

# Height curves and Height SDS in ADHD children measured before and after stimulant treatment are not affected - observation study in 7172 ADHD children

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## Background:

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a common pediatric disorder (3-10%)  
Stimulants are one of the most used drugs in pediatrics  
Ongoing debate about growth impairment  
- Stimulants treatment effect?  
- Direct effect of ADHD?

## Methods:

Historical prospective study Clalit\* DB.  
Compared height in ADHD before & after stimulants.  
ADHD children 6-17.5 YO (before treatment)  
A matched non-ADHD control group (age, socioeconomic)  
Comparison of gender specific median height curves  
Comparison of gender specific Individual's height SDS difference (=SDS after-SDS before (stimulant treatment))

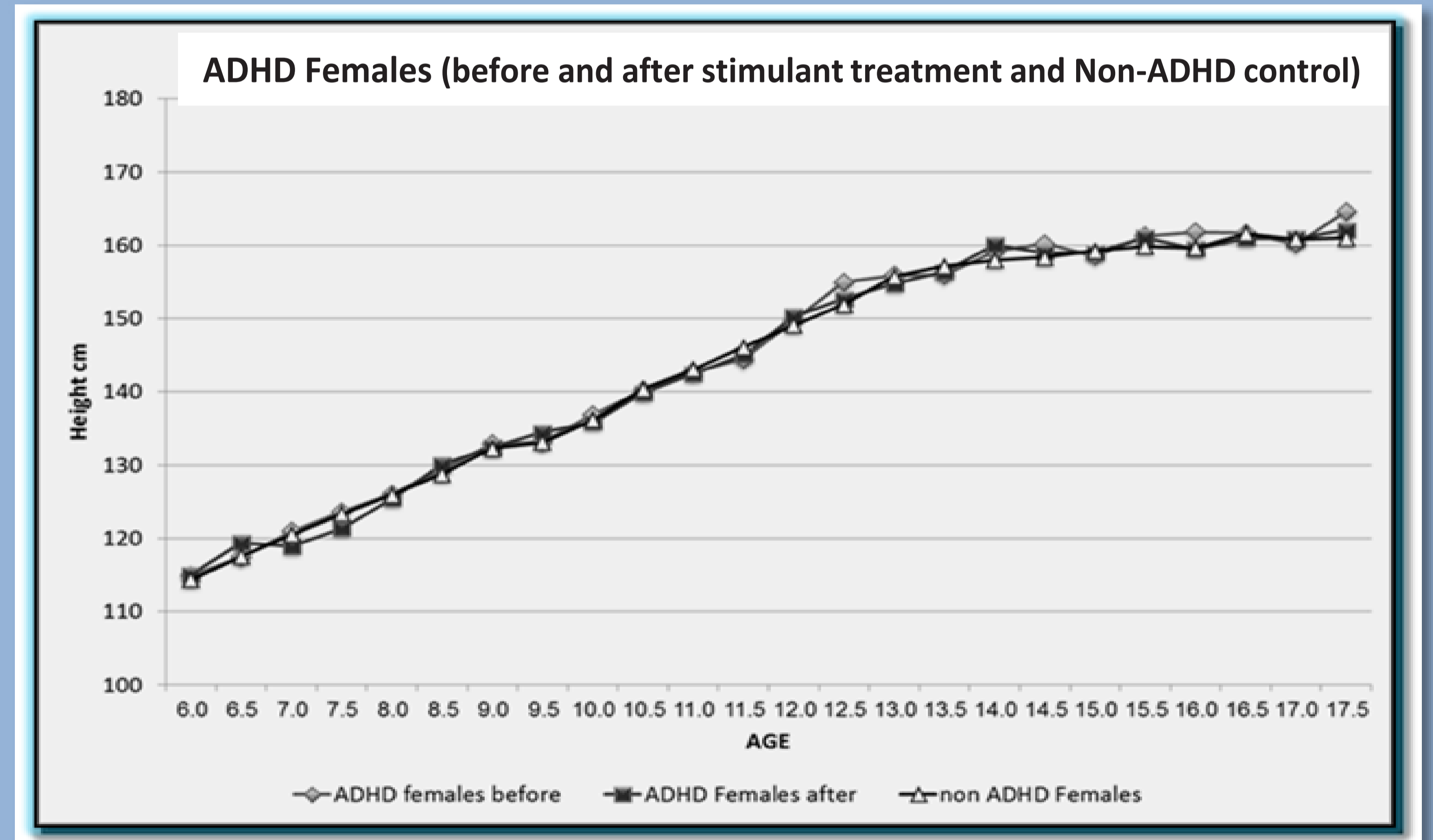
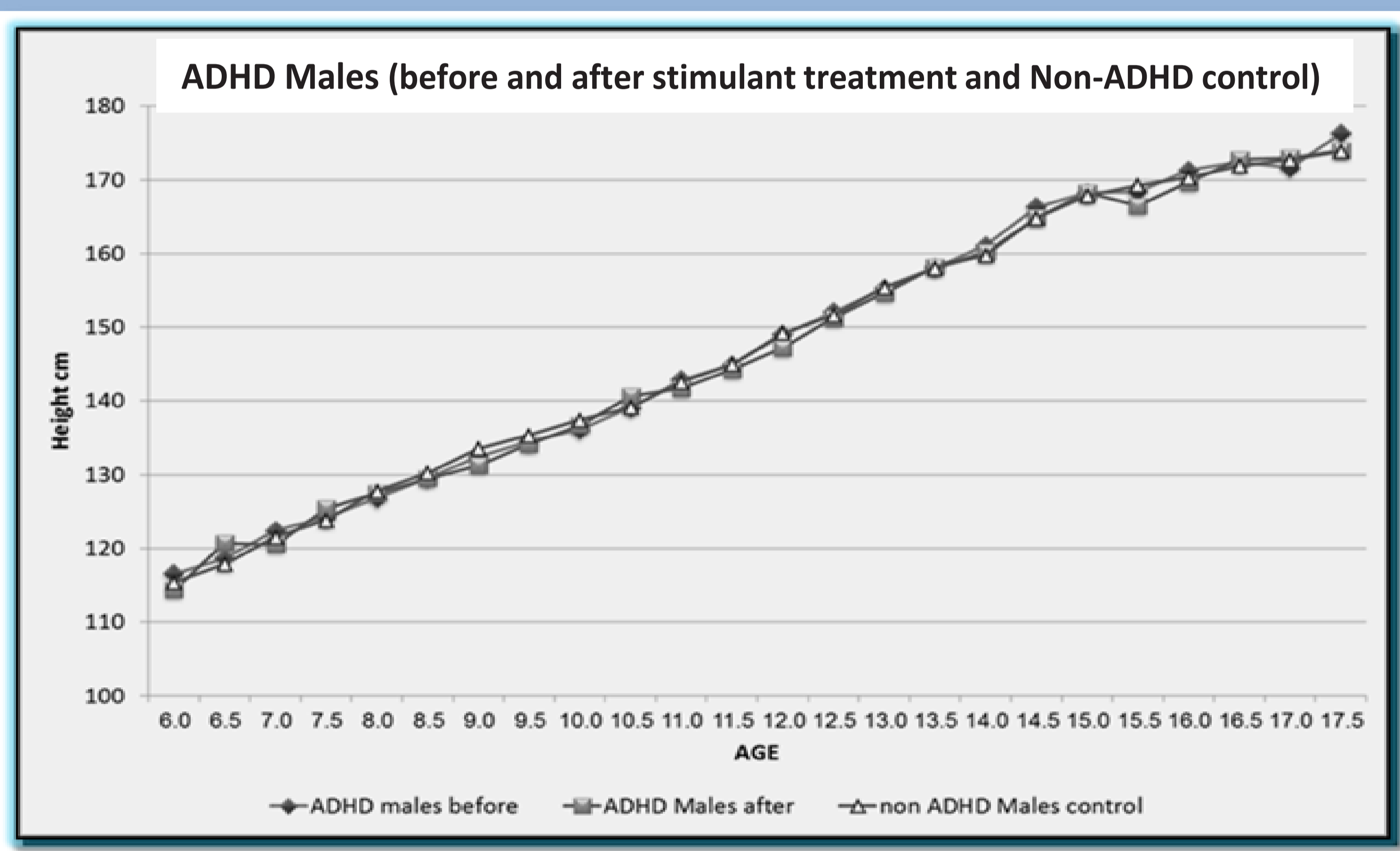
\*Israeli largest healthcare provider (nearly 5M people)

