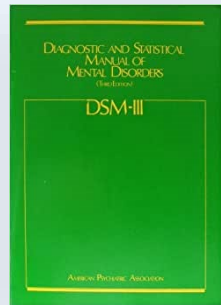


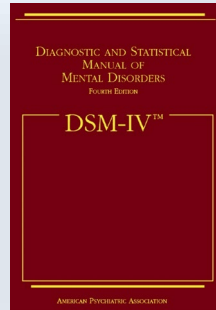
I. Introduction

- The classification system of personality disorders changed from a categorical approach to a dimensional approach based on a spectrum of normal and pathological personality (1980-2022).
- Historical transformations in science happen gradually and cumulatively and not necessarily as major scientific revolutions¹.



1980

DSM-III



1994

DSM-IV



Aim
Historical reconstruction of the changes in the classification of personality disorders with reference to the framework of scientific knowledge, processes, and institutions.



Research question
How did the "paradigm" evolve from a categorical towards a dimensional approach?

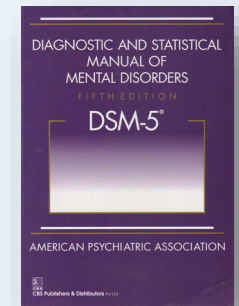


II. Material and Method

- 🔍 Systematic literature search via Web of Science, PubMed, and JSTOR
- 📁 Archival material of the DSM and ICD revision processes retrieved from the American Psychiatric Association and World Health Organization
- 🗣️ Expert interviews with DSM and ICD task force members

2013

DSM-5



III. Results

Scientific knowledge

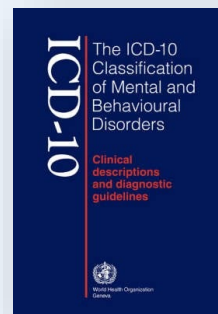
- Over 900 scientific publications from psychiatry and psychology address challenges in the classification of personality disorders. The categorical conceptualization of personality disorders is deficient as shown in low interrater reliability, low homogeneity within one disorder group and comorbidity². The scientific communities propose alternative approaches such as the prototype model, circumplex model, and 5-factor model. Simplicity and practical utility of a classification system are crucial arguments for researchers and practitioners.

Processes

- With the introduction of computers and the development of statistical models, empirical evidence speaks for a dimensional classification system of personality disorders. Factor analysis supports a 5-factor model which assumes a continuous distribution of (ab)normal personality.

ICD-10

1993



References

- ¹Thelen, K. (2003). How Institutions evolve: Insights from comparative historical analysis. In J. Mahoney & D. Rueschemeyer (Eds.), *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics, pp. 208-240). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/CBO9780511803963.007
- ²Krueger, R. F. & Eaton, N.R. (2010). Personality Traits and the Classification of Mental Disorders: Toward a More Complete Integration in DSM-5 and an Empirical Model of Psychopathology. *Personality Disorders: Theory, Research and Treatment*, 1(2), 97-118.

IV. Conclusion

- Scientific knowledge about personality disorders is influenced by models derived from cognitive and personality psychology. The gradual transition from a categorical over a "hybrid" (DSM-5, section III) to five domain traits (ICD-11) is a reaction to dissatisfactory psychometric quality criteria under consideration of best practical utility. Proposals from the scientific communities are driving forces behind that change.
- The historical development of scientific processes has an impact on the changes in the classification of personality disorders. The development of advanced statistical models and results from quantitative studies support the dimensional approach in a world where evidence-based studies are the single currency.

ICD-11



ICD-11

2022

What next

- Further investigation of politics and institutional processes
- Better understanding of the DSM and ICD revision processes
- Interviews with task force members