

Here are this year's presenters:

Dr. Paul A. Offit, Director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the Maurice R. Hilleman Professor of Vaccinology and a Professor of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He will speak on "Communicating Science to the Public: The Vaccine-Autism Controversy."

Leann E. Smith, Project Team member of the Lifespan Family Research Program which is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about families who have a member with a disability. She will speak on "Transitioning Together: Intervention Programs for Families of Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder."

Alison Singer, President of the Autism Science Foundation, the mother of a child with autism and the legal guardian of her adult brother with autism. She will discuss the Autism Sisters Project, which focuses on gathering data on unaffected sisters and supporting research, with full family involvement.

Joseph Buxbaum, the G. Harold and Leila Y. Mathers Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience, and Genetic and Genomic Sciences, the Head of The Laboratory of Molecular Neuropsychiatry, and the Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Psychiatry at Mount Sinai. Dr. Buxbaum is the Director of the Seaver Autism Center. His laboratory has identified common and rare genetic variants that underlie ASD and developed model systems in which novel therapeutics can be tested. He will speak on "Can Basic Research Lead to Novel Treatments for ASD?"

Dr. Alexander Kolevzon, a child and adolescent psychiatrist and an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai who serves as the Clinical Director of the Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment and the Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry for the Mount Sinai Health System. He will speak on "Developing Novel Therapeutics in Autism Spectrum Disorder: From Genes to Clinical Trials."

Ofer Atzmon, a highly experienced manager, specializing in international business development and marketing of high-tech solutions in the fields of information technologies, eHealth and education. As business development manager at Compedia, he is responsible for EmotiPlay, a new business unit developing virtual games for children with autism, aimed at enhancing their socio-emotional communication skills.

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