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ADHD & Addiction

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ADHD & ADDICTION

prevalence, diagnostic
assessment and treatment
of ADHD in substance use
disorder patients

Katelijne van Emmerik-van Oortmerssen

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groningen

ADHD & Addiction

Prevalence, diagnostic assessment and treatment of ADHD in substance
use disorder patients

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PROLOGUE

At the Jellinek Addiction Treatment Centre, we meet John for an intake. He has been drinking too much alcohol for a long time, and since he has less and less control of his drinking behavior, he is seeking help. John is a 34-year old single man; he finished higher education although it took considerable effort, and has had many short jobs since then. He is very talkative, restless and impatient during intake, and confirms that he has been like this all his life. He is also suffering from concentration problems since childhood. These symptoms lead us to suspect the presence of a comorbid diagnosis of ADHD, and raise a couple of questions:

- What is the chance that John has a comorbid diagnosis of ADHD?
- If John has comorbid ADHD, does that mean that he differs from patients without ADHD in terms of complexity?
- What is the optimal timing for administering a diagnostic assessment of ADHD?
- If John has a comorbid diagnosis of ADHD, what treatment can we offer him?
- Do we know anything about the odds that John successfully completes treatment?

PART I:

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

