



Karolinska  
Institutet

# GODDESS– hur möta ett kvinnligt liv med ADHD– ett liv med stora utmaningar

Helena Kopp Kallner

Överläkare, lektor

Danderyds Sjukhus, Karolinska Institutet

[Helena.kopp-kallner@ki.se](mailto:Helena.kopp-kallner@ki.se)

Cred: Lotta Borg Skoglund, Smart psykiatri, Uppsala Universitet

# Declaration of interest Helena Kopp Kallner

I receive honorariums for lectures on from: Abbvie, Actavis, Bayer, Gedeon Richter Exeltis, Nordic Pharma, Natural Cycles, Mithra, Teva, Merck, Organon, Ferring, Consilient Health Takeda and Medice.

I provide expert opinion for: Bayer, Evolan, Gedeon Richter, Exeltis, Merck, Teva, TV4 och Natural Cycles, Pharmiva, Dynamic Code (ended from my side), Ellen, Estercare, Pharmiva, Gedeon, Gesynta, Essity and Preglife


I am an investigator in trials sponsored by Bayer, MSD, Mithra, Ethicon, Azanta/Norgine, Gedeon Richter, Gedeon, planned study for Organon, Pharmiva and Takeda

I teach in courses sponsored by: Organon, Bayer and Gedeon Richter

I teach courses organized by: SFOG, Karolinska Institutet, Sophiahemmet (medical and nurse midwifery program) and participate in educational activities organised by county councils

I have written book chapters in: Guide for contraception (sponsored by Bayer) and in the Swedish medical Products agency recommendation for contraception and book chapters for 1,6 million club (Swedens largest social club for women)

I am president of the European Society of Contraception and Reproductive Health.

A young girl with blonde hair is the central focus, looking slightly to the right with a thoughtful expression. She is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, top with small dark dots. In the background, another person with dark hair is visible, but they are out of focus. The entire image has a soft, pinkish-purple tint.

“De flesta förstår inte att vissa människor använder enorma mängder energi för att bara vara normala”

Albert Camus

# GODDESS-projektet

- Ett samarbetsprojekt initierat av Helena Kopp Kallner och Charlotte Borg Skoglund
- Idag ett multidisciplinärt forskningsprojekt med gynekologer, psykiatriker, psykologer, barnpsykiatriker, barnmorskor
- Finansierat av privata donationer från familjen Tham och Susanne Hobohms stiftelse

