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Ethyl-eicosapentaenoic acid in bipolar depression

Frangou *et al* (2006) reported ethyl-eicosapentaenoic acid (ethyl-EPA) to be effective in the treatment of bipolar depression. However, no mention is made of the dietary intake of ethyl-EPA among the randomised groups. Ethyl-EPA is a naturally occurring substance and hence a potential confounding variable. The statistically significant improvements in the ethyl-EPA group(s) compared with placebo in terms of decreases in scores on the Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression and the Clinical Global Impression Scale could simply have been a result of differences in dietary ethyl-EPA intake. Such a difference is likely to have involved increased

intake in the ethyl-EPA group(s), but decreased intake in these groups could have lessened any potential improvements. Further studies of omega-3 fatty acids must control for the potential confounding independent variable of dietary intake.

Frangou, S., Lewis, M. & McCrone, P. (2006) Efficacy of ethyl-eicosapentaenoic acid in bipolar depression: randomised double-blind placebo-controlled study. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, **188**, 46–50.

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One hundred years ago

News and notes

Dr. RAYNER: The Editors beg to report that there has been no material change in the production of the Journal during the year 1905.

The number of copies printed remains 1075, although from the steadily increasing membership the number will probably require to be increased at the end of the present year, as well as from a slight increase in the sale of the Journal of the Association.

The cost of the production of the Journal remains practically the same as during the past ten years, although the numbers printed have increased so considerably. In the present year, on the advice of the publishers, the net sale price has been

increased slightly, and this on the present sale of the Journal will increase the receipts from this source by some £25.

The advertisements also show a tendency to increase, although still very much below the amount that might be reasonably expected when the importance of the opportunity of advertising is considered. The fact that the Journal is regularly in the hands of the medical officers of hospitals containing more than 100,000 beds should attract the attention of all concerned in the supply of hospital requisites. The members of the Association individually might greatly aid in making the value of the Journal, from an advertisement point of view, better known to possible advertisers.

The Editors wish again to express their thanks to their sub-editor, Dr. Lord, for the very valuable and important assistance that he has given during the past year

HENRY RAYNER.

A. R. URQUHART.

CONOLLY NORMAN.

JAMES CHAMBERS.

Dr. CONNOLLY NORMAN seconded the report, and it was carried.

REFERENCE

Journal of Mental Science, October 1906, 813.

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Researched by Henry Rollin, Emeritus Consultant Psychiatrist, Horton Hospital, Epsom, Surrey

Corrigendum

Generalisability of the individual placement and support model of supported employment: results of a Canadian randomised controlled trial. *BJP*, **189**, 65–73. The

percentage for 'Any competitive job over 12 months' in the 'Usual service' group in Table 2b (p. 71) should be 17.6. The doi for this paper is

10.1192/bjp.bp.105.012641; the doi included with the online version has been corrected in deviation from print and in accordance with this corrigendum.