

## Strengths and Weaknesses of ADHD Symptoms and Normal Behavior Scale (SWAN)

Client Name Generic Client (Parent)

Date of birth (age) 1 Jan 2016 (8)

Assessor Dr Simon Baker

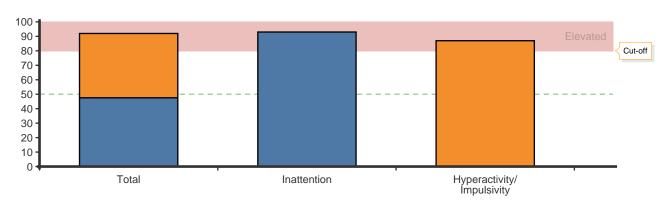
Date administered
Time taken

10 Sep 2024 3 min 24s

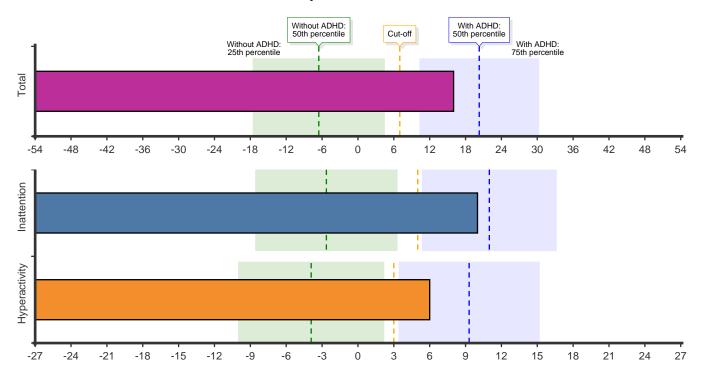
**Results** 

	Score	Average (-3 to 3)	Percentile	Descriptor
Total (-54 to 54)	16	0.9	92	Elevated
Inattention (-27 to 27)	10	1.1	93	Elevated
Hyperactivity/Impulsivity (-27 to 27)	6	0.7	87	Elevated

#### **SWAN Percentiles**



## **SWAN Scores Compared to Normative Distributions**







Client Name | Generic Client (Parent)

### Interpretation

The client's SWAN score is on the 92nd percentile when compared to young people without ADHD. When compared to young people with ADHD, the client's score is on the 38th percentile. The pattern of responding is consistent with young people with ADHD.

The subscale scores indicate that the client is experiencing significant difficulties with both Inattention and Hyperactivity/Impulsivity.

The client's score on the Inattention subscale suggests significant difficulties with: maintaining focus and attention to detail; sustaining concentration on tasks or activities; listening and following instructions; organising and completing tasks; managing materials and remembering daily activities; and filtering out distractions. They may experience difficulties with: completing tasks or chores accurately and efficiently; staying on task, especially for activities requiring mental effort; keeping track of belongings and schedules; following conversations or instructions; organising their thoughts or materials. These challenges can impact daily functioning and academic performance and productivity. Individuals may appear forgetful, easily distracted, or have difficulty with time management and prioritisation.

The client's score on the Hyperactivity/Impulsivity subscale suggests significant difficulties with: controlling physical movement and restlessness; regulating activity levels in various settings; managing impulses in social situations; and modulating verbal expressions and turn-taking. They may exhibit: excessive fidgeting, squirming, or inability to sit still; difficulty remaining seated when expected to; inappropriate running or climbing in various situations; struggles with engaging in quiet activities; appearing to be constantly "on the go"; excessive talking or blurting out responses; difficulty waiting for their turn; tendency to interrupt or intrude on others. These behaviours can lead to challenges in structured environments like classrooms, as well as in social interactions. Individuals may appear restless, impatient, or disruptive, which can affect their relationships and performance in various aspects of life.

# Scoring and Interpretation Information

For comprehensive information on the SWAN, see here.

The SWAN consists of 18 items based on DSM criteria for ADHD, divided into two subscales:

- 1. Inattention (Items 1-9)
- 2. Hyperactivity/Impulsivity (Items 10-18)

Each item is rated on a 7-point scale (-3 to 3), ranging from Far Below Average (3, reflecting a difficulty) to Far Above Average (-3, reflecting a strength). Higher scores on the SWAN reflect greater difficulties, while lower scores reflect greater strengths.

The client's total and subscale scores are converted to percentiles based on normative data for a community sample of children and adolescents without ADHD and with ADHD (Burton et al., 2019). Graphs comparing the total and subscale scores to the normative distribution of scores among these samples are presented, with shaded areas around the means corresponding to scores between the 25th and 75th percentile. The percentiles and graphs contextualise the client's scores relative to typical levels of strengths and difficulties in attention and behavioural regulation among young people with and without ADHD in the community.

Cut-off scores for elevated difficulties consistent with a diagnosis of ADHD are as follows (Burton et al., 2019).





Client Name | Ger

Generic Client (Parent)

# Scoring and Interpretation Information (cont.)

- Total score of 7 or above
- Inattention subscale score of 5 or above
- Hyperactivity/Impulsivity subscale score of 3 or above

Approximately 75-80% of young people without ADHD score below these cut-off scores, while about 80-85% of young people with ADHD score above these cut-off scores. Note that these cut-off scores are based on parent-reported ratings and may differ from cut-off scores based on teacher-reported ratings.

The SWAN can be used by a qualified professional, such as a psychologist, for initial screening for ADHD before or as part of comprehensive assessment. The SWAN alone is not sufficient to establish a diagnosis.

Client Responses										
		Far Below Average	Below Average	Slightly Below Average	Average	Slightly Above Average	Above Average	Far Above Average		
1	Give close attention to detail and avoid careless mistakes	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
2	Sustain attention on tasks or play activities	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
3	Listen when spoken to directly	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
4	Follow through on instructions & finish school work/chores	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
5	Organize tasks and activities	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
6	Engage in tasks that require sustained mental effort	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
7	Keep track of things necessary for activities	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
8	Ignore extraneous stimuli	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
9	Remember daily activities	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
10	Sit still (control movement of hands/feet or control squirming)	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
11	Stay seated (when required by class rules/social conventions)	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
12	Modulate motor activity (inhibit inappropriate running/climbing)	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		
13	Play quietly (keep noise level reasonable)	3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3		





Client Name | Generic Client (Parent)

#### Client Responses (cont.) Far Slightly Slightly Far Below Above Below Below Average Above Above Average Average Average Average Average Average 14 2 1 Settle down and rest (control constant activity) 3 0 -1 -2 -3 Modulate verbal activity (control excess talking) 3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3 15 1 0 16 Reflect on questions (control blurting out answers) 3 2 -1 -2 -3 17 Await turn (stand in line and take turns) 3 2 0 -1 -2 -3 Enter into conversation & games (control 18 3 2 0 -1 -2 -3 interrupting/intruding)

