

Exploring Management Strategies Used by Grade 1 Educators in the Classroom Working with Learners Presenting with ADHD Symptoms in the Western Cape

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Abstract : This study aimed to explore current management strategies used by Grade 1 educators working with learners presenting with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) symptoms in mainstream schools in the Western Cape. A sample of grade 1 educators were selected for the study. The sample comprised of twelve grades 1 educators from four local schools in the Western Cape. All twelve educators were individually interviewed and discussed the management strategies used in the classroom when working with learner presenting with ADHD symptoms. The data was analysed qualitatively with a focus in identifying, sorting and analyse meaning according to the subjective perception, understanding and behaviour of the grade 1 educators within their context. Furthermore, the social, cultural, political and physical environment of the participants were taken into consideration to explore and interpret the link between these elements. The findings were as follows: many educators felt that they did not receive enough training on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, therefore lacking knowledge on how to apply management strategies to address this. Managing a diverse range of learners, lack of resources, lack of parental involvement, lack of assistance in the classroom, as well as distracted and disorganised children posed as challenges for educators working with learners presenting with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder symptoms.

Keywords : ADHD, Grade 1 educators, Learners, Management strategies

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