

**WEBINARS**

# Webinar: James McPartland discusses biomarkers for autism

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

*Autism is understood to be a neurodevelopmental disorder with a biological basis. Nevertheless,*

*clinical research and decisions about diagnosis and treatment remain reliant upon subjective observation of behavior and parent report. There is a critical need for cost-effective, accessible and objective measures of social-communication skills for use in clinical trials and to guide clinical practice.*

*In this webinar, I will review the state of the science relating to social-communicative biomarkers for autism. I will outline key objectives for the field and essential features of clinically practical biomarkers. I will highlight my lab's research on a particular brain-based biomarker for autism as an example of both advances in this domain and the challenges that remain. I will conclude by describing strategies for conducting 'next-generation' research studies and for developing more sensitive biomarkers for autism.*