



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

2025-2026 IACC Summary of Advances

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) is preparing its Summary of Advances, a statutorily mandated report that highlights the most consequential autism research of the past year. The Committee is seeking suggested research articles to highlight for this report. On behalf of the IACC, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Office of Autism Research Coordination (OARC) is collecting research article suggestions from members of the public.

DATES: Responses to this notice are voluntary and the public comment period will be open from October 9, 2026, through October 23, 2026.

ADDRESSES: All comments must be submitted electronically via the web-based form at: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/zvrk5fMKsw>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Specific questions about this Request for Public Comment should be directed to: Ms. Rebecca Martin by phone at 301-435-0886 or email at iaccpublicinquiries@mail.nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The IACC <http://www.iacc.hhs.gov/> is a federal advisory committee composed of federal and public members that provides advice to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on autism. The Committee is authorized under the Autism CARES Act of 2024, Public Law 118-180. The IACC is preparing its Summary of Advances, a statutorily mandated report that highlights the most consequential autism research of the past year. This edition will cover research published in 2025 and 2026. The Committee invites researchers, clinicians, autistic people, families, organizations, and other members of the public to suggest studies for its consideration.

Submission Information: The Committee seeks suggestions of which research articles to highlight for this report. Respondents may suggest **up to five studies** published between January 1, 2025, and the response deadline, in any of the following topic areas:

1. Foundational Science
 - Genetic and environmental factors
 - Biology of the brain and body
2. Population Understanding & Surveillance

- Prevalence and population characterization
- Prevalence data specific to profound autism and developmental regression
- 3. Identification & Early Trajectory
 - Early screening, diagnosis, and identification of co-occurring conditions
 - Developmental regression
- 4. Translation to Practice
 - Treatment
 - Interventions, including school- and community-based interventions
- 5. Services and Supports
 - Efficacy
 - Access

Nominated articles must be **peer-reviewed** and represent **significant advances** in autism research. The following types of articles are typically not included, although the IACC can discuss and decide whether the insights gained warrant inclusion:

- Editorials & opinion pieces
- Preliminary studies and/or studies of small sample size
- Literature reviews, systematic reviews
- Expert recommendations & reports from panels/taskforces/organizations/agencies
- Articles not solely/primarily focused on autism

Respondents may also briefly identify important gaps in current autism research (optional).

Responses will be reviewed by the Committee alongside nominations from Committee members. Suggestions are advisory; the Committee will make final selections.

Instructions: All comments must be submitted through the web form at <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/zvrk5fMKsw>. Individuals submitting comments will receive an onscreen confirmation acknowledging receipt of the comment, but commenters will not receive individualized responses or feedback from the IACC or OARC except in the cases of requests for technical assistance with the survey, etc.

A valid email address is required for submission, and only one submission per email address will be accepted. If duplicate submissions are received (*i.e.*, form letters or email campaigns), only one example of such a submission will be included in the final set of materials provided to the committee.

Comments are subject to redaction in accordance with federal policies and the IACC's public comment guidelines and privacy policy. To view the IACC's public comment guidelines and privacy policy, visit: <https://iacc.hhs.gov/meetings/public-comments/guidelines/>. All comments or summaries of comments received will be made publicly available on the IACC website <https://www.iacc.hhs.gov> within 90 days of the closing deadline for this notice. Email addresses associated with comments will not be included as part of the public disclosure. After the closing deadline, responses cannot be edited or withdrawn. No basis for claims against the U.S. Government shall arise as a result of a response to this request for information or from the Government's use of such information.

Beth Tignor,

Designated Federal Officer, IACC,

Office of the Director,

National Institutes of Health.

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