

# Comparing challenging behavior in children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders according to the DSM-IV-TR and the proposed DSM-5

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**Objective:** The aim of the current study is to investigate challenging behavior in children who may no longer meet criteria for an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) diagnosis according to the proposed fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-5).

**Method:** Children and adolescents (n = 459) were separated into three groups including those who met criteria for ASD according to the DSM-5 criteria (n = 219); those who will no longer qualify for an ASD diagnosis according to the DSM-5 but met criteria according to the DSM-IV-TR (n = 109); and a control group (n = 131). Scores on the Autism Spectrum Disorders – Problem Behaviors for Children (ASD-PB-C) were compared among groups.

**Results:** The DSM-5 captured a slightly more impaired population in terms of problem behavior.

**Conclusion:** Implications regarding access to treatment for those no longer meeting criteria need to be taken into consideration in the coming months.