



Oriel House, 26 The Quadrant, Richmond TW9 1DL
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SITUATION UPDATE: THE ADHD MEDICATION CRISIS SURVEY - LAST WEEK OF DECEMBER 2023 PUBLISHED - January 2024

ADHD medication had stock issues since the [NHS issued a Patient Safety Alert](#) on the 27th of September 2023. Stock issues means insufficient medication for the need.

The alert said that “the supply disruptions are expected to resolve at various dates between October and December 2023”.

The main ADHD medication provider Takeda has told us that they expect ADHD medication supply issues to continue until April 2024. We've had statements by Takeda the Ministry of Health that you can see on [our previous survey results page](#).

Since the patient alert, as indicated to us, some medication has been manufactured and distributed. Takeda have indicated this intermittent disruption will continue with an inference that it will improve over time. We have asked for clarity on what that means in terms of medication for patients in the UK and what we should expect in terms of the availability of their medication during this period.

Survey Results

Survey Period: December 2023

Total Respondents: 2152

(Please note that individual questions have different numbers of people answering)

- **Medication Availability Crisis:** A significant decline in the availability of ADHD medication was observed over the months, with only 11% having their normal medication in January (expected), a drastic drop from 52% in September.
- **Government Response:** A staggering 93% of respondents disagreed with the statement that they are satisfied with the government's response to the ADHD medication crisis.
- **Inadequate Non-Medical Support:** 91% disagreed that they were given non-medication support for ADHD, highlighting a severe lack of support in line with NICE guidelines.
- **NHS Services for ADHD:** 87% disagreed with the statement that NHS services for ADHD are adequate, indicating widespread dissatisfaction with the healthcare services.



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- **Perception of Political Leadership:** Only 3% of respondents agreed that politicians care about people with ADHD, reflecting a significant lack of trust in political leadership.
- **Impact on Employment:**
 - 87% agreed that their work had been negatively impacted due to the ADHD medication crisis.
 - 43% were concerned about losing their job due to the crisis.
 - An estimated job loss of between 1757 and 4196 people (with ADHD medication) has been calculated based on the survey results.
- **Educational Challenges:**
 - Full-time learners: 84% agreed that their learning was negatively impacted.
 - Part-time learners: 88% agreed that their learning was negatively impacted.
 - An estimated 13% to 18% of students in full-time education (taking ADHD medication) had to drop out due to the crisis.
- **Relationship Strain:**
 - 11% of respondents agreed that their relationship ended due to the ADHD medication crisis.
 - An estimated loss of relationships for 1627 to 2940 people in the ADHD community due to the medication crisis.

Conclusion: The survey reveals a critical situation with widespread dissatisfaction regarding the government's handling of the ADHD medication crisis. The crisis has severely impacted multiple aspects of life, including work, education, and personal relationships. There is a clear need for better support systems, both medical and non-medical, and a demand for more responsive and caring political leadership to address the challenges faced by individuals with ADHD.

ADHD UK Press Contacts: 07401 122 343 / press@adhduk.co.uk



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Appendix 1 : Detailed Results

