

Joint symposium Brighton and Sussex Medical School
with Sussex Partnership Foundation NHS Trust &
Health Education Kent Surrey and Sussex



PSYCHIATRY SYMPOSIUM

Get well sooner: Novel Treatments for depression

A substantial proportion of patients with Depression have insufficient response to current medications. Recent research has focussed on rapid-acting antidepressants that affect a range of signalling pathways in ways that are distinct from the mechanisms of typical antidepressants.

The symposium will open with an update on personalised pharmacological treatments and an overview of treatment options that are being tested in ongoing research studies. Next, the promises and pitfalls of novel and faster-acting antidepressants, such as ketamine and psychedelics, known to target neurogenesis and synaptic plasticity pathways amongst other mechanisms. We close with an overview of how the integration of translational research with novel human brain imaging will contribute to the discovery and development of more effective antidepressant treatments.

**CONFERENCE CENTRE, 3RD FLOOR, BRAMBER HOUSE,
UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX**

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 10TH, 2019 |

Further information and registration:

<https://www.bsms.ac.uk/about/events/2019/04-10-bsms-clinical-neuroscience-and-neuroimaging-psychiatry-symposium.aspx>

PROGRAMME

CLINICAL SESSION - GET WELL SOONER: NOVEL TREATMENTS FOR DEPRESSION

Chairs: Graham Campbell & Sabine Munzinger

13:30

Welcome & Introduction

Prof Hugo Critchley

13:40

Prof Hamish McAllister-Williams

New horizons in the management of
depression

Q&As

14.20

Dr Robin Carhart-Harris

Psychodelics: therapeutic mechanisms

Q&As

15:00

Afternoon refreshment break

15:20

Dr Rupert McShane

Ketamine and related antidepressants:
balancing the risks/benefits

Q&As

16:00

Dr Alessandro Colasanti

The brain in depression: imaging the
mechanisms

Q&As

16.40

Closing remarks - Prof. Hugo Critchley



**3 CPD points will be awarded post-event to all attendees
of the afternoon session**

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Hamish McAllister-Williams:

Qualified in medicine at Edinburgh, Scotland in 1987. Following house jobs he held a post as a Wellcome Trust Clinical Training Fellow in the Department of Pharmacology in Edinburgh gaining a PhD in Neuropharmacology for work studying serotonergic (5-HT) responses in central neurones. He subsequently undertook his initial clinical training in Psychiatry at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital and then moved to Newcastle in 1995 as a Clinical Lecturer. In 1999 he was awarded a UK Medical Research Council Clinician Scientist Fellowship at Senior Lecturer level to investigate the pathophysiology of affective disorders, in particular the role of serotonin and cortisol. He completed a research MD degree at Newcastle describing a novel method of exploring 5-HT function in man that has been used to study corticosteroid-5-HT interactions and 5-HT abnormalities in depressed patients. In 2004 he was appointed a Reader in Clinical Psychopharmacology and then Professor of Affective Disorders in 2017 at Newcastle University. His research focuses on the pathophysiology and treatment of both bipolar and unipolar affective disorders. He works clinically in the tertiary level specialist Regional Affective Disorders Service in Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust, providing outpatient and inpatient services for patients with treatment refractory mood disorders. He is a past General Secretary of the British Association for Psychopharmacology (BAP) and was appointed in 2012 as the BAP Director of Education. He is a major contributor to their CPD programme. He has published in excess of 150 journal papers, reviews, book chapters and conference abstracts.

Robin Carhart-Harris:

Moved to Imperial College London in 2008 after obtaining a PhD in Psychopharmacology from the University of Bristol and an MA in Psychoanalysis from Brunel University. At Imperial, he has designed brain imaging studies involving LSD, psilocybin, MDMA and DMT, plus a clinical trial of psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression, and a current trial comparing psilocybin with escitalopram for major depressive disorder. He currently heads the Psychedelic Research Group at Imperial and has an honorary position with the University of Oxford.

Rupert McShane:

Leads the ECT and ketamine service at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust. Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatrists special committee on ECT and related treatments. Work on ECT includes creation of internet resource of 140 video clips of people talking about their experience of ECT on HealthTalk. He ran the first international conference on ketamine treatments for psychiatric disorders in March 2018. He is an old age psychiatrist by training and previously coordinating editor of the Cochrane Dementia and Cognitive Improvement Group.

Alessandro Colasanti:

Developed an inter-disciplinary vision and specialised in PET and MRI brain imaging techniques through doctoral and post-doctoral clinical-academic positions at Maastricht University, Imperial College London, Imanova PET Imaging Centre (now Invicro), and the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London. Dr Colasanti's research investigates the biological mechanisms underlying the pathophysiology of affective disorders, by using a translational approach that integrates multimodal neuroimaging modalities (PET and quantitative MRI) and pharmacological approaches in healthy human subjects and clinical populations. The aims of Dr Colasanti's research is to translate promising findings in neuroscience and neuropharmacology into discoveries that have direct clinical relevance.