Child, parent or teacher concerns for hyperactivity or inattention

Assessment including review of ADHD symptoms, standardized measure of symptoms per teacher and parent report; consideration of differential diagnoses, family and social history

Are the DSM-5 criteria met for ADHD?

No

Is there evidence of developmental concern or alternative diagnoses?

Yes

Address comorbid conditions

Consider a diagnosis of ADHD with the following symptoms:
- Can't sit still/hyperactive
- Lack of attention/poor concentration/doesn't seem to listen/daydream
- Impulsive/acts without thinking
- Behavior problems
- Poor academic performance/underachievement

Yes

Reassess concerns

ADHD symptoms fully treated by clinical report and standardized measures?

Yes

First line stimulant: select either extended release methylphenidate (mph) or amphetamine formulation (amph) (see chart below). Titrate to effect or limiting adverse effects. Follow monthly until stable then at least q 3 months

ADHD symptoms fully treated by clinical report and standardized measures?

Yes

Consult with specialty mental health provider

No

Reassess diagnosis, consider alternative stimulant (mph or amph) or consultation with specialty mental health provider

ADHD symptoms fully treated by clinical report and standardized measures?

Yes

No

Differential Diagnosis includes:
- Developmental delay
- Disruptive behavior disorder
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Trauma exposure
- Developmentally inappropriate expectations

References: