## Annual ECT and neuromodulation conference

**Date:** Thursday 12 and Friday 13 November 2026
**Venue:** RCPsych London / Live stream

**Thursday 12 November 2026**

| Time | Session |
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| **8.40-9.05am** | **Registration (for in-person delegates)** |
| **9.05am** | **Welcome and introduction**<br>Richard Braithwaite, UK |
| | **Plenary 1. Real-world outcomes of ECT**<br>**Chair: Richard Braithwaite, UK** |
| **9.10am** | **ECTAS: What did patients and carers say?**<br>Cassie Reagan and Hannah Lucas-Motley, UK |
| **9.30am** | **Update on ECTAS outcomes**<br>Richard Braithwaite, UK |
| **9.50am** | **Non-response to ECT: insights from the Scottish ECT Audit Network (SEAN)**<br>Daniel Martin, UK |
| **10.10am** | **ECT in late-life depression: an overview of recent evidence**<br>Aimee Devereux, UK |
| **10.30-11.00am** | **Break** |
| | **Plenary 2. Complex cases**<br>**Chair: Alexander Sartorius, Germany** |
| **11.00am** | **Cardiovascular risk and ECT outcomes**<br>Nathalie Denayer, Belgium |
| **11.15am** | **Patient with severe catatonia after ventriculoperitoneal shunt**<br>Maeva Magnat, France |
| **11.30am** | **A patient with a cerebral aneurysm undergoing ECT**<br>Lucie Cherruaud, France |
| **11.45am** | **Excited catatonia and Phelan-McDermid syndrome**<br>Omolayo Apantaku, UK |
| **12.00pm** | **Use of bifrontal ECT in patients with cardiac problems**<br>Rebecca Conlan Trant, Ireland |

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| **12.15pm** | **ECT for persistent psychosis in a forensic setting**<br>Lena Machetanz, Switzerland |
| **12.30-1.30pm**<br><br>**12.55-1.25pm** | **Lunch**<br><br>**Practical demonstration of right unilateral ECT (Rm 1.1)** |
| **1.30pm** | **Plenary 3. Distinguished Guest Lecture**<br>**Chair: George Kirov**<br>**Reducing ECT stigma via the evidence base**<br>Charles Kellner, US |
| | **Plenary 4. Evolving roles of clinics**<br>**Chair: Kay Fisher, UK** |
| **2.20pm** | **Non-medical administration of ECT in the UK**<br>Mandy Tate and Kay Fisher, UK |
| **2.40pm** | **rTMS drop-in sessions: a space for shared experience for service users and carers**<br>Yetunde Abiodun and service user, UK |
| **3.00-3.30pm** | **Break** |
| | **Plenary 5. 'Very' treatment-resistant depression**<br>**Chairs: Douglas Steele and Quentin Huys, UK** |
| **3.30pm** | **Psychiatric Neurosurgery: a historical perspective** ***(please note this session will not be available to watch on demand)***<br>Douglas Steele, UK |
| **3.50pm** | **Neurosurgery for treatment-resistant depression**<br>Ludvic Zrinzo, UK |
| **4.10pm** | **The National Affective Disorders Unit at the Maudsley Hospital and treatment-resistant depression** ***(please note this session will not be available to watch on demand)***<br>Anthony Cleare, UK |
| **4.30pm** | **A referral pathway for neurosurgery in depression**<br>Quentin Huys, UK |
| **4.50pm** | **Close of Day 1** |

**Friday 13 November 2026**

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| **8.30-9.00am** | **Registration (for in-person delegates)** |
| **9.00am** | **Welcome and introduction**<br>George Kirov, UK |
| | **Plenary 6. Cognitive problems**<br>**Chairs: Jasmien Obbels and Nathalie Denayer, Belgium** |
| **9.05am** | **The role of synaptic plasticity in ECT and its cognitive side-effects**<br>Maarten Laroy, Belgium |
| **9.25am** | **Autobiographical memory and ECT**<br>Declan McLoughlin, Ireland |
| **9.45am** | **Memory complaints following ECT: disentangling the causes and addressing the problems**<br>Jasmien Obbels, Belgium |
| **10.05am** | **Discussion:** Charles Kellner, Alexander Sartorius, Jasmien Obbels, Declan McLoughlin, Nathalie Denayer |
| **10.35-11.00am** | **Break** |
| | **Plenary 7. Optimising treatment parameters**<br>**Chairs: George Kirov and Richard Braithwaite, UK** |
| **11.00am** | **Continuation ECT for the prevention of relapse**<br>Richard Braithwaite, UK |
| **11.20am** | **Optimising electrode preparation in electroconvulsive therapy**<br>Alexis Bowers, UK |
| **11.40am** | **Use of bifrontal ECT**<br>George Kirov, UK |
| **12.00pm** | **Outcomes of ultrabrief-pulse ECT**<br>Declan McLoughlin, Ireland |
| **12.20-1.20pm** | **Lunch** |
| | **Plenary 8. Combating stigma**<br>**Chair: Alexander Sartorius, Germany** |
| **1.20pm** | **Is ECT an invasive treatment?** |

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| | Alexander Sartorius, Germany |
| **1.50pm** | **Collecting patient feedback**<br>Sophia Jennings, UK |
| **2.10pm** | **Perspectives from people with lived experience**<br>Karen Peckover, Max Jewell |
| **2.20pm** | **Discussion: How can we reduce the stigma surrounding ECT?**<br>Karen Peckover, Max Jewell, Alexander Sartorius, Jasmien Obbels, Yetunde Abiodun, George Kirov, Charles Kellner |
| **2.50-3.20pm** | **Break** |
| | **Plenary 9. Complex cases**<br>**Chair: George Kirov, UK** |
| **3.20pm** | **Reducing the risk of pulmonary embolism during ECT**<br>Olivia Dean, UK |
| **3.35pm** | **The use of long-term venous access in maintenance ECT**<br>Ozan Aydin, UK |
| **3.50pm** | **Hyperthermia after ECT**<br>Jacques Sloman, UK |
| **4.05pm** | **ECT for a child with mania**<br>Rupert McShane, UK |
| **4.20pm** | **Autoimmune encephalitis**<br>Georgina Hartzell and Leonardo Lopez, US |
| **4.50pm** | **Close of conference** |

***Exhibitors*** *- We would like to welcome Dantec Dynamics and Magventure who will be exhibiting at the conference. They can be found in the* ***members area, ground floor.*** *You can also contact them via the exhibition hub on the virtual platform.*

*We have allocated* ***Room 1.6*** *as a* ***quiet room*** *throughout the conference.*

*RCPsych is an inclusive organisation with over 21,000 members who have a diverse range of views, which we look to represent across the programme. 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.*