Sarah Hohmann

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Head of the Research Group Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in children and adolescents

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Narrative academic profile

I am a specialist for child and adolescent psychiatry and psychotherapy and a clinician scientist. I worked at the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy at the CIMH in Mannheim from 2005 until July 2022, thereof acting the last 7 years as Deputy Medical Director. In August 2022 I was appointed Head of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy at the University Clinic Hamburg-Eppendorf, but are still affiliated with CIMH and as a visiting scientist involved in some ongoing large projects. During my time at the CIMH I was a member of different research groups (Biochemical Lab (Patrick Schloss), Neurophysiology (Daniel Brandeis), Neuropsychology (Manfred Laucht) and ADHD) and worked with different methods, from molecular biology up to combined EEG-fMRI measurements. I took over the lead of the Research Group on ADHD in 2013, conducting and organizing with my team large publicly funded clinical trials like e.g. ESCA-life (Evidence based Stepped Care in ADHD over the lifespan) or ADOPT (Affektive Dysregulation-Optimierung von Prävention und Therapie). Apart from a range of other projects I've been investigator in the EU-FP7/H2020 projects Translational approaches to compulsivity disorders (TACTICS), Aggression subtyping for improved insight and treatment innovation in psychiatric disorders (Aggressotype), European Autism Interventions (EU-AIMS and AIMS 2 Trials) Prevention and Remediation of Insulin Multimorbidity in Europe (PRIME) and the IMAGEN Project. Moreover, I was part of the steering committee for the development of the German clinical guidelines for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). My research is mostly focussed on understanding underlying mechanisms behind psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents and translating this knowledge into innovative interventions (like e.g. biofeedback approaches or psychotherapy but also pharmacological interventions). Concerning my clinical work I was involved in implementing specialized early intervention programmes for young people with severe psychiatric disorders like e.g. Borderline Personality Disorder or Psychosis at the CIMH. From 2009-2012 I was appointed speaker of the network of junior scientists (YICAP) of the German Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy (DGKJP) and have been a DJ Cohen fellow at the 2010 IACAPAP Congress at Beijing. In 2014, 2016 and 2018 I was a member of the organizing committee for the Junior-EUNETHYDIS (European Network of Hyperkinetic Disorders) programme, becoming a full member of EUNETHYDIS in 2020. I am a member of the German Societies of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy (DGKJP) and of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Neurology (DGPPN). My work has been published in a number of international peer-reviewed, high impact journals (see my CIMH key output for the last two years below).

Key output of the years 2020-now

Hohmann S, Enning F, Trasselli C, Sondergeld A, Heser M, Breisacher A, Banaschewski T, Bohus M, Schmahl C. Behandlung von Störungen der Emotionsregulation im

Adoleszentenzentrum am Zentralinstitut für Seelische Gesundheit [Treatment of disorders of emotion regulation in the Adolescents Center at the Central Intitute of Mental Health]. Nervenarzt. 2021 Jul;92(7):670-678. German. doi: 10.1007/s00115-021-01152-7. Epub 2021 Jun 17. PMID: 34137903

Within this review we describe the concept of our clinical unit for young people with disorders of emotion regulation. As the implementation of this interdisciplinary ward has been one of my major clinical projects during the last 10 years, the paper is of special relevance to me, even if not published in a high ranked international journal.

Faraone SV, Newcorn JH, Cipriani A, Brandeis D, Kaiser A, **Hohmann S**, Haege A, Cortese S. Placebo and nocebo responses in randomised, controlled trials of medications for ADHD: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Mol Psychiatry. 2022 Jan;27(1):212-219. This paper focuses on the important issue of placebo responses related to ADHD medication in RCTs.

Ziegler M, Kaiser A, Igel C, Geissler J, Mechler K, Holz NE, Becker K, Döpfner M, Romanos M, Brandeis D, **Hohmann S**, Millenet S, Banaschewski T. Actigraphy-Derived Sleep Profiles of Children with and without Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) over Two Weeks-Comparison, Precursor Symptoms, and the Chronotype. Brain Sci. 2021 Nov 27;11(12):1564.

One of the first papers to be published from our ESCAlife study, here we focus on sleeping problems in children with and without ADHD and possible precursors.

Aggensteiner PM, Holz NE, Böttinger BW, Baumeister S, **Hohmann S**, Werhahn JE, Naaijen J, Ilbegi S, Glennon JC, Hoekstra PJ, Dietrich A, Deters RK, Saam MC, Schulze UME, Lythgoe DJ, Sethi A, Craig MC, Mastroianni M, Sagar-Ouriaghli I, Santosh PJ, Rosa M, Bargallo N, Castro-Fornieles J, Arango C, Penzol MJ, Vidal J, Franke B, Zwiers MP, Buitelaar JK, Walitza S, Banaschewski T, Brandeis D. The effects of callous-unemotional traits and aggression subtypes on amygdala activity in response to negative faces. Psychol Med. 2022 Feb;52(3):476-484. This work (conducted with Dani Brandeis' working group) from the EU Aggressotype and MATRICS studies examined the differences in amygdala activity and skin conductance measures between TD and children with ODD/CD and CU-Traits

Barker ED, Ing A, Biondo F, Jia T, Pingault JB, Du Rietz E, Zhang Y, Ruggeri B, Banaschewski T, **Hohmann S**, Bokde ALW, Bromberg U, Büchel C, Quinlan EB, Sounga-Barke E, Bowling AB, Desrivières S, Flor H, Frouin V, Garavan H, Asherson P, Gowland P, Heinz A, Ittermann B, Martinot JL, Martinot MP, Nees F, Papadopoulos-Orfanos D, Poustka L, Smolka MN, Vetter NC, Walter H, Whelan R, Schumann G; IMAGEN Consortium. Do ADHD-impulsivity and BMI have shared polygenic and neural correlates? Mol Psychiatry. 2021 Mar;26(3):1019-1028. *An exemplary paper about findings from the IMAGEN study where we try to gain insight into the neurobiological basis of the common comorbidity between ADHD an obesity.*