen: 55% lifetime depressie,  
w.v. 60% in de winter
- Dagelijkse stemmingswisselingen (4-5x)  
bij 90%
- Vraag: vaker PMDD /PPD/  
perimenopauzale depressie bij ADHD  
vrouwen?      →      geen onderzoek!

# ADHD humeuren & hormonen

- N=138 vrouwen met ADHD op congres ADHDVrouw, mrt 2015
- 62% PMDD (met of zonder OAC) vs normgroep 29%
- 67% PPD vs 16%
- Geen relatie PMDD en PPD
- Meer angst/depressie perimenopauzaal ook, maar kleine groep (n=30)
- Relatie PMDD en perimenopauzale depressie bijna significant
- Vervolgonderzoek gaande, met controle voor lifetime depressie bij PsyQ

# Treatment of ADHD and concurrent disorders

1. Psycho- education
2. Discontinue alcohol/drugs
3. Medication for ADHD and concurrent disorders
4. Light Therapy for late sleep and winter depression
5. Coaching
6. Cognitive Behaviour Therapy
7. Relationship therapy
8. Support or Advocacy Groups

# BESCHIKBARE MEDICATIE voor ADHD

## Bewezen effectief in gecontroleerd onderzoek

Volgorde obv effectsize in Richtlijn NVvP (2015)

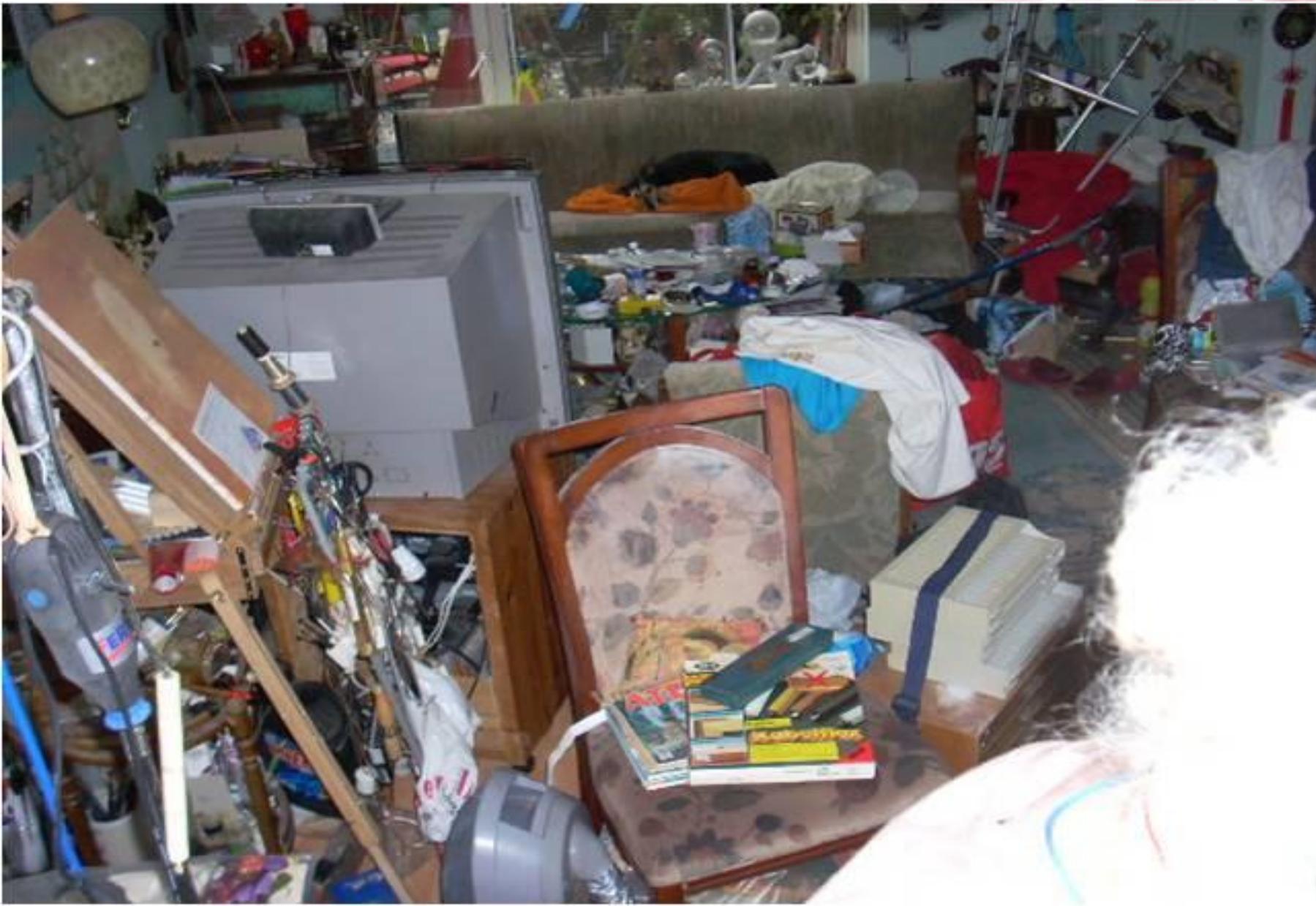
### Stimulantia:

1. Methylfenidaat (Ritalin, Equasym, Medikinet, Concerta, Mph retard Sandoz, Mylan, Regenboog)®: alleen registratie voor ADHD bij kinderen, adolescenten, en jong volwassenen die doorgaan na adolescentie
1. Dextro-amfetamine (Retard Regenboog): registratie Amfexa (5 mg kortwerkend)

### Niet-stimulantia:

2. Atomoxetine (Strattera): registratie voor kinderen en volwassenen met ADHD
3. Bupropion (Wellbutrin XR): registratie voor depressie en stoppen met roken

# Living room before treatment with mph



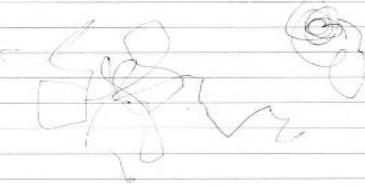
# Living room after treatment with mph



# Homework before and after mph

weird  
famous  
American  
not ~~any~~ more  
empty  
stupid  
all day

Web  
voice  
~~view~~ view dat pagina open (idea)  
meeting  
newsteam  
post  
noticeboard  
start-up-meeting



American  
stupid  
spice  
noticed  
start-up-meeting  
empty  
famous  
weird  
not ~~any~~ more  
all day  
the web  
views views views  
marketing  
newsteam news team news team  
posts



# 10 year Anniversary of (the 28) PsyQ Programs Adult ADHD in the Netherlands, October 2013





# ADHDFUND

## online crowdfunding

- Patient empowerment: patienten bepalen onderzoeksagenda via online voorkeurslijst
- Top 4 voorkeuren (n=538): ADHD en stemming, gezondheid, autisme en slaap
- Nu online: EYEADHD: ADHD, slaap en het oog
- Draag je ook bij?

# Meer info

