

LANGUAGE DISORDER DSM5

In the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fifth ed., **DSM-5**, there are new labels for various disorders. Watch your psych reports to see if they are diagnosing from the DSM-IV or the 5th edition. The numbers and labels are slightly different.

Specifically regarding the Language processing disorder the manual uses the term "**Language Disorder**". The diagnostic criteria are:

A. Persistent difficulties in the acquisition and use of language across modalities (spoken, written, sign language, or other) due to deficits in comprehension or production that include the following:

1. reduced vocabulary (word knowledge and use)
2. limited sentence structure (ability to put words and word endings together to form sentences based on the rules of grammar and morphology)
3. impairments in discourse (ability to use vocabulary and connect sentences to explain or describe a topic or series of events or have a conversation).

B. language abilities are substantially and quantifiably below those expected for age, resulting in functional limitation in effective communication, social participation, academic achievement, or occupational performance, individually or in any combination.

C. onset of symptoms is in the early developmental period

D. the difficulties are not attributable to hearing or the other sensory impairment, motor dysfunction, or another medical or neurological condition and are not better explained by intellectual disability (intellectual developmental disorder) or global developmental delay.

It goes on to say the diagnostic features of language disorder are **difficulties in the acquisition and the use of language due to deficits in the comprehension or production of vocabulary, sentence structure, and discourse.**

This diagnosis is different from Speech Sound Disorder, Childhood-Onset Fluency Disorder (stuttering), and Social (Pragmatic) Communication Disorder.

And by the way, the new manual also requires psychs to list separately the Specific Learning Disorder as:

315.00 with impairment in reading

315.2 with impairment in written expression

315.1 with impairment in mathematics and the psych should also indicate the current severity as mild, moderate or severe.