

**Armenian American Mental Health Association
Presents a Lecture on
"Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD):
Assessment, Diagnosis, and Management"**

Sunday, March 3, 2019
Brand Library (Recital Hall) | Glendale, CA

PROGRAM

5:00pm-5:30pm	Check-in/Networking
5:30pm-6:15pm	Dr. A. Paul Kurkjian's presentation
6:15pm-6:35pm	Ms. Marina Ovanessian's presentation
6:35pm-7:05pm	Dr. Charles Pilavian's presentation
7:05pm-7:30pm	Q&A/Networking

A. Paul Kurkjian, M.D. – Diagnosis and Management of ADHD

In the world of mental health, we are often presented with the challenge of comorbid diagnoses that confound our ability to accurately diagnose and treat one condition without making another worse. Furthermore, not only do we have to deal with the stigma of being diagnosed with a mental illness, but also the stigma of taking psychotropic medication. Hopefully, this lecture will help answer some of these questions and highlight how to deal with some of these problems.

Dr. Kurkjian graduated from the University of California at San Diego (UCSD), majoring in Psychology, and double minoring in Biology and Chemistry. He obtained his MD from Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA. He completed his Adult Psychiatric Residency training at the University of California Los Angeles, Sep. VA program (UCLA). He is currently Double Board Certified in Adult and Child/Adolescent Psychiatry by the American Board of Neurology and Psychiatry. Dr. Kurkjian led a weekly relationship group for Vietnam Vets with PTSD as well as carried 13 weekly therapy patients and had four hours of weekly supervision in psychodynamic therapy during his Residency at the Sep. VA for 2 years. He completed his Child Psychiatry Fellowship at Cedars-Sinai in 2010 where he was the Chief Fellow at Cedars-Sinai. He is interested in Family Therapy; Dr. Sal Minuchin and Carl Whitaker are big influences. He has been practicing since 2010 and is currently working at various outpatient Medi-Cal child psychiatric facilities, as well as taking Pediatric Psychiatric Emergency call at Glendale Adventist Hospital, Huntington Memorial Hospital, White Memorial Hospital, and Miller Children's Hospital in Long Beach.

Marina Ovanessian, LCSW - ADHD in an Academic Environment

This presentation will focus on how ADHD can manifest in the behavior of school-aged students, interventions teachers and parents can implement, and support available in the community.

Marina Ovanessian is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) who provides mental health services in schools as a Psychiatric Social Worker (PSW). Ms. Ovanessian currently works with middle and high school students. She provides clinical services

through counseling and crisis intervention in addition to macro programs focused on decreasing negative behaviors and improving socioemotional well-being of students. Prior to working for schools, Ms. Ovanessian began her professional social work career as an Outpatient Therapist for a community mental health agency. Utilizing a total of five evidence-based practices (EBPs), Ms. Ovanessian provided individual, group, and family therapy to children and youth. She is passionate about helping youth overcome challenges, reach their goals, and thrive. For leisure, Ms. Ovanessian enjoys spending quality time with family and friends, and visiting Japanese gardens.

Charles Pilavian, Psy.D. - Advances in Understanding and Assessing ADHD

ADHD is a neurodevelopmental condition that may persist into adolescence and sometimes into adult age. New studies have revealed that attention deficit disorder is far more comprehensive and a complex syndrome and it appears that attention per se, is only one of several implicit impairments. Participant will acquire information on recent studies, revealing that Attention Deficit is a neurodevelopmental disorder that encompasses multiple impairments; including attentional impairment, information processing speed, search and recovery of information (retention), known as working memory, executive dysfunctions, emotional dysregulation, maintenance of activation/alertness, organization, prioritizing, initiation, sustaining effort, application of existing data base (working memory), and monitoring progress in task-completion.

Dr. Pilavian earned his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 1992 from University of Oslo/ Norway. His dissertation title is: Allocation of Attentional Resources in Patients with Parkinson's Disease. He completed his fellowship at the Royal State Hospital of Oslo/ Norway. In 1997, he completed a specialty in Neuropsychology awarded by the Norwegian Neuropsychological Society. He is a licensed psychologist since 1992 in Norway and since 2008 in California. In 2005, he obtained a second doctorate from California Graduate Institute. His dissertation title was: Memory Functions in a Patient with Dense Amnesia Following Herpes Simplex Encephalitis: A Case Control Study. Dr. Pilavian's employment history includes experiences inpatient, outpatient, correctional, and public safety governmental work. He works at LA County, Occupational Health Programs, where he conducts pre-employment and fitness-for-duty evaluations for safety sensitive positions. Dr. Pilavian has a private practice in Glendale where he provides psychotherapy, fitness-for-duty assessments and neuropsychological evaluations of patients with industrial injuries, traumatic brain injuries, strokes, progressive disease, and appeal of psychological disqualifications of police candidates.