# HORMONERNA

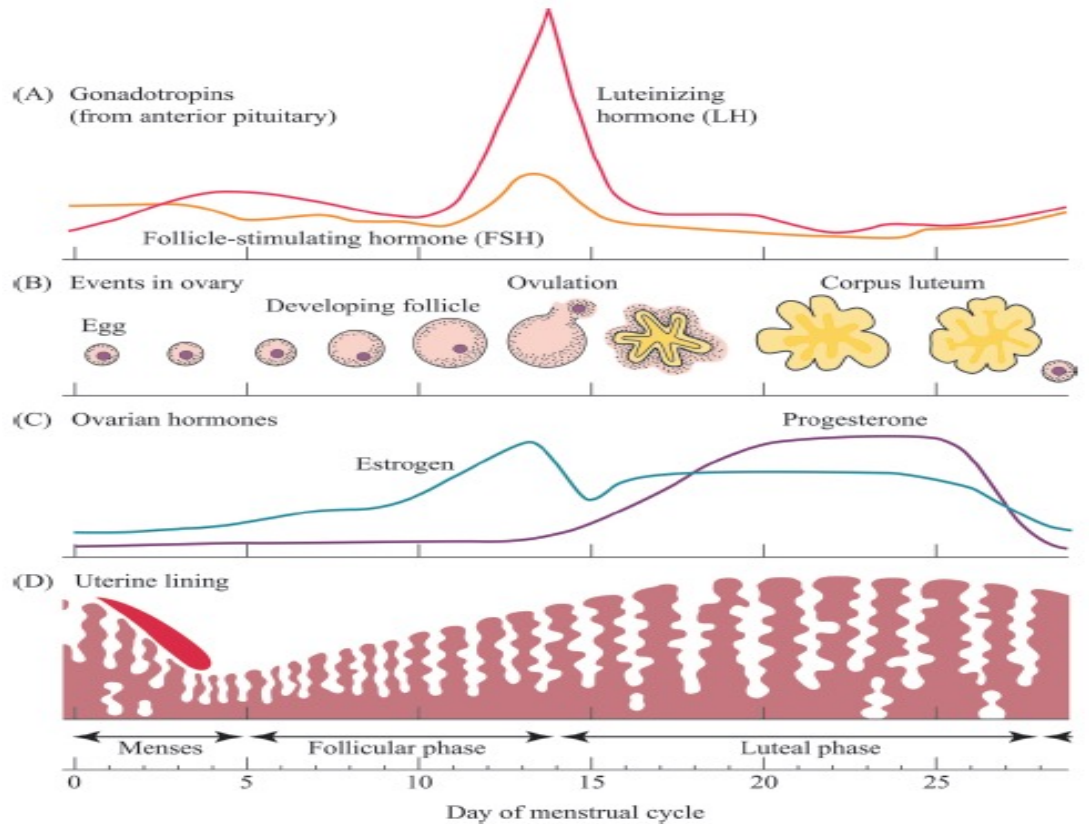
## Genom livet och menscyklerna

- Prepubertet
- Pubertet
- PMS/PMDS
- Graviditet
- Övergångsålder
- Klimakterium

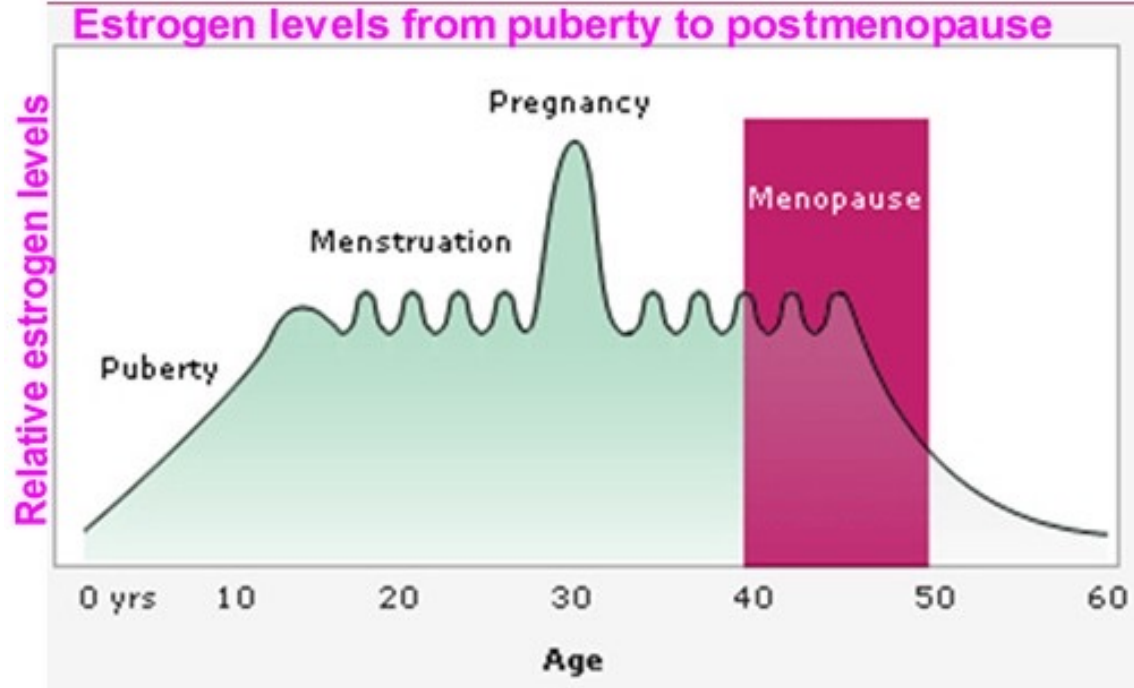
- Symtom
- Sexuell hälsa
- Läkemedelsbehandling



# MENSCYKELN



# ÖSTROGENER GENOM LIVET



# PROBLEMET

Flickor och kvinnor med adhd är ofta **o- eller feldiagnostiserade** och när de väl får sin diagnos sämre behandlade.

De har högre risk för:

- Tidig sexual debut
- Sexuellt risktagande i ung ålder
- Sexuellt överförbara sjukdomar
- Sexuell exploatering och övergrepp
- Oönskade graviditeter och aborter
- Tonårsföräldraskap

Kvinnor med psykiatriska diagnoser utesluts ofta ur forskningsstudier

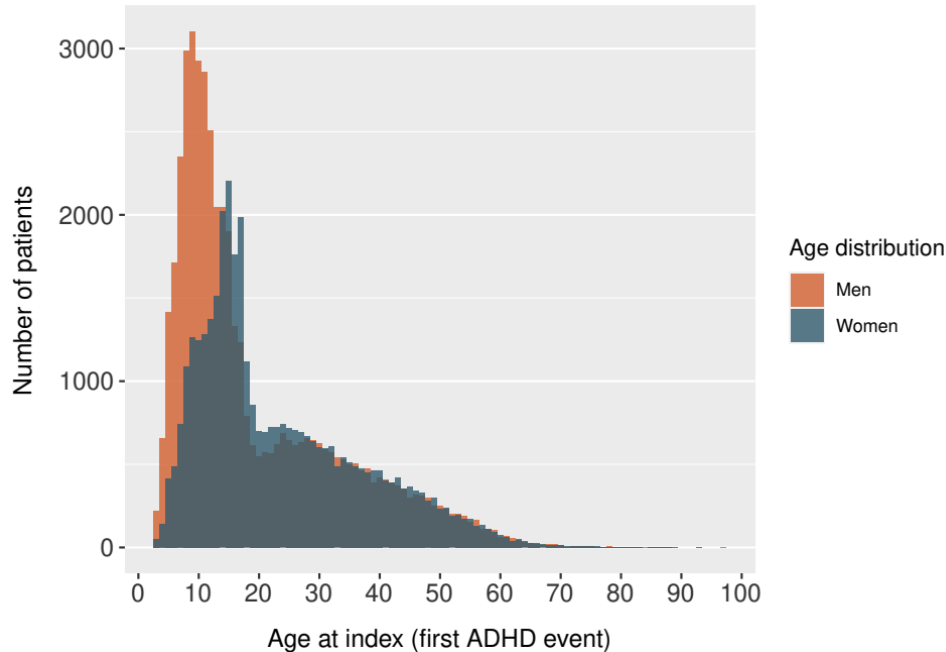
Kunskapen om behandling och stöd är låg

Dawson AE, Wymbs BT, Evans SW, DuPaul GJ. Exploring how adolescents with ADHD use and interact with technology. *Journal of adolescence*. 2019;71:119-137. Young S, Heptinstall E, Sonuga-Barke EJ, Chadwick O, Taylor E. The adolescent outcome of hyperactive girls: self-report of psychosocial status. *Journal of child psychology and psychiatry, and allied disciplines*. 2005;46(3):255-262. Skoglund C, Kopp Kallner H, Skalkidou A, et al. Association of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder With Teenage Birth Among Women and Girls in Sweden. *JAMA network open*. 2019;2(10):e1912463.





