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

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With deep appreciation to the many who edited and contributed
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