Children generally feel depressed if they feel that they are alone and are not being loved by their parents or if they do not have enough friends to give company for them. This sort of simple feelings can be easily overcome if the parent spends more time with the kid. Symptoms of depression are the same in anyone whether it is a child, adolescent or an adult. Symptoms that are found associated with depression include long hours of sadness, short temper, staying away from social gatherings, feeling lazy and bored all the time, having constant negative thoughts, lack of interest in anything, feeling incompetent to do anything, unable to sleep or eat and suicidal behavior. If you see that your kid is having any of the above symptoms, then you have to take care of the symptoms without negligence. Depression in Children and Adolescents An Overview Bruce D. Waslick, M.D. Rachel Kandel, B.A. Aphrodite Kakouros, B.S. As has been the case with many psychiatric disorders, research in pediatric mood disorders required a definition of generally accepted operationalized criteria to make major progress. Masked depressions could be diagnosed in youths manifesting hyperactivity, aggressive behavior, or delinquency if the children or adolescents at times displayed depressed affect and showed depressive or pessimistic themes on projective tests (Cytryn and McKnew 1972).