

**SPECIAL REPORT SUBARTICLE**

# Live DSM-5 discussion

BY GREG BOUSTEAD

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On 29 May, we hosted a live 'virtual roundtable' on the criteria for autism in the newly published DSM-5, the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*.

The panelists included **Thomas Insel**, director of the National Institute of Mental Health; **Catherine Lord**, DSM-5 working group member and director of the Center for Autism and the Developing Brain in New York City; and **Helen Tager-Flusberg**, director of the Research on Autism & Developmental Disorders program at Boston University.

You can listen to the complete discussion above.

Following the **DSM-5's publication** last week and a **preemptive announcement** from the National Institute of Mental Health that it will be directing research away from DSM categories, **we heard important clarifications** about what the DSM-5 is, and what it is not. We also heard Insel's vision for how he expects researchers to use the proposed Research Domain Criteria.

Listeners asked many questions, making for a lively and informative discussion about the new guidelines' impact on autism diagnosis as well as on research. Add your voice by posting reactions and follow-up questions in the comments section below.

## Panelists



**Catherine Lord** Director, Center for Autism and the Developing Brain



**Thomas Insel** Director, National Institute of Mental Health



**Helen Tager-Flusberg** Director, Research on Autism & Developmental Disorders, Boston University

*The panel was moderated by science journalist **Sarah DeWeerd**, a regular contributor to SFARI.org.*