

Reduction in autism diagnoses observed with DSM-5

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(HealthDay)—Use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual 5 (DSM-5)

criteria for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) seems to have reduced the number of ASD diagnoses, according to a review published online March 9 in the *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*.

Kristine M. Kulage, M.P.H., from the Columbia University School of Nursing in New York City, and colleagues examined changes in the frequency of ASD diagnoses since the DSM-5 publication in a five-year follow-up systematic review and meta-analysis. Data were included for 33 studies.

The researchers found that use of DSM-5 criteria indicates reductions in the diagnosis of ASD (20.8 percent; P

"Our findings provide further insight regarding how the DSM-5 is being used nationally and internationally to diagnose, or failing to diagnose, those with ASD," Kulage said in a statement. "Future research is needed, as concerns remain for impaired individuals, who, because of the change in diagnostic criteria for ASD, may no longer qualify for treatment but still demonstrate a need for services."

More information: [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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