

## Embracing Neurodiversity: Supporting Neurodivergent Medical Students

**Date:** Wednesday 29 April 2026

**Venue:** Online via Events Air

Time	Session
Session Chair: Dr Sherlie Arulanandam, RCPsych Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education	
9.15 - 9.30am	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> Professor Subodh Dave, RCPsych Dean and RCPSych President-Elect
9.30 - 9.40am	<b>From accommodation to empowerment: rethinking support for neurodivergent students</b> Sulaiman Ghiyas, Medical student
9.40 - 10.05am	<b>Understanding neurodiversity and promoting inclusion</b> Dr Khurram Sadiq, Independent Neurodevelopmental Psychiatrist
10.05 - 10.30am	<b>Neurodiversity, physical health interface and impact on students</b> Dr Jessica Eccles, Consultant Psychiatrist, Brighton and Sussex Medical School
10.30 - 10.45am	<b>Q&amp;A session</b>
10.45 - 11.15am	<b>Break</b>
Session Chair: Dr Sherlie Arulanandam	
11.15 - 11.45am	<b>Suggestions for improving the learning environment and teaching on neurodiversity within medical education</b> Dr Joanne Morrison, City St George's University of London
11.45 - 12.15pm	<b>Inclusive clinical spaces and supporting neurodivergent medical students - programme directors' perspective</b> Dr David Rogers, Co-Programme Director, Bristol Medical School, Clinical GP, Bruton Surgery
12.15 - 12.45pm	<b>Supporting neurodivergent students - GMC perspective</b> Ms Tista Chakravarty-Gannon, GMC, Head of Outreach Strategic Delivery and National Engagement
12.45 - 1.00pm	<b>Q&amp;A session</b>
1.00pm - 1.45pm	<b>Lunch</b>

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<p>Session Chair: Dr Tim Alnuamaani,                  Consultant General Psychiatrist, Greater Manchester Universities Student Mental Health Service, Greater Manchester NHS Mental Health Foundation Trust, RCPsych Special Advisor on Higher Education Mental Health</p>	
<b>1.45 – 2.05pm</b>	<p><b>Neurodiversity - fostering strengths and interests</b>                  Professor Raja Mukherjee, Professor at University of Surrey Medical School, Adult Learning Disability Consultant Psychiatrist at Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust</p>
<b>2.05 – 2.15pm</b>	<p><b>Q&amp;A session</b></p>
<b>2.15 – 2.45pm</b>	<p><b>What the evidence tells us about autistic medical students - belonging, disclosure and shame</b>                  Dr Mary Doherty, University College Dublin &amp; Autistic Doctors International</p>
<b>2.45 – 2.55pm</b>	<p><b>Q&amp;A session</b></p>
<b>2.55 – 3.25pm</b>	<p><b>Break</b></p>
<p>Session Chair: Dr Tim Alnuamaani</p>	
<b>3.25 – 3.55pm</b>	<p><b>Supporting neurodivergent doctors to thrive at work - postgraduate support initiatives</b>                  Dr Charlotte Heaps, TPD for LTFT, Flexible and accessible working, West Midlands School of Psychiatry</p>
<b>3.55 – 4.05pm</b>	<p><b>Learning from the workplace</b>                  Dr Muzaffer Kaser, Affiliated Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge and Consultant Psychiatrist, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust</p>
<b>4.05 – 4.30pm</b>	<p><b>Panel discussion and Q&amp;A session</b></p>
<b>4.30pm</b>	<p><b>Closing comments</b></p>

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