

The Relationship of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Juvenile Delinquency

Alyssa Mauriello
Mount Saint Mary College



Background

- ◇ Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) one of the most common psychiatric disorders with childhood onset (von Polier, Vloet, & Herpertz-Dahlmann, 2012)
- ◇ Defined as persistent pattern of inattention and/or hyperactivity-impulsivity (DSM-IV, 2000)
- ◇ Center for Disease Control reports 5.2 million (8.2%) children age 3-17 currently diagnosed (CDC, 2012)
- ◇ ADHD connected with conduct issues, social mal-adaptation and delinquent behavior (Retz et al., 2004)
- ◇ ADHD boys significantly more noncompliant, higher rates of antisocial behavior and aggression than those without ADHD (Lee & Hinshaw, 2004)
- ◇ Preventative measures can curb juvenile delinquency recidivism (Petrosino, Turpin-Petrosino, & Buehler, 2005).

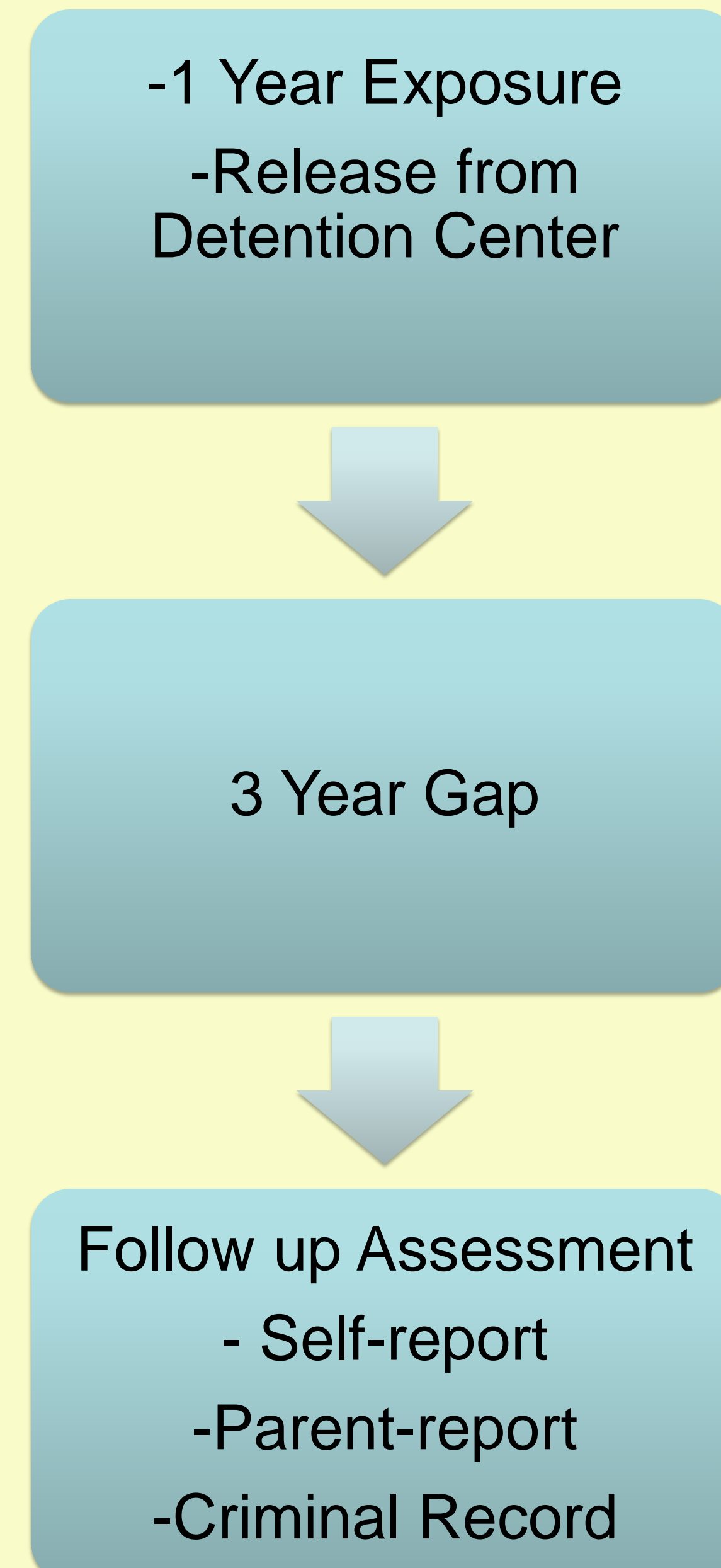


Participants

- ◇ 100 Adolescent boys ages 12-17
- ◇ DSM-IV diagnosis of ADHD with no comorbidity
- ◇ TOVA Test Reflect diagnosis
- ◇ Reside in US Juvenile Correction Facilities
- ◇ 1 year sentence minimum

Methods

Group A	Group B	Group C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scared Straight program • 1 hour, 1 time a month • Interaction with prisoners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family skill building therapy • 1 hour, 1 time a month • With parents/guardians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No program exposure • 1 year sentence



Variables to be Examined

- ◇ Test of Variables of Attention (TOVA) used as ADHD diagnostic tool (Silver, 1992)
- ◇ Scared Straight programs expose kids to life in prison (Petrosino, Turpin-Petrosino, & Buehler, 2005)
- ◇ Family skill building therapy enhances parent knowledge of ADHD and helps families work together (Walther et al., 2012)

My Prediction

- ◇ Group B will show a lower rate of delinquency amongst the three data groups

Limitations

- ◇ Male participants only
- ◇ Results cannot be generalized
- ◇ Excludes those who fall outside of 12-17 years old
- ◇ United States citizens only

Significance

- ◇ Expand knowledge of ADHD
- ◇ Identify preventative measures of recidivism
- ◇ Help correctional facilities identify useful programs
- ◇ Lower participants' likelihood to reoffend

References

