

Vol. 22, No. 8  
August 1998  
ISSN 0955-6036

# Psychiatric Bulletin

The Journal of Trends in Psychiatric Practice



Royal College  
of Psychiatrists

---

# Psychiatric Bulletin

## The Journal of Trends in Psychiatric Practice

---

**Editor: Dr Tom Fahy**

Editorial Board: Dr Derek Chiswick,  
Dr Gyles Glover, Dr Louise Howard, Dr Peter Kennedy,  
Dr Rosalind Ramsay, Dr Henry Rollin, Dr Mike Shooter, Dr David Tait,  
Professor Peter Tyrer, Professor Greg Wilkinson

Bulletin Coordinator: Julia Burnside  
Assistant Scientific Editor: Lucretia King

---

### Notice to contributors

The *Psychiatric Bulletin* publishes original scientific papers, brief review articles and opinion pieces dealing with treatment of mental disorders, administration, audit and management of psychiatric services and training in psychiatry. The *Psychiatric Bulletin* focuses on matters relevant to everyday clinical practice and management in psychiatry. The *Psychiatric Bulletin* will prioritise articles which are of practical clinical relevance, topical and accessible.

All original articles are peer reviewed. Authors should send three copies of their submission, typed double-spaced with wide margins, and give a total word count. A good length is 1500 words. Longer papers are likely to be returned to the authors for editing before being sent to referees. A structured abstract of 100–120 words (headings to include method, results and clinical implications) should be included with all original scientific papers. A summary of approximately 100 words should precede review articles. Authors are encouraged to limit the number of tables/figures to a maximum of three. Photographs and illustrations are welcome. For more detailed advice on referencing (Harvard system), presentation of statistical information and the style of tables and figures, please refer to instructions to authors in the *British Journal of Psychiatry*.

Papers on audit must demonstrate a completed audit cycle. Correspondence is welcome; letters should be no longer than 250 words (please give word count) and include no more than three references, and no tables or diagrams. Letters can be e-mailed to [jburnside@rcpsych.ac.uk](mailto:jburnside@rcpsych.ac.uk). The correspondence editor will use a standard letter to inform authors if their letter is to be published or not. Books reviews should be no longer than 500 words.

If an individual patient is described, the patient should read the report before submission, and written consent must be obtained from the patient or an authorised person. Contributors should be aware of the risk of complaint by patients in respect of defamation and breach of confidentiality.

All material submitted should be accompanied by a covering letter to the editor signed by all authors. Contributions are accepted for publication on the condition that their substance has not been published or submitted elsewhere.

---

The *Psychiatric Bulletin* is published monthly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG. (Registered charity no. 228636.)

#### Subscriptions

Non-members of the College should contact the Publications Subscriptions Department, Royal Society of Medicine Press Limited, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE (tel. 0171 290 2928).

Subscription rate for 1998: £52 (UK and elsewhere), \$77 (USA).

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

Information about the College's publications is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk>. Correspondence may be e-mailed to [jburnside@rcpsych.ac.uk](mailto:jburnside@rcpsych.ac.uk)

©1998 The Royal College of Psychiatrists. Unless so stated, material in the *Psychiatric Bulletin* does not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the College. The publishers are not responsible for any error of omission or fact.

---

*Psychiatric Bulletin* is covered by the Excerpta Medica database EMBASE.

US Mailing Information: The *Psychiatric Bulletin* is published monthly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Subscription price is \$77. Second Class postage paid at Rahway, NJ. Postmaster send address corrections to *Psychiatric Bulletin*, c/o Mercury Airfreight International Ltd Inc., 365 Blair Road, Avenel, New Jersey 07001.

ISSN 0955-6036.

Typeset by Dobbie Typesetting Limited, Tavistock. Printed in Great Britain by Henry Ling Ltd, at the Dorset Press, Dorchester, Dorset.

## Editorials

- Not Just Bricks and Mortar. *T. Burns* 465  
Clinical dilemmas and the Cochrane Collaboration. *C. Adams,  
K. Soares and I. Ahmed* 467  
Thomas Alan Kerr. *H. R. Rollin* 470

## Original papers

- Delayed response to abnormal lithium results is no longer necessary.  
*J. R. King and N. J. Birch* 471  
Users' needs and satisfaction with a community-based mental health  
service. *G. Ralston, S. Beesley and J. Bogue* 473  
Violence, dissatisfaction and rapid tranquillisation in psychiatric intensive  
care. *C. E. Hyde, C. Harrower-Wilson and J. Morris* 477  
Benzodiazepine prescribing in a psychiatric hospital. *J. Summers  
and K. W. Brown* 480  
GPs' views on prioritisation of child and adolescent mental health  
problems. *S. M. Jones and B. R. Bhadrinath* 484  
Allocation of referrals within a child and adolescent mental health  
service. *S. Roberts and I. Partridge* 487  
Use of the Care Programme Approach register by an inner-city old age  
psychiatry team. *J. Wallace and C. J. Ball* 489  
Ideas of flight. *C. Maher and D. Murray* 492  
Implications of urban drift on health care resources in inner  
London. *A. J. Montgomery and A. M. Parshall* 494  
Assessment and certification of neurosurgery for mental disorder.  
*G. E. Langley* 497  
Legal and contractual implications of the informal admission of  
psychiatric practice. *I. O. Azuonye* 501

## Evidence-based psychiatry

- How to appraise an article on diagnosis. *H. Rampes, J. P. Warner  
and R. Blizard* 506

## Trainees' forum

- Training and supervision of deliberate self-harm assessments. *S. Taylor* 510

## Personal view

- Reflections on the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. *E. Knapp* 513  
The other end of the couch. *K. S. Jones* 515

## Psychiatric vignette

- The wrong feet. *T. Whitehead* 517

## Correspondence

518

## The College

- Council Report 522

## Obituaries

523

## Miscellany

525

## Forthcoming events

527