# Kvinnor med adhd får sin diagnos senare



- Flickor och kvinnor får dubbelt så ofta diagnosen adhd ouppmärksam form (ADD) och
- har mer internaliserande symtom som inte "stör andra" och kommer därför inte till utredning och behandling (Young 2021).
- Visades av Gershon i en meta-analys 2002.
- Visat av oss i Stockholm

A meta-analytic review of gender differences in ADHD. Gershon J. J Atten Disord. 2002 Jan;5(3):143-54

# UNGA KVINNOR MED ADHD

- ~~Samsjuklighet och risktagande~~  
Funktionsnedsättning på  
emotionell instabilitet
- Depression, ångest, ätstörningar,  
självskada
- Skadligt bruk och beroende
- Sexuellt risktagande &  
tonårsgraviditeter
- Utsatthet, trauma och övergrepp
- Olyckor, suicid och ökad dödlighet



# SAMSJUKLIGHET ÄR REGEL

AFFEKTIVA  
TILLSTÅND<sup>5</sup>

SUD<sup>3,5</sup>

AUTISM

ÅNGEST<sup>4,5,7</sup>

EIPS<sup>6</sup>

ÄTSTÖRNINGAR<sup>8</sup>

ADHD<sup>1,2,7</sup>

ASPD, antisocial personality disorder Image sourced by presenter

1. Franke B, et al. Eur Neuropsychopharmacol 2018;28:1059–88; 2. Nigg JT. Clin Psychol Rev 2013;33:215–28; 3. Biederman J, et al. Pediatrics 1999;104:e20; 4. Hinshaw SP. J Consult Clin Psychol 2002;70:1086–98; 5. Biederman J, et al. J Clin Psychiatry 2012;73:941–50; 6. Kuja-Halkola R, et al. Mol Psychiatry 2018;Oct 15:doi: 10.1038/s41380-018-0248-5; 7. Cortese S, et al. J Clin Psychiatry 2016;77:e421–8; 8. Cortese S, Tessari L. Curr Psychiatry Rep . 2017;19:4

# Women suffer a higher psychiatric co-morbidity

**Table 1: Psychiatric comorbidities in females and males with ADHD**

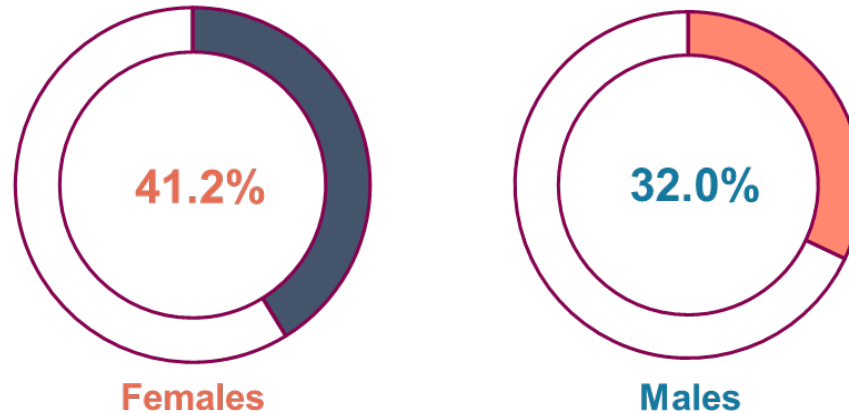
Psychiatric comorbidities*, n (%)	Females (n=37,591)	Males (n=47,739)	P-value† Females vs males
Anxiety disorders including stress	18,932 (50.4)	12,359 (25.9)	<0.001
Mood (affective) disorders	14,103 (37.5)	9,296 (19.5)	<0.001
Substance use disorders	4,834 (12.9)	5,703 (12.0)	<0.001
Autism	3,732 (9.9)	5,955 (12.5)	<0.001
Sleep disorders	2,812 (7.5)	2,300 (4.8)	<0.001
Eating disorders	2,094 (5.6)	273 (0.6)	<0.001
Personality disorders	2,357 (6.3)	1,001 (2.1)	<0.001
Conduct disorder	944 (2.6)	2,001 (4.2)	<0.001
Tics/Tourette syndrome	266 (0.7)	836 (1.8)	<0.001
Psychotic disorders	443 (1.2)	603 (1.3)	0.278
Mental retardation	403 (1.1)	596 (1.3)	0.019

\*Expressed as  $\geq 1$  record of the condition pre- (or at time of) ADHD-index. †P-value for the two-sample proportion test.