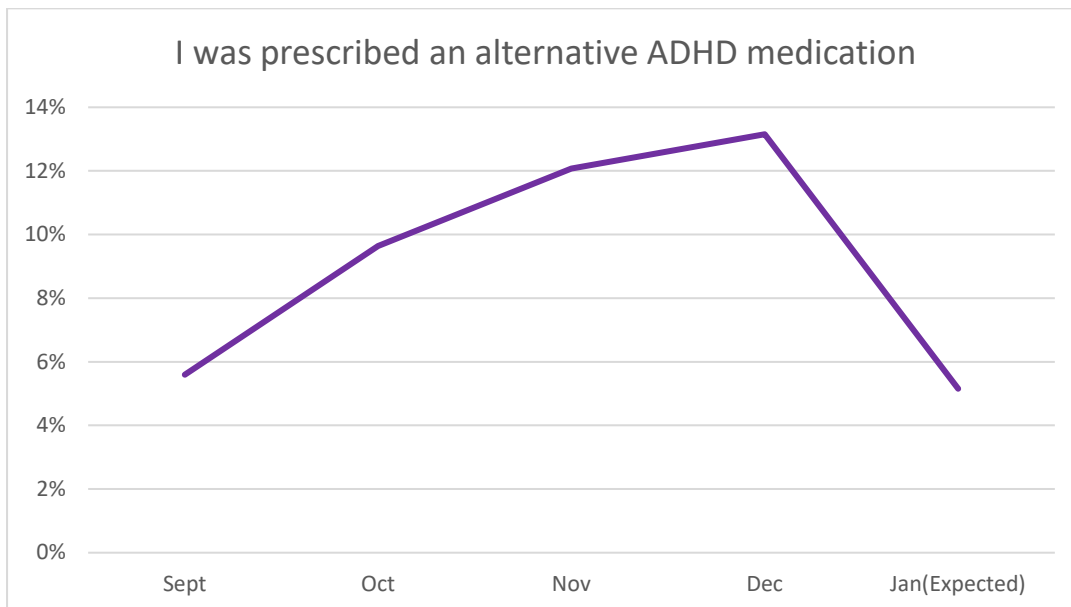
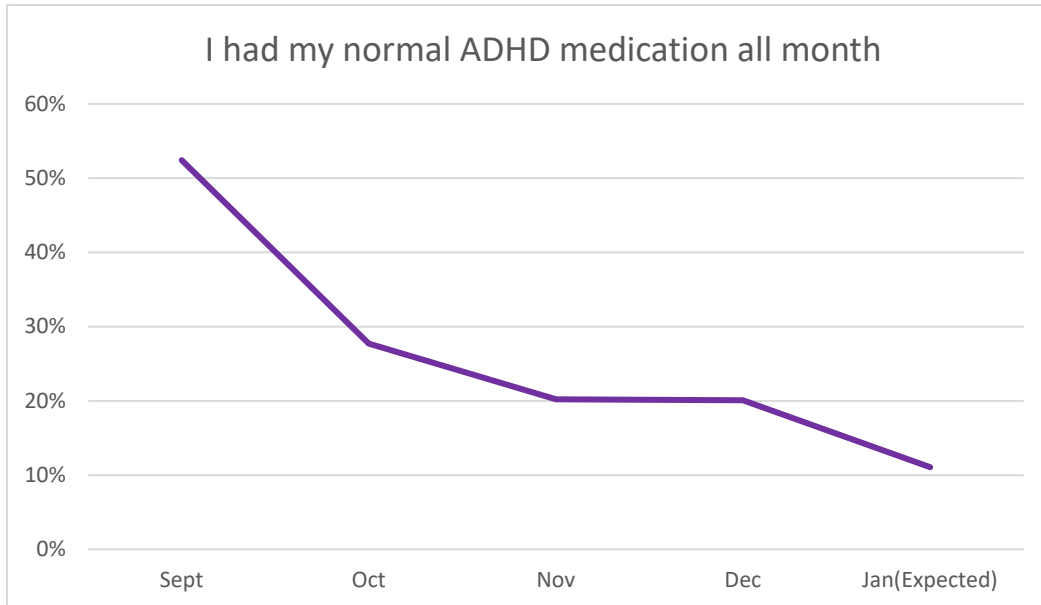
Medication Availability:

The National Patient Alert issued by the Department of Health told medical professionals and the ADHD community that this issue would be over in December. That turned out to be wrong. We were then told there would be supply issues until April with indications it would be getting better each month. That too turns out to be wrong. Instead this exclusive data shows the situation to be getting worse and January expected to be the worst month of all for getting normal medication

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan (Expected)
I had my normal ADHD medication all month	52%	28%	20%	20%	11%
I had to have gaps in ADHD medication	14%	17%	16%	13%	7%
I spread my ADHD medication by taking partial doses	8%	11%	11%	7%	31%
I was prescribed a different strength of my regular medication	5%	10%	9%	11%	22%
I was prescribed an alternative ADHD medication	6%	10%	12%	13%	5%
I was unable to get any ADHD medication	10%	20%	27%	29%	17%
Other	5%	5%	5%	6%	8%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



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In January we see the majority of people expecting their situation to get worse.

This is in part because the National Patient Alert, and the pitiful support it provides expires at the end of December. So the limited support is being withdrawn. This is an outrageous dereliction of duty of the Department of Health. Our Data shows that not only have things not improved but they are the worst they've ever been. We are being further abandoned in the depth of this issue. If it was worth a National Patient Alert in September then it is more worth one now.