- American Psychiatric Association. (2000). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (4th ed., text rev.). doi:10.1176/appi.books.9780890423349
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2011, December, 12). Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: Data & Statistics. *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. Retrieved from: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/adhd/data.html>.
- Lee, S. S., & Hinshaw, S. P. (2004). Severity of adolescent delinquency among boys with and without attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: Predictions from early antisocial behavior and peer status. *Journal Of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 33, 705-716. doi: 10.1207/s15374424jccp3304_6
- Petrosino, A., Turpin-Petrosino, C., & Buehler, J. (2005). Scared straight and other juvenile awareness programs for preventing juvenile delinquency. *The Scientific Review Of Mental Health Practice: Objective Investigations Of Controversial And Unorthodox Claims In Clinical Psychology, Psychiatry, And Social Work*, 4, 48-54. doi: 10.4073/csr.2004.2
- Retz, W., Retz-Junginger, P., Hengesch, G., Schneider, M., Thome, J., Pajonk, F., & ... Rösler, M. (2004). Psychometric and psychopathological characterization of young male prison inmates with and without attention deficit/ hyperactivity disorder. *European Archives of Psychiatry And Clinical Neuroscience*, 254, 201-208. doi: 10.1007/s00406-004-0470-9
- Silver, L. B. (1992). Diagnosis of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder in adult life. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinics of North America*, 1, 325-334. Retrieved from: <http://www.krepublishers.com/02-Journals/JHE/JHE-22-0-000-000-2007-Web/JHE-22-4-000-000-2007-Abstract-PDF/JHE-22-4-317-07-1587-Egbochuku-E-O/JHE-22-4-317-07-1587-Egbochuku-E-O-Tt.pdf>
- von Polier, G. G., Vloet, T. D., & Herpertz-Dahlman, B. B. (2012). ADHD and delinquency- A developmental perspective. *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 30, 121-139. doi:10.1002/bsl. 2005
- Walther, C. P., Cheong, J., Molina, B. G., Pelham, W. r., Wymbs, B. T., Belendiuk, K. A., & Pedersen, S. L. (2012). Substance use and delinquency among adolescents with childhood ADHD: The protective role of parenting. *Psychology Of Addictive Behaviors*, 26, 585-598. doi:10.1037/a0026818

Contact: Alyssa Mauriello
 amau8392@my.msmc.edu