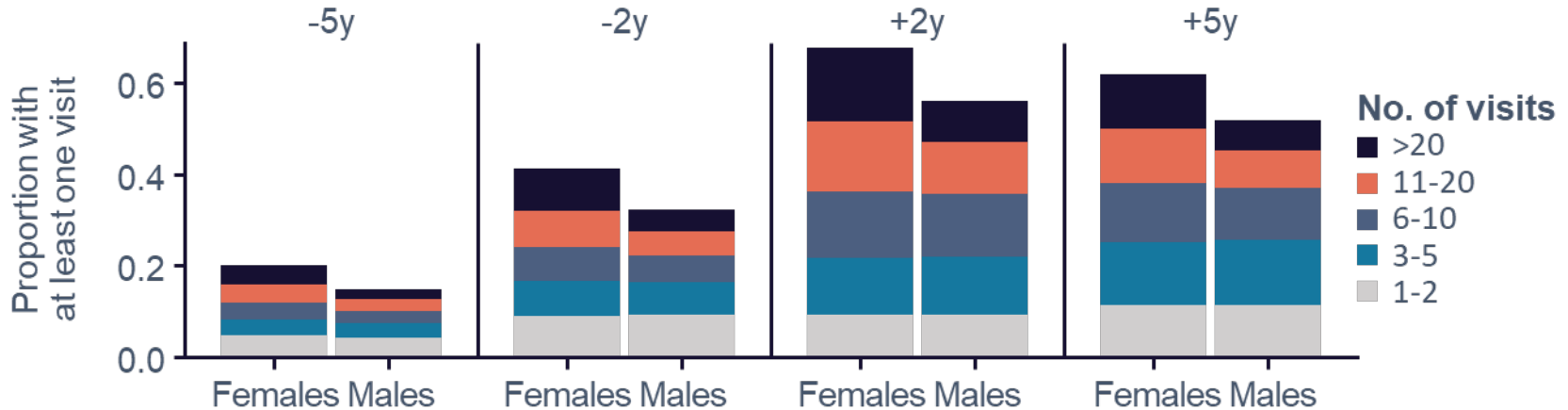
# Samsjuklighet leder till att man söker lösningar – man mår inte bra!

Proportion of outpatients with  $\geq 1$  psychiatric healthcare visit 2 years prior to ADHD index



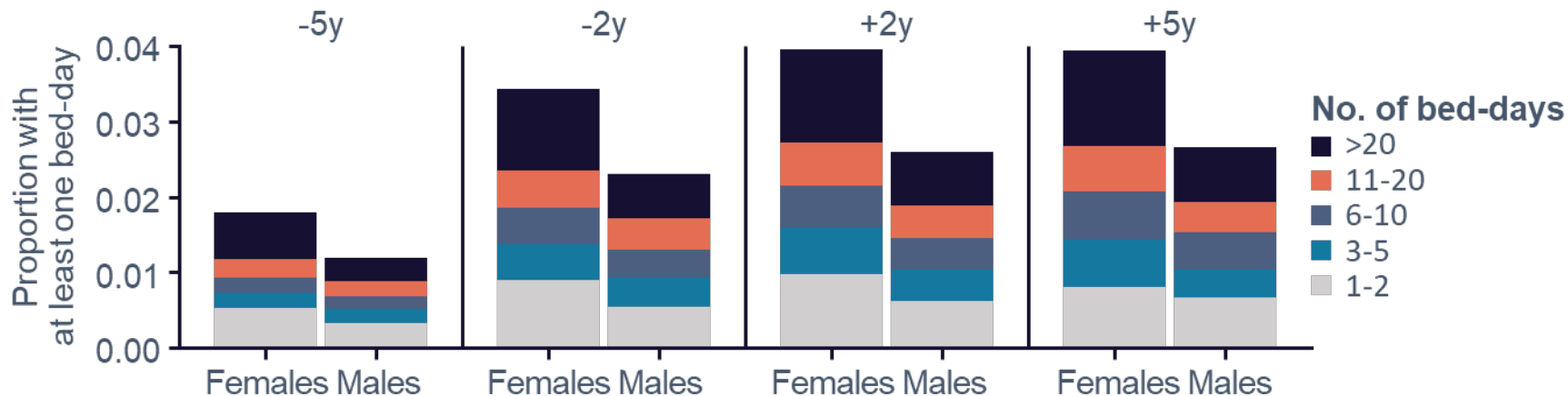
# Enorm belastning på sjukvården

Figure 3: Outpatient psychiatric healthcare utilisation in patients with ADHD expressed as  $\geq 1$  visit over the period 5 years before ADHD-index and 5 years following ADHD-index\*†



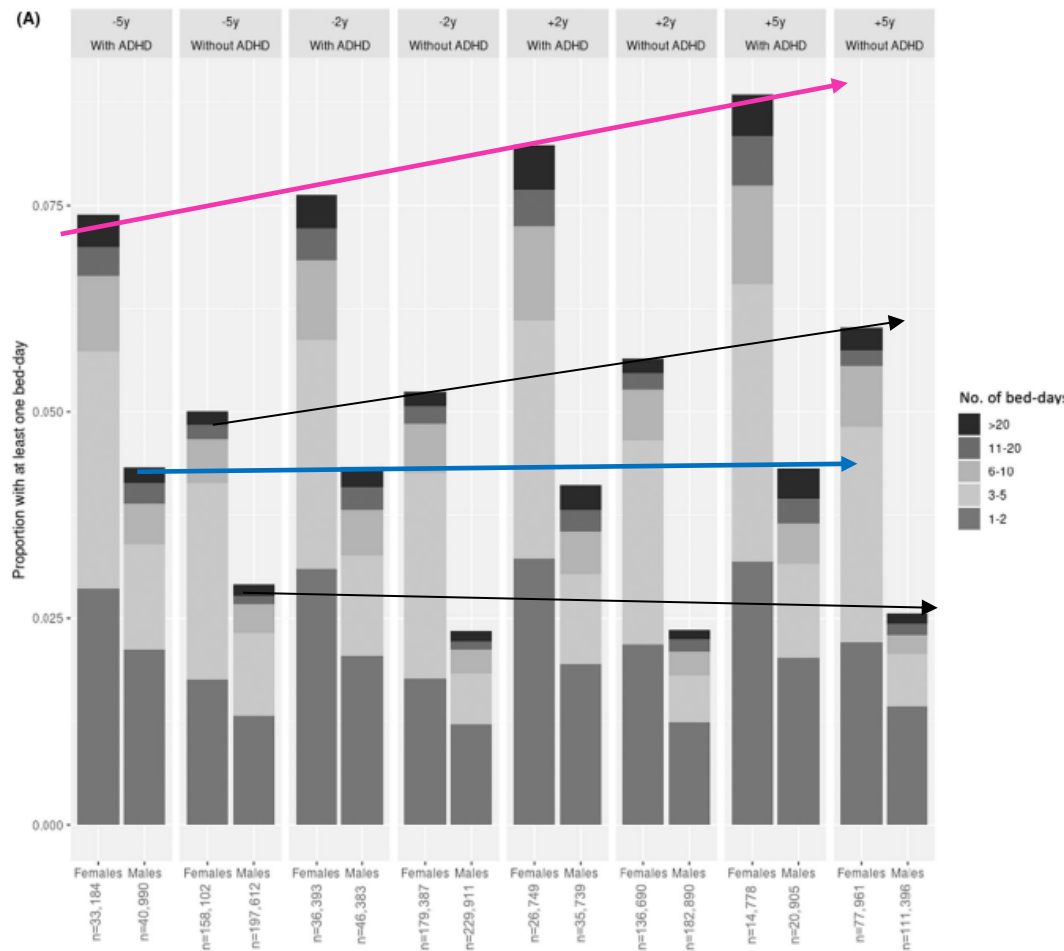
# ... och sjukhusen!

