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Treating ADD With Medication

By Sarah K. Jenkins

Medication has long since been the cornerstone for treating Attention Deficit Disorder. There are several medications on the market and their effectiveness is rarely at question; however, they do not come without their side effects and criticisms.

The most common medication is methylphenidate, more commonly known as Ritalin and Concerta. Other stimulant medications are pemoline, known as Cylert; dextroamphetamine, known as Dexedrine and Dextrostat; and d- and l-amphetamin racemic mixture, known as Adderall.

Stimulant medications would typically make a person more active; however, with Attention Deficit Disorder, it has a calming effect. Therefore, it quiets impulsive and disruptive behavior quickly and effectively. For this reason, many teachers and parents sing its praises. However, this is only a treatment and not a cure for Attention Deficit Disorder. Ultimately, it is a temporary form of relief.

Other types of medicine sometimes used to treat ADD include atomoxetine, known as Stratera; bupropion, known as Wellbutrin; clonidine, known as Catapres; imipramine, known as Tofranil; and desipramine, known as Norpramin.

However, Stratera was recently the subject of a public health advisory issued by the Food and Drug Administration. The FDA issued a statement saying Stratera was linked to increased suicidal thoughts among children in an extensive study. This, of course, should be of great concern to parents, as well as doctors treating a child with ADD.

Side effects that are common with these medications include loss of appetite, stomachache, headache, insomnia, fast heart beat, vomiting, and chest pain. Many of these effects can be reduced or eliminated with the lowering of medication dosage, eliminating doses close to bedtime, and taking medication with food.

Due to the possible side effects, as well as the negative connotation surrounding over-medicating children, there are a lot of people against administering medication for ADD. However, this may also be due to the misconception that ADD is not a real disorder and is a parent's way of getting out of

controlling or disciplining their child. This, of course, is not true and such unfounded opinions should not be considered in seeking a treatment course for your child. Professional advice will prove to be much more helpful in making sound decisions for your child and your family.

It should also be understood that, while medication may be effective, it is not a cure for ADD. Many doctors suggest using medication in conjunction with behavioral therapy to achieve the full benefit of both treatment methods.

Sarah is an acclaimed writer on medical matters, and has written extensively on the subjects of Attention Deficit Disorder, Bird Flu and Crohn's Disease . For more of her articles, go to

<http://www.imedicalvillage.com>

now.

Hair Loss Product: Rogaine

By Kathlene Capelle

If you are considering using a hair loss product, then you may have heard of Rogaine as a possible form of treatment. Understanding this prescription medication and how it can affect you and your hair growth can help you determine if the hair loss product is for you.

Rogaine is also sometimes known as Topical Minoxidil. It came from a different type of medication that was used to treat high blood pressure. While treating high blood pressure, researchers noticed that Minoxidil had the effect of producing extra hair growth. From this point, researchers began to look into how the Minoxidil affected hair growth and separated out the specific supplements that helped to treat the symptoms. Finally, the FDA approved this hair loss product, stating that it is effective with not as many side effects.

Rogaine is most effective in treating hair loss that occurs at the top of the head for both men and women. It is known to do this as a stimulant that helps to promote hair growth. This is done through external use, as the solution is applied to the head where there is loss of hair at least twice a day. This can also be used as a spray and will begin to affect hair growth in the particular areas after four to six months of use. However, if you do not see marked improvement after this time, then Rogaine as a hair loss product is not effective for you at all.

Before deciding to use Rogaine, you should check with a physician to make sure that the side effects will not be detrimental. The ingredient Minoxidil is known to cause allergic reactions in some people. It can also react with other drugs and medications that you are on at the same time. If you are pregnant, you should refrain from using Rogaine as a hair loss product. There have been reports of serious diseases that you have had in the past reacting once again after you take the medication. So be sure to clear this with your physician.

Another side effect that is somewhat common for Rogaine is irritation on the scalp. It may become red

or begin to itch. It may also begin to become scaly or start to have flakes. There may also be a burning that occurs after taking the medication. If this results from the Rogaine, you should stop taking the medication. Eventually, these symptoms should disappear without complications.

Stimulating hair growth to replace hair loss, with the use of a hair loss product such as Rogaine, is just one of the many solutions to your problem. As explained, Rogaine does not cure hair loss but simply helps to override the symptoms by enhancing hair regrowth. Also, this hair loss product is not effective in all cases. You should really find out the cause of your hair loss and see if it really meets your needs before plunging in right away.

Kathlene Capelle writes on female hair loss, male hair loss, cause of hair loss, hair loss remedies, hair loss prevention, hair transplants and natural hair loss treatments. Her site also has hair care recipes that you can prepare from your own home. Please visit her site at

<http://www.hair-loss-remedy-central.com>



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