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Background ADHD in adulthood is assumed to be a positive predictor for many comorbid diseases and impairments affecting all domains of life, particularly career performance. Participation in social and professional life is limited for populations which qualify for rehabilitation programs, and thus the prevalence of ADHD is presumably also higher in these populations. Method To estimate the prevalence of ADHD in a population undergoing rehabilitation, 1010 people aged 18 to 75 years were screened for the presence of ADHD in adulthood. Additional impairments were measured and compared to a group of non ADHD participants. Results As expected a higher prevalence of ADHD was found in the population undergoing rehabilitation than in the general population (10.5 %) Participants with ADHD who had recently begun rehabilitation seemed to have more impairments than non ADHD-participants. Participants with ADHD who were near the end of rehabilitation were more severely impaired in their capacity to reintegrate into their previous occupation, but not for the general employment market. Conclusion Adult ADHD should be more closely investigated, especially in rehabilitation programs. Affected clients not only had more severe impairments, but more often had a profession that did not fit their capability.

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