

WEBINARS

Webinar: Geoff Bird explores overlap between autism, alexithymia

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26 JANUARY 2017



Here's how Bird describes what he will discuss in this webinar:

There is a persistent stereotype that people with autism have a number of social and emotional

deficits, such as a lack of emotion recognition and empathy. However, the experiences of many individuals with autism and their families run counter to this idea. Furthermore, the scientific evidence supporting these characterizations leaves much to be desired.

In this webinar, I will discuss my research team's findings regarding the intersection between autism and alexithymia, a condition characterized by difficulties identifying and describing one's own emotions. Our work suggests that alexithymia is responsible for some of the emotion recognition and empathy difficulties in people with autism. Our new research suggests that alexithymia may, in fact, explain a great deal of the variability within autism, as well as some of the feature overlap between autism and psychiatric conditions such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

We invite questions before and during webinar presentations in the Comments section.