

Mothering in Children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Their Unaffected Siblings

注意力不足過動症兒童與其手足之母子關係

Jane Pei-Chen Chang^{1,2*}, Chi-Yung Shang^{3,4}, Susan Shur-Fen Gau^{3,4}

張倍禎^{1,2*}、商志雍^{3,4}、高淑芬^{3,4}

¹Department of Psychiatry, China Medical University Hospital

²Institute of Clinical Medical Science, China Medical University

³Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University

⁴Department of Psychiatry, National Taiwan University Hospital

Objective: Despite impaired mother-child interactions noted in children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), there is no such information in their siblings. This study aimed to test whether the affected and unaffected siblings, like children with ADHD, also encountered impaired mothering and mother-child interactions as compared to non-ADHD controls.

Methods: The sample consisted of 122 probands, aged 10-16, with DSM-IV ADHD, 44 affected and 78 unaffected siblings, and 122 non-ADHD. Both participants and their mothers received the K-SADS-E interviews and reported on maternal parenting style, mother-child interactions and behavioral problems at home.

Results: Based on both reports, probands with ADHD had more impaired relationship, more behavioral problems at home, and less perceived family support than unaffected siblings and non-ADHD regardless of affected status of the siblings. Probands with ADHD had higher maternal authoritarian control than unaffected siblings.

Conclusion: The findings suggest that impaired mothering, mother-child interactions, and family support are related to the presence of ADHD diagnosis regardless of whether they have affected or unaffected siblings.