

Oppositional Defiant Disorder

Name

DoB:

Class:

Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) is psychiatric disorder which appears as two problems. These are aggressiveness and the need to bother and irritate others.

Features include:

- disobedience to parents, teachers and adults
- defiant behaviours
- hostility towards others
- irritability
- temper outbursts
- intolerance of others
- anxiety
- depression

The child may have low self-esteem but this may appear as 'toughness.'

If a child presents five or more of these behaviours over a 6 month period then ODD may be diagnosed by a specialist.

- Child often loses temper.
- Child often argues with adults.
- Child often actively defies or refuses adult requests or rules (e.g. refuses to complete work).
- Child often deliberately does things intended to annoy others (e.g. flicks stationary at staff or pupils).
- Child often blames others for child's own mistakes.
- Child is often touchy or easily annoyed by others.
- Child often angry and resentful.
- Child is often spiteful or vindictive.
- Child often swears or uses obscene language.

There are no clear causes, but contributing factors may include:

- The child's inherent temperament
- The family's response to the child's style
- A genetic component that when coupled with certain environmental conditions, such as lack of supervision, poor quality daycare or family instability, increases the risk for ODD
- A biochemical or neurological factor
- The child's perception that he or she isn't getting enough of the parent's time and attention

Treatment has low success as parents can be over restrictive and the child can fight back. Some individual therapies and family counselling has been successful.

Other information you may think is important.

Referred by:

Date: