



Assessing risk in the mentally disordered

EDITED BY C. DUGGAN

-
- I Introduction**
C. Duggan
-
- 4 Risk assessment and clinical risk management: the lessons from recent inquiries**
J. Reed
-
- 8 The epidemiology of crime, violence and schizophrenia**
S. Wessely
-
- 12 The investigation of acting on delusions as a tool for risk assessment in the mentally disordered**
A. Buchanan
-
- 17 Predictors of risk in serious sex offenders**
D. Grubin
-
- 22 Patients as parents: the risk to children**
M. Oates
-
- 28 Assessing dangerousness: protecting the interests of patients**
W. Bingley
-
- 30 Assessing risk: are we being overcautious?**
P. Bacon
-
- 32 Practical aspects of clinical risk assessment and management**
P. Snowden
-
- 35 Training trainers in risk assessment**
M. Harris
-
- 37 Risk assessment in a climate of litigation**
G. Harrison
-

CONTRIBUTORS

 PAUL BACON, Bryan & Armstrong Solicitors, Mansfield

 WILLIAM BINGLEY, Chief Executive, Mental Health Act Commission, Nottingham

 ALEC BUCHANAN, MRCPsych, Department of Forensic Psychiatry, Institute of Psychiatry, London

 CONOR DUGGAN, MRCPsych, Mapperley Hospital, Nottingham

 DON GRUBIN, MRCPsych, St Nicholas Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne

 MICHAEL HARRIS, FRCPsych, St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton

 GLYNN HARRISON, FRCPsych, Department of Mental Health, University of Bristol, Bristol

 MARGARET OATES, FRCPsych, Department of Psychiatry, University of Nottingham, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham

 JOHN REED, FRCPsych, HM Inspectorate of Prisons, Home Office, London

 PETER SNOWDEN, FRCPsych, Prestwich Hospital, Manchester

 SIMON WESSELY, MRCPsych, Department of Psychological Medicine, King's College Hospital, London

THE PAPERS IN THIS SUPPLEMENT HAVE EACH BEEN ANONYMOUSLY REVIEWED BY TWO PEERS. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHORS DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THOSE OF THE SPONSOR.

The *British Journal of Psychiatry* is published monthly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists (a registered charity, registration number 228636). The *BJP* publishes original work in all fields of psychiatry. All communications, including manuscripts for publication should be sent to the Editor, *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 17, Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG.

Full instructions to authors are given at the beginning of the January and July issues, and on the Web Site below.

Information about the College's publications is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.demon.co.uk/rcpsych>.

Subscriptions

Non-members of the College should contact the Publications Subscription Department, Royal Society of Medicine Press Limited, PO Box 9002, London W1A 0ZA (tel. 0171 290 2928; fax 0171 290 2929). Annual subscription rates for 1997 (12 issues post free) are as follows:

	INSTITUTIONS	INDIVIDUALS
Europe (& UK)	£165	£145
US	\$320	\$236
Elsewhere	£196	£155

Full airmail is £36/US\$64 extra.
Single copies of the Journal are £14, \$25 (post free).

Queries from non-members about missing or faulty copies should be addressed within six months to the same address; similar queries from College members should be addressed to the Registration Subscription Department, The Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG.

Payment should be made out to the British Journal of Psychiatry.

Back issues

Back issues published before 1996 may be purchased from William Dawson & Sons Ltd, Cannon House, Folkestone, Kent (tel. 01303 850 101).

Advertising

Correspondence and copy should be addressed to Peter T. Mell, Advertising Manager, PTM Publishers Ltd, 282 High Street, Sutton, Surrey SMI 1PQ (tel. 0181 642 0162; fax 0181 643 2275).

US Mailing Information

The *British Journal of Psychiatry* is published monthly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Subscription price is \$320. Second class postage paid at Rathway, NJ. Postmaster send address corrections to the British Journal of Psychiatry, c/o Mercury Airfreight International Ltd Inc., 2323 Randolph Avenue, Avenel, New Jersey 07001.

TMThe paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of the American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1984.

Typeset by Dobbie Typesetting Limited, Trident House, 2 Taylor Square, Tavistock, Devon PL19 0DG.

Printed by Henry Ling Ltd, The Dorset Press, 23 High East Street, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1HD.

©1997 The Royal College of Psychiatrists. Unless so stated, material in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* does not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the Royal College of Psychiatrists. The publishers are not responsible for any error of omission or fact.

Past Editors

 Eliot Slater 1961–72 John L. Crammer 1978–83

 Edward H. Hare 1973–77 Hugh L. Freeman 1984–93

Founded by J. C. Bucknill in 1853 as the *Asylum Journal* and known as the *Journal of Mental Science* from 1858 to 1963.

Published by the Royal College of Psychiatrists