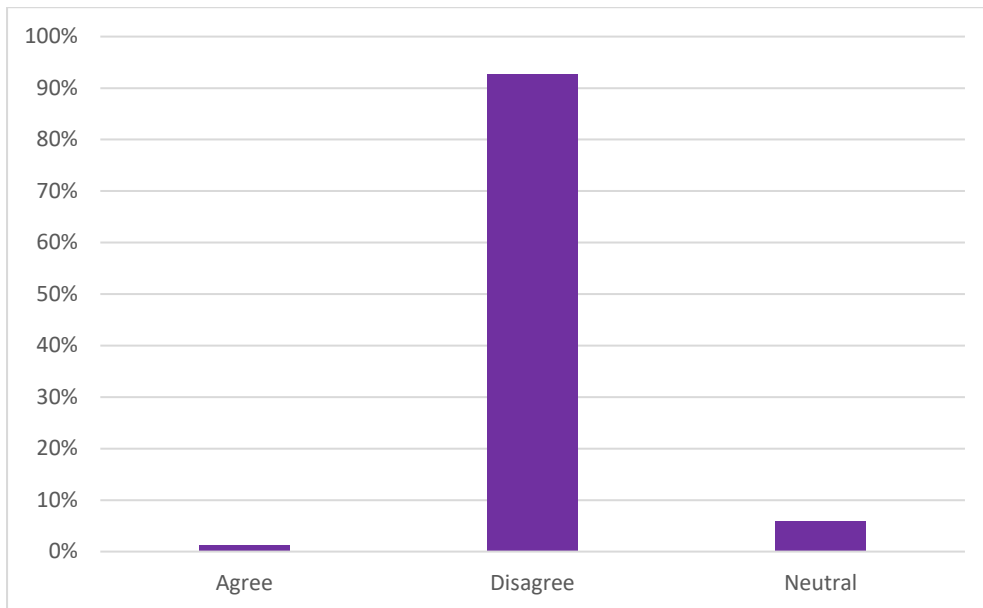


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	Jan change from Dec
I had my normal ADHD medication all month	-45%
I had to have gaps in ADHD medication	-48%
I spread my ADHD medication by taking partial doses	353%
I was prescribed an alternative ADHD medication	-61%
I was unable to get any ADHD medication	-41%

Satisfied with the Government Response?

Agree	1%
Disagree	93%
Neutral	6%



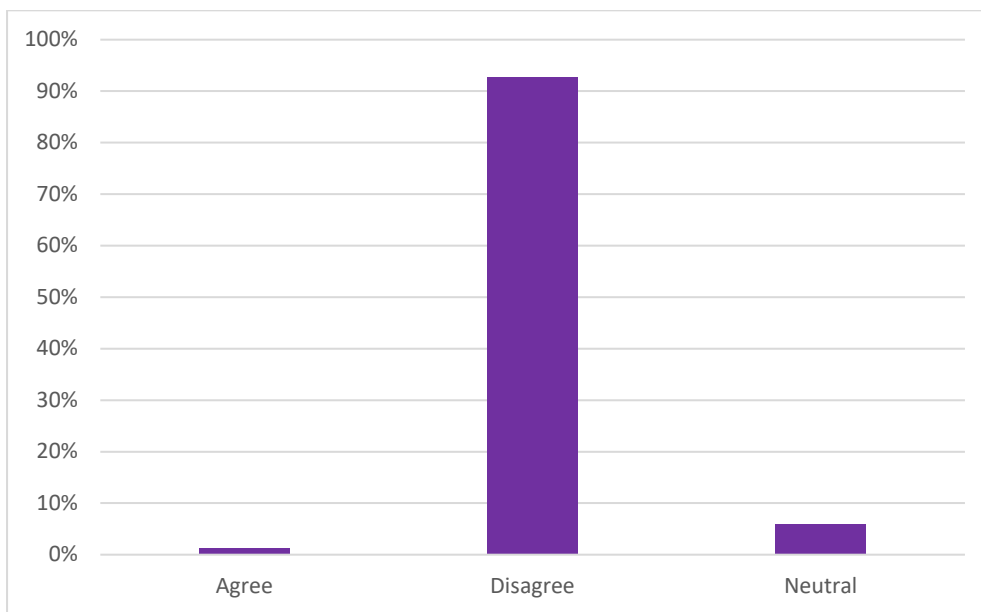


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Given non-medication support for my ADHD to help with issues arising from the ADHD medication crisis?

Non-medical support for ADHD is supposed to be a requirement of NICE guidelines but has been lacking for a long time. That failure has been further exposed by this crisis with 9 out of 10 offered no non-medication support. Despite so many being without medication.

