

Investigating Orofacial Sensorimotor Control in Adults with and without
Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

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Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a predominant neurobehavioral disorder in childhood persisting into adulthood in up to 65% of cases (1-3). Marked sensorimotor alterations have been identified in individuals with ADHD, including for fine motor skill behaviors such as handwriting and speech. The purpose of this study is to further investigate orofacial sensorimotor alterations in young adults with ADHD as compared to healthy, age-matched peers. Labiolingual somatosensation assessments and speech samples were collected from 39 young adults (at the time of submission). All participants completed hearing threshold testing, provided a speech sample at the word, sentences and conversational level, and completed two point discrimination, detection and discrimination threshold estimates using Von Frey Hair Monofilaments. Group differences and correlation analyses will be presented at the time of the conference. Given the fine motor control difficulties identified in children and adults with ADHD, we hypothesize individuals with ADHD will demonstrate increased orofacial somatosensory threshold estimates (indicating decreased sensation). We hypothesize there will be group difference in timing and/or accuracy of speech samples.