Minor Essential Revisions

This is a review article relating to an interesting and important topic: symptoms of ADHD and self-harm behaviours. After a thorough search the author found 15 original studies addressing this issue. The original studies are generally relevant to the topic and their findings are well reported here. This review is descriptive in nature, and no firm conclusions were not nor can be made. However, I have some concerns.

ADHD is very heterogeneously defined in cited studies. That is why it would be more safe to refer to the symptoms of ADHD instead of a diagnosis, at least in conclusions. The title is ok regarding this issue. Self-harm behaviours are well defined, both in this manuscript and in cited studies. However, these behaviours are sometimes difficult to differentiate from suicidal behaviours, and often people have both. This is seen also in cited studies. When interpreting the results the author should clearly differentiate these behaviours.

The manuscript would benefit from clarifications. Re-organization of the material should be made. In the Results section, the reader should be able to differentiate studies using clinical or epidemiological samples, or, is the sample basing on ADHD or self-harm. For instance, you will get different results if you study a population with ADHD and measure self-harm behaviour there, or, if you study a population hospitalized due to injury and measure symptoms of ADHD there. In addition, the age groups of the participants in cited studies should be clearly focused. As the author points out, self-harm is a health problem in young people. Some of these issues were discussed in limitations though.

In the Discussion section the author should clearly point out the most relevant and reliable studies. Some of the cited studies are referred here but there is no mention if these are the most relevant ones.

Overall, the topic is important and needs further examination. The review adds to literature in this field.

Discretionary Revisions

The manuscript needs to be checked throughout in terms of spelling and typing.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.