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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DR SHAFALI JESTE APPOINTED TO
AUTISM SCIENCE FOUNDATION SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

NEW YORK, NY- The Autism Science Foundation (ASF), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to catalyzing innovative autism research, today announced the appointment of Shafali Jeste, MD, Associate Professor in Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Neurology at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA to its Scientific Advisory Board. Dr. Jeste joins a distinguished list of researchers and scientists who help guide and inform the scientific priorities of ASF, advising on top research projects to be funded and identifying and developing new opportunities that help all families and individuals with ASD. A full list of current members can be found here: <https://autismsciencefoundation.org/about-asf/scientific-advisory-board/>.

Dr. Jeste is a child neurologist who specializes in neurodevelopmental disorders. Her lab is focused on the use of clinically useful, brain based biomarkers (such as electroencephalography) to better define early predictors of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in early infancy and to inform treatment targets for clinical trials. In this context, she studies infants and children with rare genetic disorders associated with autism. Her work in early predictors of autism in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex has led to the first randomized clinical trial of early intervention in this syndrome.

Alycia Halladay, Chief Science Officer of the Autism Science Foundation adds: “We are thrilled that Shafali Jeste will be joining the Scientific Advisory Board. She is an accomplished scientist and fierce advocate for families. Shafali provides expertise and a unique perspective in integrating biomarkers with behavioral development in those with autism with and without intellectual disability.”

Dr. Jeste has been a longtime advisor to the Autism Science Foundation, participating and collaborating on efforts including the [Baby Siblings Research Consortium](#) (BSRC) as well as the [Alliance for the Genetic Etiologies of Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Autism](#). She currently serves as the Chair of the BSRC. She received her MD from Harvard Medical School, and completed a residency in pediatric neurology at Boston Children’s Hospital and a post-doctoral fellowship in cognitive neuroscience with Dr. Charles Nelson at Harvard Medical School. She recently received the 2019 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists.

About the Autism Science Foundation:

The Autism Science Foundation (ASF) is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Its mission is to support autism research by providing funding to scientists and organizations conducting autism research. ASF also provides information about autism to the general public and serves to increase awareness of autism spectrum disorders and the needs of individuals and families affected by autism. To learn more about the Autism Science Foundation or to make a donation, visit www.autismsciencefoundation.org.

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