

7th International Symposium of the Evolutionary Psychiatry Special Interest Group

Date: Friday 21 November 2025

Venue: Online via Events air

Time	Session
9.15am	Welcome Dr Riadh Abed, Chair, Evolutionary Psychiatry Special Interest Group
	Plenary 1 Chair: Dr Riadh Abed
9.30am	Why evolutionary science is helpful for psychiatry trainees Dr Gurjot Brar, Trinity College Dublin
10.15am	Evolved traits of personality and psychopathology Dr Adam Hunt, Leverhulme Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, University of Cambridge
11.00am	Break
	Plenary 2 Chair: Dr Annie Swanepoel
11.30am	From ancient rituals to social media - the emergence of self-harm cultures Dr Vaishnavi Sornarajah, West London Mental Health NHS Trust Dr Anna Eaton, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust
12.15pm	Charles Darwin Essay prize winner presentation – Higher Resident: What evolution can teach us about the most dangerous personalities Dr Loraine Marnicki
12.25pm	Lunch
	Plenary 3 Chair: Dr Riadh Abed
1.25pm	Charles Darwin Essay prize winner presentation – Core Resident: The evolutionary roots of social anxiety Dr Rana Cagla Akduman Kurtaran
1.35pm	Clinical applications of evolutionary psychiatry and the GOAL model

The RCPsych is an inclusive organisation with over 21,000 members who have a diverse range of views, which we look to represent across our programmes. To further open dialogue, scientific discovery and enrich learning, we provide our members with the opportunity to hear from a range of professionals. The speakers, panellists and participants views and comments are their own and not the established views of the College.

	Professor Alfonso Troisi, University of Rome Tor Vergata
2.20pm	Embodied development: How cooperative care, activity, and social learning shape childhood in a forager context Dr Gül Deniz Salali, University College London
3.05pm	Break
	Plenary 4 Chair: Dr Annie Swanepoel
3.35pm	The concept of mental disorder Professor Jerome Wakefield, New York University Silver School of Social Work
4.20pm	Q&A
5.05pm	Close of conference