

Visions of ADHD – Disorder, Diversity, Development

January 19, 2024 (Friday)

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Speaker:

Professor Edmund Sonuga-Barke

Professor of Developmental Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience
Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience,
King's College London

Moderator:

Dr. Kathy Shum

Associate Professor, Department of Psychology
The University of Hong Kong

This talk will be conducted in English

Registration Link:


https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScNBQ_ouiWxtQnG4mCXjYnFRxGTFYr99s2vraz6WDHUfwJ_uQ/viewform

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 **Social Sciences Chamber,
11/F, The Jockey Club Tower,
Centennial Campus, HKU**

 **Mode of Seminar: Hybrid**

Details & Registration:



Free Registration

Abstract:

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder remains a contested and controversial concept. Many reject its existence outright while others are seeking its reform in various ways. At the same time diagnostic rates continue to rise across the world as the needs of hyperkinetic, inattentive and impulsive people, of all ages, and the benefits of treatment, are being increasingly recognised. In this talk I will examine both scientific and ideological challenges to the assumptions that underpin the current disorder paradigm as enshrined in the main diagnostic systems (DSM-5 and ICD-11). I will first discuss the scientific challenges relating to dimensionality, heterogeneity, transdiagnostic boundaries, age of onset and cultural-/sex-based invariance. I will then focus on the ideological challenge presented by what has been termed the neurodiversity paradigm – especially its wholesale rejection of the disorder concept and its replacement with the notion of neuro-divergence. Finally, I will describe how adopting these new assumptions can change how we think about, study and treat people with ADHD – shifting our focus from ‘fixing’ neuro-disorder to accepting and supporting divergence to promote successful development.

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