

1. Evidence: Is there sufficient evidence to draw conclusions about Johnnie's medication from his behavior?
2. Assumptions: Describe some underlying assumptions about the following:
  - a. Pharmacologic action of methylphenidate in ADHD
  - b. Side effects of methylphenidate
  - c. Management of side effects
3. What implications for nursing care can be drawn at this time?
4. Does the evidence objectively support your conclusion?

*ADHD, Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.*

### **Multimodal treatment.**

The results of several studies suggest that multimodal treatment involving the use of pharmacotherapy and behavioral intervention as well as close follow-up and feedback from school personnel is more effective than intensive behavioral treatment alone ([Selekman, 2010](#)).

### **Environmental manipulation.**

Encourage families to learn how to modify the environment to allow the child to be more successful. Consistency is especially important for children with ADHD. Consistency between families and teachers in terms of reinforcing the same goals is essential. Fostering improved organizational skills requires a more highly structured environment than most children need. The child should be encouraged to make more appropriate choices and to take responsibility for their actions.

Other helpful interventions include teaching parents how to make organizational charts (e.g., listing all activities that must be performed before leaving for school) and decrease distractions in the environment while the child is completing homework (e.g.,