Overlapping Behavioral Characteristics & Related Mental Health Diagnoses in Children

Overlapping Characteristics & Mental Health Diagnoses	FASD	ADD/ ADHD	Sensory Int. Dys.	Autism	Bi-Polar	RAD	Depres-sion	ODD	Trauma	Poverty
	Organic	Organic	Organic	Organic	Mood	Mood	Mood	Mood	Environ	Environ
Easily distracted by extraneous stimuli	X	X								
Developmental Dysmaturity	X			X						
Feel Different from other people	X				X					
Often does not follow through on instructions	X	X					X	X	X	X
Often interrupts/intrudes	X	X	X	X	X		X			X
Often engages in activities without considering possible consequences	X	X	X	X	X					X
Often has difficulty organizing tasks & activities	X	X		X	X		X			X
Difficulty with transitions	X		X	X	X					
No impulse controls, acts hyperactive	X	X	X		X	X				
Sleep Disturbance	X				X		X		X	
Indiscriminately affectionate with strangers	X		X		X	X				
Lack of eye contact	X		X	X		X	X			
Not cuddly	X			X		X	X			
Lying about the obvious	X				X	X				
Learning lags: "Won't learn, some can't learn"	X		X			X			X	X
Incessant chatter, **or** abnormal speech patterns	X		X	X	X	X				
Increased startle response	X		X						X	
Emotionally volatile, often exhibit wide mood swings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Depression develops, often in teen years	X	X				X			X	
Problems with social interactions	X			X	X		X			
Defect in speech and language, delays	X			X						
Over/under-responsive to stimuli	X	X	X	X						
Perseveration, inflexibility	X			X	X					
Escalation in response to stress	X		X	X	X		X		X	
Poor problem solving	X			X	X		X			
Difficulty seeing cause & effect	X			X						
Exceptional abilities in one area	X			X						
Guess at what "normal" is	X			X						
Lie when it would be easy to tell the truth	X				X	X				
Difficulty initiating, following through	X	X			X		X			
Difficulty with relationships	X		X	X	X	X	X			
Manage time poorly/lack of comprehension of time	X	X			X		X			X
Information processing difficulties speech/language: receptive vs. expressive	X			X						
Often loses temper	X		X		X		X	X	X	
Often argues with adults	X				X			X		
Often actively defies or refuses to comply	X				X			X		
Often blames others for his or her mistakes	X	X			X		X	X		
Is often touchy or easily annoyed by others	X				X		X	X		
Is often angry and resentful	X						X	X		

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With deep appreciation to the many who edited and contributed
www.mofas.org

References and Resources for

"Overlapping Behavioral Characteristics and Related Mental Health Diagnoses in Children"

Diane Malbin: Clinical social worker, program developer, nationally recognized trainer on FASD and consultant, co-founder of FASCETS (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Consultation)

MOFAS (Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome): www.mofas.org

NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness - factsheets on mental health diagnoses, characteristics, medications, resources, local support groups for many mental illnesses

http://www.nami.org/Template.cfm?Section=By_Illness

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Bi-Polar Disorder
- Reactive Attachment Disorder
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D.: Senior Fellow of *The ChildTrauma Academy*

His neuroscience research has examined the effects of prenatal drug exposure on brain development, the neurobiology of human neuropsychiatric disorders, the neurophysiology of traumatic life events and basic mechanisms related to the development of neurotransmitter receptors in the brain.

Bessel van der Kolk, MD: clinician, researcher and teacher in the area of posttraumatic stress and related phenomena, Medical Director of *The Trauma Center,* a program of Justice Resource Institute

"Developmental Trauma Disorder: A New Rational Diagnosis for Children With Complex Trauma Histories," by Bessel van der Kolk, Psychiatric Annals, May 2005.

"Complex Trauma in Children and Adolescents," Cook, Spinazzola, Ford, Lanktree, Blaustein, Cloitre, DeRosa, Hubbard, Kagan, Mallah, Olafson, van der Kolk, 2005, Psychiatric Annals, pp. 390-398- Psychiatric Annals, May 2005.

Also "Attachment, Self-regulation and Competency (ARC)"

Mayo Clinic: Reactive Attachment Disorder Symptoms

http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/reactive-attachment-disorder/DS00988/DSECTION=symptoms

Walter D. Buenning, PhD, Licensed Psychologist

Reactive Attachment Disorder Child Checklist of Characteristics
http://www.reactiveattachmentdisordertreatment.com/childattachchecklist.pdf

Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D.: *A Framework for Understanding Poverty* and *Bridges Out of Poverty*

Research focuses on the effects of poverty on students, families, and communities and how to better understand and support people from all economic backgrounds

In addition this document was reviewed for accuracy by several Minnesota experts in Children's Mental Health and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders