Scales and checklists help clinicians to obtain information from parents, teachers, and others about symptoms and functioning in various settings, which is necessary for an appropriate assessment for ADHD and treatment monitoring. Symptoms must be present in more than one setting (for example, both at home and in school) to meet DSM-IV criteria for the condition. Such instruments are only one component of a comprehensive evaluation, which includes a medical examination and interviews.

According to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the most commonly used scales are:

- Parent-completed Child Behavior Checklist
- Teacher Report Form (TRF) of the Child Behavior Checklist
- Conners Parent and Teacher Rating Scales (see below)
- ADD-H: Comprehensive Teacher Rating Scale (ACTeRS)
- Barkley Home Situations Questionnaire (HSQ) (see below)
- Barkley School Situations Questionnaire (SSQ) (see below)

According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), formerly the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, ADHD-specific rating scales are more accurate in distinguishing between children with and without the diagnosis of ADHD, than global, nonspecific questionnaires and rating scales that assess a variety of behavioral conditions.

For adults, the 18-question Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS v1.1) may be helpful.

- Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS v1.1) - online version that can provide a quick score and suggest whether further testing by a professional may or may not be indicated.
- Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS v1.1) - pdf

Related Topics:

- Diagnostic and Treatment Guidelines

Other Web Sites:

- Barkley Home and School Situations Questionnaires
  These are published in "Attention Deficit Hyperactivity

- **Barkley Adult ADHD Rating Scale-IV (BAARS-IV)**
  The Barkley Adult ADHD Rating Scale?IV (BAARS-IV) is a tool for assessing current ADHD symptoms and domains of impairment as well as recollections of childhood symptoms.

- **Wender Utah Rating Scale - (for adults)**
  A 61 point retrospective tool used in the assessment of AD/HD in adults.

- **PEDS: Parents’ Evaluation of Developmental Status**

- **Vanderbilt Assessment Scales**
  These forms are available through the American Academy of Pediatrics/National Initiative for Children’s Health Quality (AAP/NICHQ) ADHD Practitioners’ Toolkit (the link is to a compressed file which must be downloaded and "unzipped")

- **AHRQ Technical Review: Diagnosis of AD/HD**
  AHRQ, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the nation’s lead Federal agency for research on health care quality, costs, outcomes, and patient safety.

- **Conners Rating Scales**
  This Web site provides clinicians with information on how to obtain the Conners Rating Scales and other instruments used in the assessment of AD/HD and other conditions affecting children.