



Join the Division of Developmental Disabilities Behavioral Health Administration Virtual Lunch and Learn Event

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 05/28/2026

The Division of Developmental Disabilities is hosting monthly Lunch and Learn Sessions.

Next Session

- Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Topic: Aging With Autism: Changes in Behavior and Development of Comorbid Medical Conditions
- Presenter: Elizabeth L. Leonard, PhD, Neurocognitive Associates
Dr. Leonard is a neuropsychologist, Faculty Fellow in the Center for Law, Science & Innovation at ASU College of Law, and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Creighton University School of Medicine. Dr. Leonard's interests involve the assessment of autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders and the interface between law and medicine in persons with A/IDD.
- [Register in advance](#)
 - A confirmation email will be sent to the email address registered with the option to add the event as a calendar listing on the user's default calendar application. Users who experience a delay in receiving the email should check their spam folder for the email.

Session Description

This presentation focuses on changes in the behavioral phenotype of autism with maturation and development of comorbid medical conditions in adulthood. Attendees will learn about research suggesting that autistic persons have a shortened lifespan and the need for practitioners to address competent care to avoid health disparities.

At the conclusion of this lecture, participants will be able to:

- State two changes in the behavioral phenotype of autism that occur with maturation.
- Identify two factors that may contribute to early death in persons with autism.
- Classify at least two differences in the medical/psychological needs of persons with autism that are dependent upon cognitive function.
- Identify at least two factors that will help bridge the gap in inequities in health care in persons on the autism spectrum.

Equal Opportunity Employer / Program • Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities • To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact the Division of Developmental Disabilities Customer Service Center at 1-844-770-9500; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1 • Disponible en español en línea o en la oficina local