

Proposed Changes to DSM-V

Tuesday, 02 March 2010

Asperger's & PDD-NOS may no longer be separate diagnoses.

Recently, the American Psychiatric Association released some preliminary draft changes to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V) that may affect those diagnosed on the autism spectrum. There are several significant changes proposed, including: Asperger's Syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS) would both be subsumed into the Autistic Disorder category, meaning that they would no longer be considered a separate diagnosis from autism.

These changes are not yet official - they are proposed for the update to the manual, which is expected to be published in May 2013. You can give your feedback on the changes at www.DSM5.org - look for the diagnoses on the autism spectrum under "Disorders Usually First Diagnosed in Infancy, Childhood, or Adolescence."

Public comments will be accepted until April 20, 2010.