Figure 2: Inpatient psychiatric healthcare utilisation in patients with ADHD expressed as  $\geq 1$  inpatient bed-day over the period 5 years before ADHD-index and 5 years following ADHD-index\*,†



# Somatisk inneliggande vård

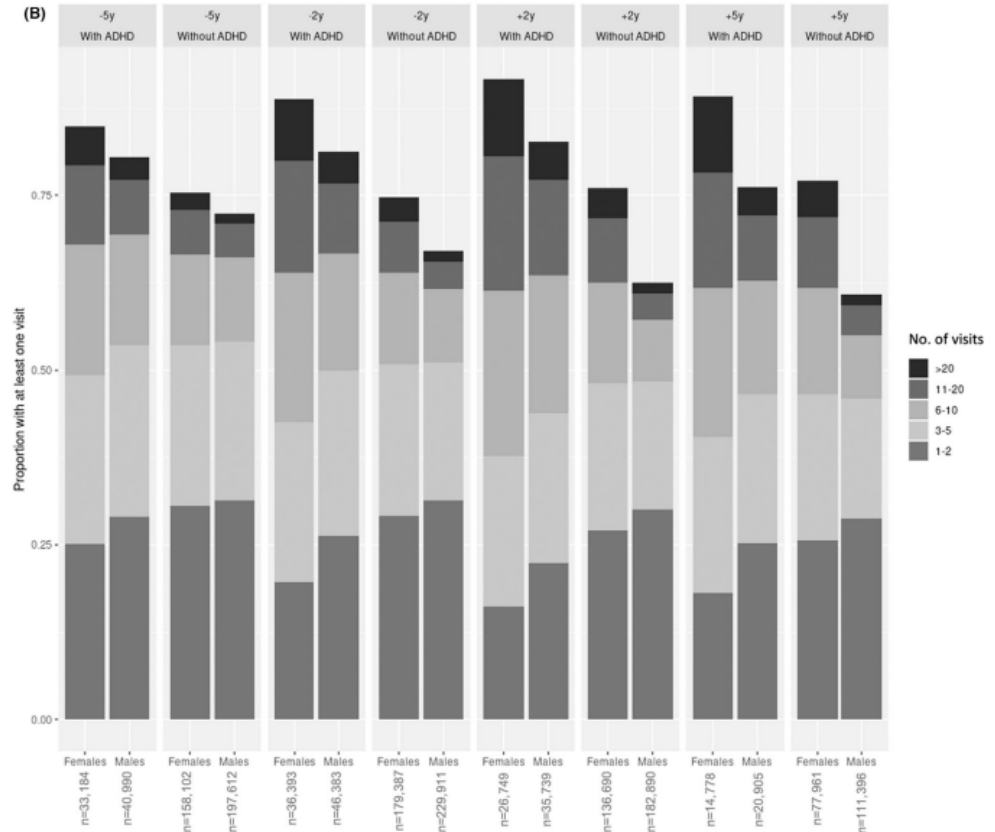
kvinnor konsumerar mer vård  
med åldern både med och  
utan ADHD





# Även poliklinisk somatisk vård

- > 30% av kvinnor med ADHD har 6 eller fler besök till läkare av somatisk orsak varje år.





ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

## Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/srhc](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/srhc)



### Knowledge, challenges, and standard of care of young women with ADHD at Swedish youth clinics

Anna-Karin Klint Carlander<sup>a</sup>, Malin Thorsell<sup>a,\*</sup>, Youstina Demetry<sup>b</sup>, Sky Nikodell<sup>c</sup>,  
Helena Kopp Kallner<sup>a,d</sup>, Charlotte Skoglund<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Clinical Sciences at Danderyd Hospital, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

<sup>b</sup> Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

<sup>c</sup> Medical Program, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden

<sup>d</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Danderyd Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

<sup>e</sup> Department of Neuroscience, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden



# What are the challenges?

## Categories

## Subcategories

## Codes

Challenges in provision of care of young women with ADHD

Communication challenges

Hormonal contraceptives and potential adverse effects

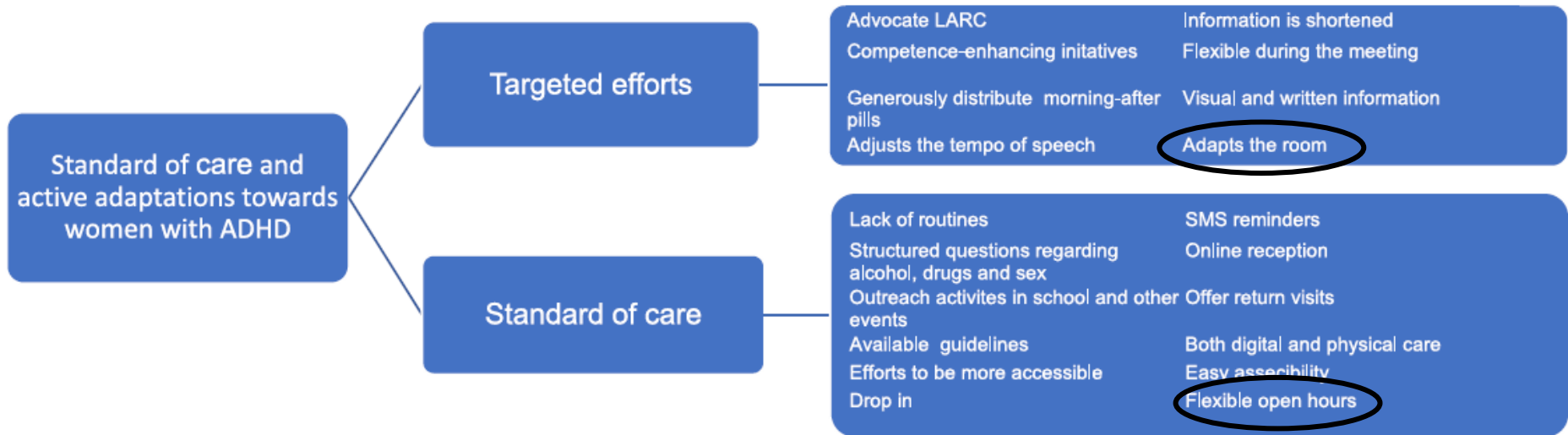
Talks a lot  
Difficulties to stay with the subject  
Restlessness during appointments  
Difficulties to sit still  
Some are quite  
Some are outspoken

Forget what was said  
Doubt as to whether the information was understood  
Difficulties to receive verbal information  
Repeats the question  
Make sure the question is correctly understood

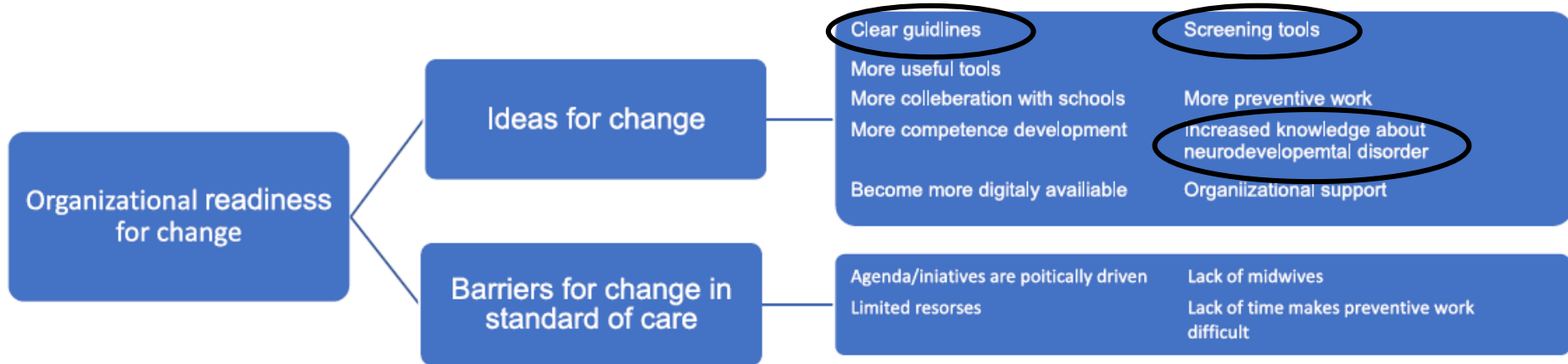
Low acceptance of side effects  
Takes time to find a suitable contraceptive  
A desire to change contraceptives often

Do not trust in contraception  
Impaired adherence to medication  
Attributes to side effects

# Hur gör man idag?



# Vad skulle man vilja ha????





**”Jag har aldrig tålt p-piller, jag får lösa det på nåt annat sätt”**

**Anja 21**



# Hormonal Contraceptive Use and Risk of Depression Among Young Women With Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Cecilia Lundin, MD, PhD, Anna Wikman, PhD, Per Wikman, PhD, Helena Kopp Kallner, MD, PhD , Inger Sundström-Poromaa, MD, PhD, Charlotte Skoglund, MD, PhD 

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**Objective:** Women with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) have an increased risk of becoming teenage mothers. Adverse effects of hormonal contraception (HC), including depression, may affect adherence to user-dependent contraception and increase the risk for unplanned pregnancies and teenage births in women with ADHD. The current study analyzed whether girls and young women with ADHD are at increased risk for depression during HC use compared with women without ADHD.

