

Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry Annual Conference 2026

The Future of Addiction Psychiatry: Hype, Hope and Hard Evidence

When: Thursday 30 April – Friday 1 May 2026

Where: Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, London, E1 8BB (and livestreamed for online delegates via EventsAir)

Day one - Thursday 30 April

8.45am - 9.15am	Registration
9.15am-10.30am	Opening Addresses and Keynote Presentation Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Emily Finch, Chair, Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists
9.15am-9.30am	Welcome and Introduction from the Faculty Chair Dr Emily Finch, Chair, Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists
9.30am-9.45am	Presidential Address Dr Lade Smith CBE, President Royal College of Psychiatrists
9.45am-10.15am	Keynote Presentation: Reflections on the Delivery of the 2021 Drug Strategy Dame Carol Black
10.15am-10.30am	Q+A and discussion
10.30am-11.00am	Morning refreshments and poster viewing
11.00am - 12.15pm	Plenary 1: Listening to service users Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Julia Lewis
11.00am-11.40am	Peer Led Open Dialogue (POD) Rachel Bannister and Paula Taylor - the Aneurin Bevan Specialist Drug and Alcohol Service

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11.40am- 12.00pm	Lived experience voices Dr Ed Day
12.00pm- 12.10pm	Q&A and discussion
12.10pm- 12.15pm	Movement break* *Please note that this is not a catered break
12.15pm - 1.15pm	Parallel sessions <i>Please choose one of the below sessions to attend.</i>
	<p>Parallel session A – Experimental Peer Led Open Dialogue (POD) Workshop* Room 1.1 Chair: TBC</p> <p>Facilitators: Rachel Banister and Paula Taylor</p> <p>*Please note that this workshop will not be livestreamed and/or recorded and is only available for in-person delegates to attend.</p>
	<p>Parallel session B – Practitioner Health Programme: Addictions in Health Professionals Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Deepak Sirur</p> <p>Richard Jones and Jane Marshall</p>
	<p>Parallel session C – Development of a model that predicts individual mortality in opioid use disorder Room 1.5-1.6 Chair:</p> <p>Dr Emmert Roberts</p>
1.15pm - 2.15pm	Lunch and poster viewing
2.15pm - 3.30pm	Plenary 2: A tribute to Professor Jan Melichar - Buvidal issues Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Emily Finch, Chair, Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists
2.15pm- 2.35pm	Buvidal Psychological Support Service Dr Lucie James

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2.35pm- 2.55pm	What is the future of buvidal? Dr Faye Graver
2.55pm- 3.15pm	Harm Minimisation Dr John Dunn
3.15pm - 3.30pm	Q&A and discussion
3.30pm - 4.00pm	Afternoon refreshments and poster viewing
4.00pm - 4.45pm	Plenary 3: Alcohol Guidelines Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Louise Sell
	Speakers TBC
4.45pm – 5.30pm	Faculty Lecture Room 1.7 Chair: TBC
4.45pm – 5.15pm	50 Years in Addiction Research - From Molecular Pharmacology to Systems Neuroscience Professor David Nutt
5.15pm – 5.30pm	Q+A and discussion
5.30pm	End of day 1
5.30pm- 6.30pm	Delegate drinks reception Members' Area, Ground Floor All delegates are welcome to attend this reception; no ticket purchase necessary. Only non-alcoholic drink options will be available.

Day two - Friday 1 May

8.45am - 9.15am	Registration
9.15am – 10.30am	Conference welcome and the 2026 BAP guidelines on the pharmacological management of substance dependence Room 1.7 Chair: Dr David Bremner, Vice-Chair, Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists

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9.15am-9.20am	Welcome and Introduction from the Faculty Vice Chair Dr David Bremner, Vice Chair, Royal College of Psychiatrists Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry
9.20am-9.40am	Guideline Development and Principles Professor Julia Sinclair
9.40am-10.00am	Management of Dependence on Opioids and Sedative Drugs Dr Nicola Kalk
10.00am-10.20am	Cannabis, Nicotine, Stimulants and Dissociatives Dr Stephen Kaar
10.20am-10.30am	Q+A and discussion
10.30am-11.40am	Plenary 4: Alcohol Policy Room 1.7 Chair: TBC
10.30am-11.00am	What Policy Changes are Necessary to Reduce Alcohol Related Harm Richard Piper, Alcohol ChangeUK
11.00am-11.30am	Barriers to Accessing Treatment for Alcohol Addiction Dr James Morris, LSBU
11.30am-11.40am	Q&A and discussion
11.40am-12.10pm	Morning refreshments and poster viewing
12.10pm-1.10pm	Parallel sessions <i>Please choose one of the below sessions to attend.</i>
	Parallel session D – GLP1 workshop Room 1.1 Chair: TBC Dr Georgia Templeton and Dr Tomos Williams
	Parallel session E – Co-Sum Workshop Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Emily Finch
	Parallel session F – Insomnia Update Room 1.5-1.6 Chair:

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	Dr Hugh Selsick
1.10pm-2.10pm	Lunch and poster viewing
2.10pm-3.10pm	Plenary 5: Smart Phones as Therapists Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Romayne Gad El Rab
2.10pm-2.20pm	Digital addiction/AI Psychosis/AI Hallucinations Dr Romayne Gad El Rab
2.20pm-2.30pm	Using LLM to deliver continuity of care and enhance human therapists) Dr Rumina Taylor
2.30pm-2.40pm	Digital biomarkers and prediction of relapse Dr Faith Matcham
2.40pm-2.50pm	The psychodynamic perspective Dr Vikam Luthra
2.50pm-3.10pm	Q&A and discussion
3.10pm-3.40pm	Afternoon refreshments and poster viewing
3.40pm-4.55pm	Plenary 6: Faculty Lecture Prize and Looking to the Future Room 1.7 Chair:
3.40pm-4.00pm	Faculty Lecture Prize TBC
4.00pm-4.20pm	Prevention of opioid overdose deaths through the technologies of tomorrow: Innovations being explored currently and, in the future Professor John Strang
4.20pm-4.40pm	Global Psychiatry Perspective Professor Mohammed Al-Uzri
4.40pm-4.55pm	Q&A and discussion
4.55pm - 5.00pm	Closing remarks and poster prizes Room 1.7 Chair: Dr Emily Finch, Chair, Royal College of Psychiatrists Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry

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4.55pm - 5.00pm	Closing comments from the Faculty Chair and the announcement of prize winners Dr Emily Finch, Chair, Royal College of Psychiatrists Faculty of Addictions Psychiatry
5.00pm	Close of conference

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