## Results:

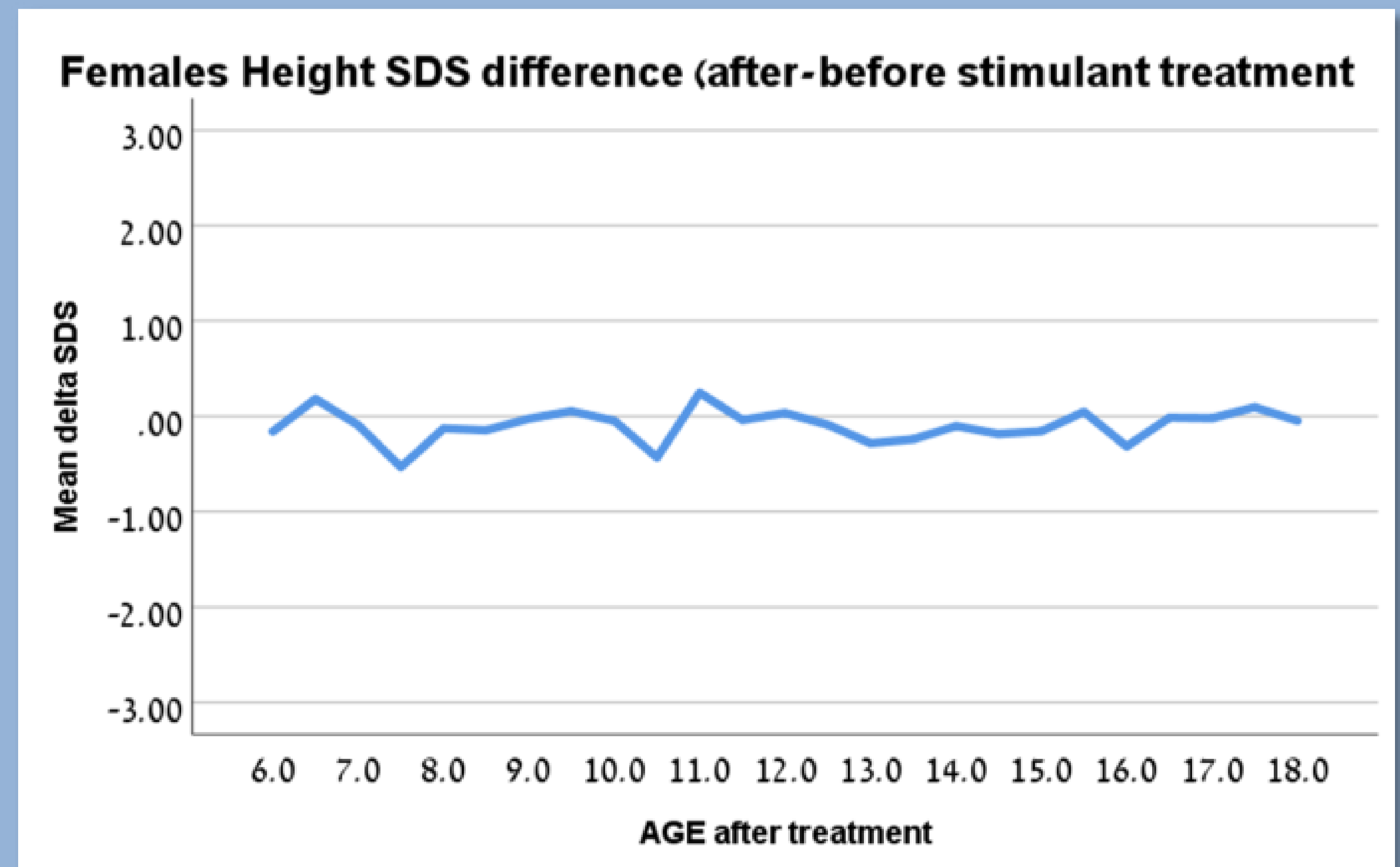
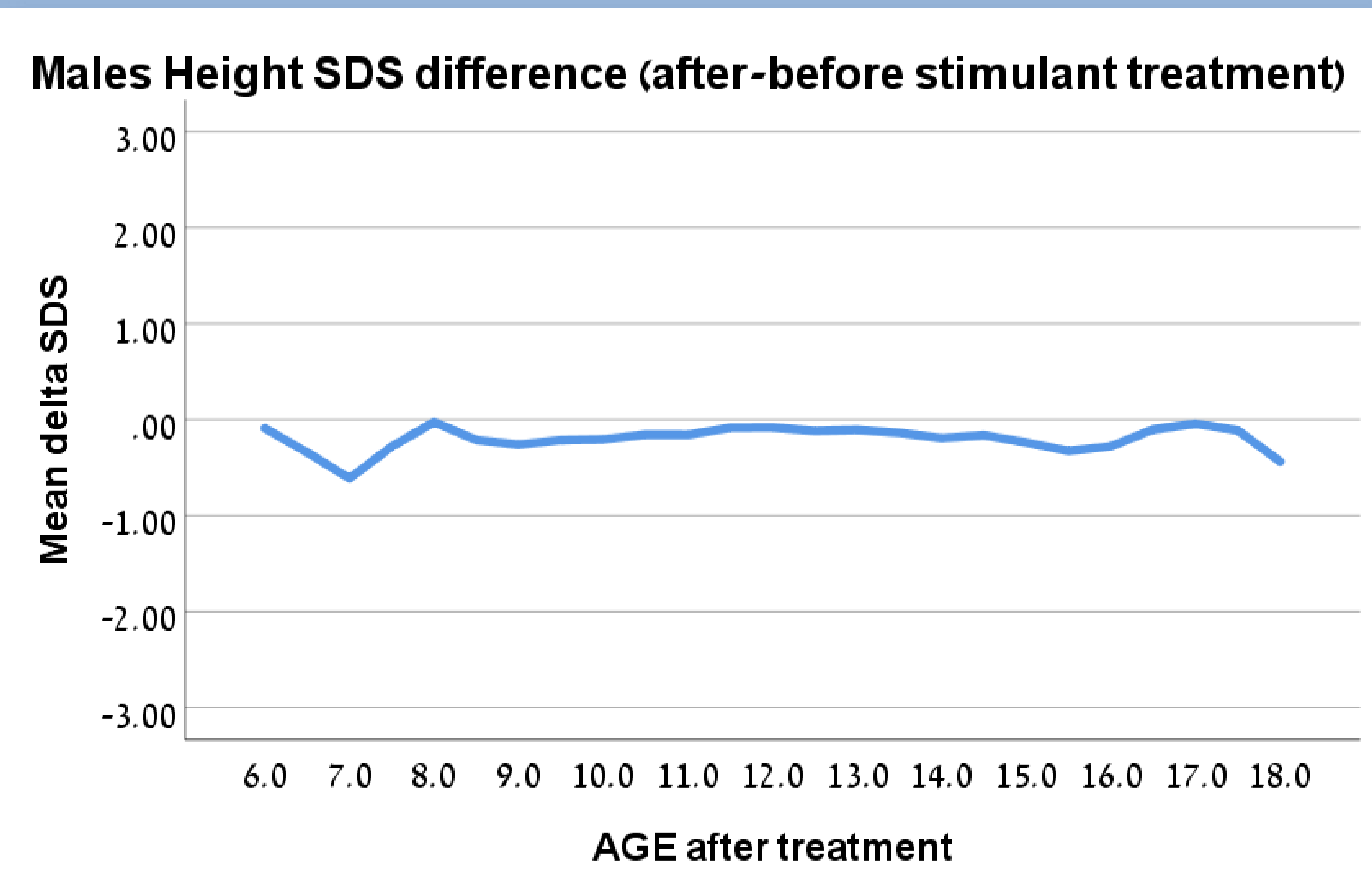
7172 ADHD and 16240 non-ADHD controls  
Mean initial ADHD age 9.6YO Vs. Control: 10.3YO  
ADHD 66% Males Vs. Control: 50%  
ADHD low Socioeconomic class: 30% Vs. Control: 33%

The height curves were nearly overlapping in gender specific median height curve of:

- ADHD before treatment
- non-ADHD control
- ADHD after treatment (in both genders)



Delta Height SDS = Height SDS (after stimulants treatment) - Height SDS (before stimulant)



## Conclusions:

No significant effect on linear growth

- Either in early childhood or adolescence period
- Either in ADHD before treatment or after stimulants treatment or in non-ADHD control