**Method:** A linkage of Swedish national registers covering 29,767 girls and young women with ADHD aged 15 to 24 years and 763,146 without ADHD provided measures of ADHD and depression diagnoses (*International Classification of Diseases [ICD]* code) and prescription of stimulant medication, HC, and antidepressant medication (Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical [ATC] code). Cox regression models applying an interaction term (ADHD diagnosis  $\times$  HC use) evaluated the excess risk of HC-induced depression in women with ADHD.

**Results:** Women with ADHD had a 3-fold higher risk of developing depression, irrespective of HC use (adjusted hazard ratio [aHR] = 3.69, 95% CI = 3.60-3.78). Oral combined HC users with ADHD had a 5 times higher risk of depression compared with women without ADHD who were not using oral combined HC (aHR = 5.19, 95% CI = 4.94-5.47), and a 6 times higher risk in comparison with women without ADHD who were on oral combined HC (aHR = 6.10 (95% CI = 5.79-6.43). The corresponding risk of depression in women with ADHD who used a progestogen-only pill (aHR = 5.00, 95% CI = 4.56-5.49). The risk of developing depression when using non-oral HC was similarly moderately increased in both groups.

**Conclusion:** Girls and young women with ADHD have an increased risk of developing depression when using oral HC compared with their unaffected peers. Information on risks with HCs as well as potential benefits with long-acting reversible contraceptives needs to be an integrated part of the shared decision making and contraception counseling for young women with ADHD.

**Key words:** ADHD; women; hormonal contraceptive; depression

# Results

**TABLE 2 Risk of Developing Depression in the Study Population, in Relation to Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Diagnosis (n = 29,767), Any Hormonal Contraceptive Use, and Other Covariates**

<b>Covariate</b>	<b>Events/person-years</b>	<b>aHR (95% CI)</b>
None	56,491/2,425,833	1 (ref)
Psychiatric diagnosis	33,641/837,107	1.51 (1.49-1.53)
Parental suicide	721/15,026	1.76 (1.64-1.89)
Medical indication for HC		
Acne	5,567/161,792	1.29 (1.25-1.32)
Dysfunctional bleeding	7,048/146,026	1.40 (1.37-1.44)
Dysmenorrhea	6,937/118,250	1.80 (1.75-1.84)
Endometriosis	1,304/18,192	1.66 (1.57-1.76)
Polycystic ovary syndrome	2,162/52,828	1.36 (1.30-1.42)



# Results

**TABLE 3** Risk of Depression in Relation to Type of Hormonal Contraceptive and in Relation to Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Diagnosis (n = 29,767)

	Women with ADHD	Non-ADHD women	Main effect of HC exposure		HC × ADHD interaction	
	Events/person-years	Events/person-years	aHR (95% CI)	p	aHR (95% CI)	p
<b>Contraceptive</b>						
Combined oral contraceptive	1,524/9,832	16,899/773,693	0.85 (0.84-0.87)	<.001	1.60 (1.51-1.69)	<.001
Progestogen-only pill	453/2,929	4,595/173,518	1.01 (0.98-1.04)	.32	1.22 (1.10-1.34)	<.001
Patch and vaginal ring	168/981	1,811/57,745	1.24 (1.18-1.30)	<.001	1.12 (0.95-1.31)	.14
Implant	697/8,027	4,091/125,623	1.23 (1.19-1.27)	<.001	0.99 (0.91-1.07)	.91
Injection	16/135	156/9,179	1.21 (1.03-1.42)	.51	0.65 (0.39-1.09)	.12
Hormonal IUD	267/2,704	3,001/73,329	1.41 (1.36-1.47)	<.001	0.88 (0.78-1.00)	.06

**Note:** Values are adjusted for age, calendar year, level of education, parental country of origin, parental diagnoses of mental disorder, acne, dysmenorrhea, dysfunctional uterine bleeding, endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome, age, and calendar year. aHR = adjusted hazard ratio; COC = combined oral contraceptive; HC = hormonal contraceptive; POP = progestin-only pill.

# Interpretation

- Our results show that women with ADHD are at increased risk for developing depression
- Further analyses showed that although use of oral HC had no influence on women without ADHD, they did in women with ADHD.
- Medical reasons for treatment with HC increases risk for depression. Medical reasons for HC were more common in women with ADHD, further placing them at risk for depression.





Original Investigation | Obstetrics and Gynecology

# Association of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder With Teenage Birth Among Women and Girls in Sweden

Charlotte Skoglund, PhD; Helena Kopp Kallner, PhD; Alkistis Skalkidou, PhD; Anna-Karin Wikström, PhD; Cecilia Lundin, MD; Susanne Hesselman, PhD; Anna Wikman, PhD; Inger Sundström Poromaa, PhD

## Abstract

**IMPORTANCE** Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is associated with a plethora of adverse health outcomes throughout life. While Swedish specialized youth clinics have carefully and successfully targeted risk of unplanned pregnancies in adolescents, important risk groups, such as women and girls with ADHD, might not be identified or appropriately assisted by these interventions.

**OBJECTIVES** To determine whether women and girls with ADHD are associated with increased risk of teenage birth compared with their unaffected peers and to examine the association of ADHD with risk factors for adverse obstetric and perinatal outcomes, such as smoking, underweight or overweight, and substance use disorder.

**DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS** This nationwide cohort study included data from 6 national longitudinal population-based registries in Sweden. All nulliparous women and girls who gave birth in Sweden between January 1, 2007, and December 31, 2014, were included. Data analyses were conducted from October 7, 2018, to February 8, 2019.

**EXPOSURES** Women and girls treated with stimulant or nonstimulant medication for ADHD (Anatomic Therapeutic Chemical classification code N06BA) in the Swedish Prescribed Drug Register between July 1, 2005, and December 31, 2014.

