

## Specialty and Specialist Doctors Conference 2026

**Date:** Friday 15 May 2026

**Venue:** the studio | Birmingham

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion | Wellbeing | SAS Doctors as Leaders

Time	Session
09.00	<b>Registration and refreshments</b>
09.30am	<b>Welcome and introductions</b> Professor Owen Bowden-Jones, RCPsych Registrar
09.40am	<b>Medical Workforce Race Equality Standard (MWRES) and SAS Doctors</b> Dr Partha Kar, Consultant in Diabetes, Portsmouth (Author of MWRES action plan and 5 year update), Portsmouth Hospitals
10.10am	<b>RCPsych Retention Charter and Thrive in Psychiatry</b> Dr Ananta Dave, Presidential Lead for Retention and Wellbeing, RCPsych
10:40am	<b>How the RCPsych is supporting SAS doctors</b> Professor Owen Bowden Jones CBE, Consultant Psychiatrist, Club Drug Clinic and Changing Unwanted Behaviours (CUBE) clinic, Central North West London NHS FT, Honorary Professor, University College London, Registrar, Royal College of Psychiatrists, President, Society for the Study of Addiction (SSA), Senior Fellow, Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management, Trustee, Student Minds
11.10am	<b>Morning break</b>
11.40am	<b>Discussion panel and Q&amp;A: Supporting SAS doctors</b> Dr Partha Kar, Dr Ananta Dave, Professor Owen Bowden Jones and Dr Lily Read, Chair, SAS Psychiatrists' Committee
12.15pm	<b>The Burnout Cliff: And how we step back from it</b> Dr Richard Duggins, Consultant Psychiatrist in Medical Psychotherapy, Associate Medical Director – Medical Development – Leadership and Culture, Clinical Lead – North East and North Cumbria Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub, NHS

	Practitioner Health, Course Director – Newcastle IPT Training Institute, Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist/ IPT Trainer/ Schwartz Round Facilitator/ Balint Leader/ Leadership Coach and Mentor (Level 7), Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Q&amp;A with Dr Richard Duggins and Dr Andrew Tresidder</b> , GP and GP Appraiser, Medical School teaching, pastoral care and support of doctors
<b>1.15pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>2.15pm</b>	<b>Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management: opportunities for SAS doctors' development</b>  Professor Rich Withnall, Chief Executive of Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management
<b>2:45pm</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>RCPsych leadership programme and compassionate leadership programme: A specialty doctor's perspective</b>  Dr Rebecca Perry, Leicestershire Partnership Trust and Dr Renato Merolli
<b>3.30pm</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>3:45pm</b>	<b>Closing comments</b>  Dr Lily Read
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Close of conference</b>
<b>4.00-5.30pm</b>	<b>Drinks reception and networking</b>

The event is supported financially by exhibitors:

- British Medical Association
- Cygnet Health
- Gedeon Richter UK Ltd

This event has received financial support through the purchase of exhibition space, with no further input into the arrangements or agenda of the conference.

*RCPsych is an inclusive organisation with over 22,000 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.*