Agree	4%
Disagree	91%
Neutral	5%



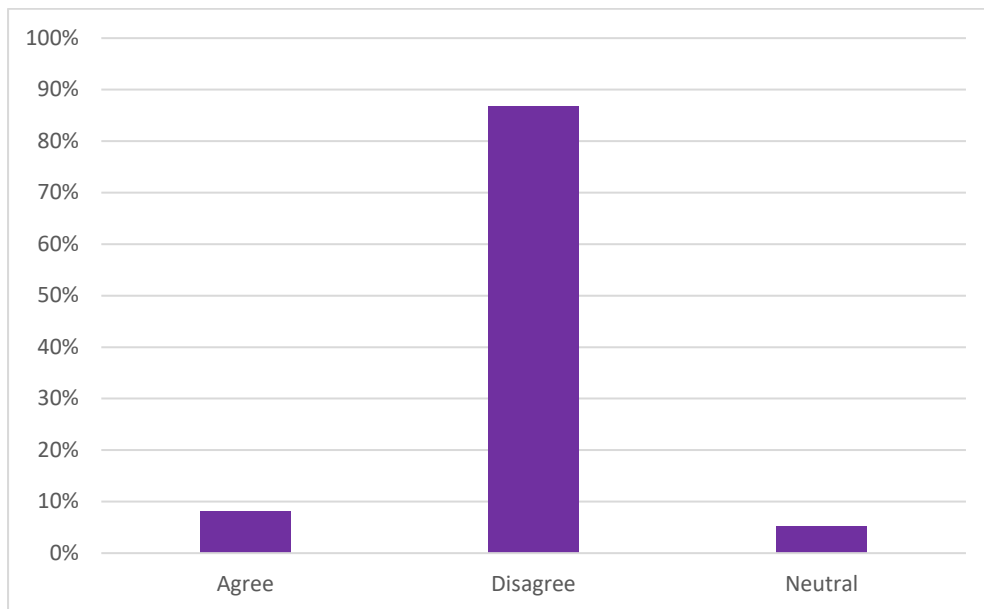


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The NHS service for ADHD is adequate?

The crisis has further highlighted the inadequate NHS services for people with ADHD.

Agree	8%
Disagree	87%
Neutral	5%



Politicians care about people with ADHD?

Only 3% of people with ADHD think that politicians care about people with ADHD.

This is a colossal lack of political leadership for a group in need.

It is also electorally dumb. As ADHD we're 2.6 million people plus our friends, families and others that care. In Neurodiversity we're at least 6 million people plus friends, families and others that care. Politicians looking at the general election should be thinking we're an electoral force to be reckoned with. Good neurodiversity policies can mean the difference of winning a seat or losing it. They should have Neurodiversity policies in their manifestos.

Agree	3%
Disagree	85%
Neutral	12%



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ADHD Medication Crisis and Work

My work has been negatively impacted because of the ADHD medication crisis

Agree	87%
Disagree	7%
Neutral	6%

I am concerned I may lose my job because of the impact of the ADHD medication crisis?

Agree	43%
Disagree	37%
Neutral	20%

I have lost my job because of the impact of the ADHD medication crisis?

Agree	6%
Disagree	82%
Neutral	12%

0. Not applicable	58%
1. Strongly agree	1.5%
2. Agree	1.1%
3. Neutral	5%
4. Disagree	11%
5. Strongly disagree	23%

ADHD Population Impact of ADHD medication crisis on work

There are 112,997 people 18-66 taking ADHD medication

In our survey (aimed at 18+) 61% of people said they were working.



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Of those 6.1% of people with ADHD taking medication have lost their job as a result of the medication crisis.

This gives an estimated job loss of between **1,757 and 4,196 people**. [The range is to include whether “not-applicable” is included or not]

ADHD and Education

My learning has been negatively impacted because of the ADHD medication crisis [Full time learning]

Agree	84%
Disagree	9%
Neutral	7%

My learning has been negatively impacted because of the ADHD medication crisis [Part Time]

Agree	88%
Disagree	6%
Neutral	6%

My grades have been negatively impacted because of the ADHD medication crisis [Full time]

Agree	76%
Disagree	12%
Neutral	12%

My grades have been negatively impacted because of the ADHD medication crisis [Part time]

Agree	74%
Disagree	9%
Neutral	17%

ADHD Medication Crisis and Education



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I have had to pause my education because of the ADHD medication crisis [Full Time]

Agree	31%
Disagree	51%
Neutral	18%

I have had to pause my education because of the ADHD medication crisis [Part Time]

Agree	52%
Disagree	33%
Neutral	15%

I have had to drop out / stop my education because of the ADHD medication crisis [Part Time]

Agree	31%
Disagree	52%
Neutral	17%

I have had to drop out / stop my education because of the ADHD medication crisis [Full Time]

Agree	18%
Disagree	66%
Neutral	16%

ADHD Population Impact - Education

In our survey (aimed at 18+) 19% of people said they were in full time education.

That provides for an estimated 21,843 in full time education taking ADHD medication of which between 2,730 and 4,014 have had to drop out of their full time education. Between 13% and 18% have had to drop out.



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My relationship has ended due to the impact of the ADHD medication crisis

Agree	11%
Disagree	80%
Neutral	9%

ADHD Population Impact – Relationship Loss

In our survey (aimed at 18+) 24% of people said they were in a relationship.

Taken against an adult ADHD population taking medication of 112,997 that is 26,937 in a relationship.

We estimate between 1,627 and 2,940 people have lost their relationship as a direct result of the ADHD medication crisis.