## Key Points

**Question** Is attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) associated with increased risk of teenage birth?

**Findings** This nationwide cohort study of 384 103 women and girls in Sweden who gave birth for the first time between 2007 and 2014, including 6410 women and girls with ADHD, found that teenage deliveries occurred at a significantly higher rate among women and girls with ADHD than among those without ADHD (15.2% vs 2.8%).

**Meaning** This study suggests that women and girls with ADHD may have an increased risk of giving birth as teenagers compared with their unaffected peers.

# Risks with teenage birth

- Teenage pregnancies are associated with several long- and short term adverse outcomes for
  - both parents and
  - children.
- Young parents are at risk of
  - low educational attainment,
  - single habitation,
  - and use of public assistance.
- Risks for the children include perinatal morbidity and mortality, low socioeconomic status, and low quality of life.
- In Sweden, teenage birth rates have decreased from 15.3% of all births in 1973 to 2.4% in 2014, one of the lowest rates internationally.



# Results

- The overall rate of teenage births in the study was 3.0% (11 615 births).

Teenage deliveries were significantly more common among women and girls with ADHD (15.3%) than in women and girls without ADHD (2.8%).

Women and girls with ADHD contributed to 8.4% of all teenage deliveries during the period.

- Compared with women and girls without ADHD, those with ADHD were associated with a **6-fold increased risk** of giving birth when they were younger than 20 years (OR, 6.23 [95%CI, 5.80–6.68]).

# Hur ser graviditeten ut för unga kvinnor med ADHD

Table 3. Obstetric Risk Factors in Nulliparous Women and Girls With ADHD by Age at Birth

Variable	Women and Girls, No (%)		Odds Ratio (95% CI)
	Aged ≥20 y (n = 5430)	Aged <20 y (n = 980)	
Smoking during the first trimester	1284 (24.8)	375 (40.1)	2.02 (1.75-2.34)
Smoking during the third trimester	1001 (20.3)	293 (34.0)	2.02 (1.73-2.37)
Body mass index <sup>a</sup>			
<18.50	147 (3.0)	54 (6.1)	1.97 (1.42-2.73)
18.50-24.99	2749 (55.2)	512 (58.2)	1 [Reference]
25.00-29.99	1290 (25.9)	212 (24.1)	0.88 (0.74-1.05)
30.00-34.99	523 (10.5)	71 (8.1)	0.73 (0.56-0.95)
35.00-39.99	200 (4.0)	21 (2.4)	0.56 (0.36-0.89)
>40.00	68 (1.4)	10 (1.1)	0.79 (0.40-1.54)
Alcohol or substance use disorder	415 (14.1)	110 (11.2)	1.05 (0.88-1.25)
Alcohol or substance use disorder during 12 mo preceding the pregnancy	157 (5.3)	50 (5.1)	0.72 (0.53-0.98)
ADHD treatment during 12 mo preceding the pregnancy	685 (23.3)	341 (34.8)	1.80 (1.55-2.08)
ADHD treatment during pregnancy	213 (7.2)	112 (11.4)	1.73 (1.38-2.16)



# Premenstruellt dysforiskt syndrom hos kvinnor med ADHD

- In a small study of 209 women, 95 (45.5%) fulfilled diagnostic criteria of PMDD
- Heavy overrepresentation compared to general population

Prevalence of hormone-related mood disorder symptoms in women with ADHD. Dorani F, Bijlenga D, Beekman ATF, van Someren EJW, Koolij JJS. J Psychiatr Res. 2021 Jan;133:10-15.

# Vad är premenstruellt dysforiskt syndrom?

Each evening note the degree to which you experienced each of the problems listed below. Put an "x" in the box which corresponds to the severity:

1 - not at all   **2 - minimal**   3 - mild   **4 - moderate**   5 - severe   **6 - extreme**

Enter day of the week (e.g. Monday = 'M') Note any spotting by entering 'S' Note menstrual bleeding by entering 'M' Date (i.e. 1 = 1st of the month)																																
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<b>1.</b> Felt depressed, sad, "down,", or "blue" or felt hopeless; or felt worthless or guilty	6																															
	5																															
	4																															
	3																															
	2																															
	1																															
<b>2.</b> Felt anxious, tense, "keyed up" or "on edge"	6																															
	5																															
	4																															
	3																															
	2																															
	1																															
<b>3.</b> Had mood swings (i.e., suddenly feeling sad or tearful) or was sensitive to rejection or feelings were easily hurt	6																															
	5																															
	4																															
	3																															
	2																															
	1																															
<b>4.</b> Felt angry, or irritable	6																															
	5																															
	4																															
	3																															
	2																															
	1																															
<b>5.</b> Had less interest in usual activities (work, school, friends, hobbies)	6																															
	5																															
	4																															
	3																															
	2																															
	1																															





# LÖSNINGEN?

## Titra adhd-läkemedel utifrån mencykel för optimal symptomkontroll?

- Större effekt av CS i follikulär fas?
- Premenstruell försämring av adhd-symtom?
- **Skräddarsydd sexual- och preventivmedelsrådgivning?**
  - Förbättrad sexuell och reproduktiv hälsa?
  - Förbättrad emotionell reglering?

## Transdisciplinär forskning och klinisk

Justice J. and de Wit B. *Research in Women's Health*. 1999;145:67-75; Quin P. *J Clin Psychol*. 2005;61(5):577-87; Roberts B. *Psychoendocrinology*. 2018;88:105-14.

