

# MINUTES

of the **BUSINESS MEETING**  
of the **Neuropsychiatry Faculty**  
held on **9 September 2021**  
online



## 1 **Attendance**

Dr Mike Dilley (Chair)  
Dr Czarina Kirk (Finance Officer)  
Dr George El-Nimr (Academic Secretary)  
Faculty members: 298  
Dr Dilley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2 **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Dr Dilley explained the aims of the Faculty and how the Executive works to advance these aims.

The aims of the Faculty are to help members improve their knowledge of the psychiatry of brain disorders and to promote the integration of psychiatry with the clinical neurosciences. The Faculty is committed to supporting medical students, psychiatric trainees and trainees from related specialties. The Faculty has close links with service user groups, support groups and voluntary organisations.

The Faculty has built close links with the Neurological Alliance and is increasing its engagement with the National Neurosciences Advisory Group (NNAG).

The Faculty has met the challenge of delivering the Faculty conference during Covid, which has been highly successful.

The Faculty continues to offer prizes and bursaries to medical students and trainees.

Future plans include developing closer links with the General Adult Faculty – a meeting is planned to discuss neuropsychiatry in the community, trying to increase access of patients with neurological conditions to mental health care and IAPT.

The priority for the Faculty is to implement the NHSE specification, which was developed in 2019, and building on the Covid-19 Neurology and Complex Rehabilitation guidance. In 2021 Dr Dilley has been involved with identifying the gaps in service provision in UK neuroscience centres and the finance required to deliver the specification. The work is due to finish in October 2021, ready to be discussed at the Neurosciences Clinical Reference Group.

The Faculty links with both the Specialised Mental Health Clinical Reference Group and the Neurosciences Clinical Reference Group.

The Faculty has been working with the National Neurosciences Advisory Group on developing and consulting on exemplar pathways for neurological conditions and neurosurgical conditions. The Faculty has had particular input into traumatic brain injury, functional neurological disorders, auto-immune conditions, and mental health provision across neurosurgical and neurological conditions.

**2 cont** Priorities include setting standards across neuroscience centres and establishing “what good looks like”. The “what good looks like” resource for commissioners has been developed with various organisations and NNAG and will be available soon to share with local Integrated Care System (ICS) leads.

Dr Tim Nicholson has led on the Framework for Routine Outcome Measures, due to be published by the College soon.

Future work includes establishing business tools for commissioners for the development of the pathways in the regional neuroscience centres and have clear partnerships at a regional level for neuroscience and rehabilitation.

As things are opening up and the Clinical Reference Groups are meeting more frequently and commissioners are freed up from Covid related commissioning, things are moving forward in a positive direction.

### **3 VICE CHAIR'S REPORT**

Dr Medford reported the following developments about neuropsychiatry training:

The Faculty has been working for some years to develop a neuropsychiatry credential as there is no CCT in Neuropsychiatry (and the GMC does not want to create new CCTs). It has been a difficult process, with several changes in approach at the GMC and the College. There is no clear news on getting a formal accreditation for neuropsychiatry, but work is ongoing.

However the Faculty has produced a [syllabus for neuropsychiatry](#), which is now on the website under Supporting Trainees.

The Faculty was asked to input into ICD-11 particularly regarding brain injury.

### **4 FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Dr Kirk reported that Covid had a massive impact on College finances, but the College adapted well as everything was moved online very quickly.

The Faculty has a relatively healthy surplus this year and made some income from the conference, which is the only income source.

In 2022 there will be a 2-day hybrid Faculty conference. The Faculty will also co-host the Neuroscience conference with the Academic Faculty on 13 May 2021.

The Faculty continues to offer [prizes and bursaries](#). Dr Kirk asked members to encourage their trainees and students to apply for these.

Future plans include training for mentors in neuropsychiatry, supporting the working groups and the return of the conference dinner in 2022.

### **5 ACADEMIC SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Dr El-Nimr thanked everyone who supported this conference. The numbers significantly increased since last year, probably due to taking last year's feedback very seriously. There is now longer time for the plenary speakers.

The virtual nature of the event does attract more people from all around the world. The limitations include not having interactive workshops. The idea is to have hybrid conference next year, 8-9 Sept 2022.

Please [email the Faculty](#) with any suggestions.

### **6 CLOSE**

Dr Dilley thanked everyone and closed the meeting.