State Profile: ADHD Treatment in Georgia

Parent-Reported Medication Use and Behavioral Treatment Use for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Attention-Deficit Disorder (ADD) among 4-17 Year-Old Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSCN): National Survey of CSCN (2009-2010)

Best Practice for ADHD Treatment

Preschoolers (4-5 years of age):
- Behavior therapy as the first line of treatment
- Methylphenidate if behavior therapy is insufficient

Elementary school–age (6–11 years of age):
- US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)–approved medications for ADHD
- And/or behavior therapy
- Preferably both

Adolescents (12–18 years of age):
- FDA-approved medications for ADHD with the assent of the adolescent
- May prescribe behavior therapy
- Preferably both

Current Practice for ADHD Treatment

Medication Treatment

At any time during the past week, did your child [with ADHD] take medication for ADD or ADHD?

In 2009-10, 78% of children with ADHD in Georgia took medication for ADHD during the past week, according to parent report. Among all states and D.C., the national average was 74%. Georgia ranked 17th highest out of 51.

Behavioral Treatment

At any time during the past 12 months, did your child [with ADHD] receive behavioral treatment for ADD or ADHD, such as classroom management, peer interventions, social skills training, or cognitive-behavioral therapy?

In 2009-10, 39% of children with ADHD in Georgia received behavioral treatment for ADHD during the past 12 months, according to parent report. Among all states and D.C., the national average was 44%. Georgia ranked 41st highest out of 51.

Both Treatments

At any time during the past week, did your child [with ADHD] take medication for ADD or ADHD? AND At any time during the past 12 months, did your child [with ADHD] receive behavioral treatment for ADD or ADHD?

In 2009-10, 30% of children with ADHD in Georgia received both treatments for ADHD, according to parent report. Among all states and D.C., the national average was 31%. Georgia ranked 34th highest out of 51.