

psychotherapy or by general psychiatrists with a special interest in psychotherapy and based within each NHS hospital. If the latter were a requirement the resources of a special interest consultant for three hours per week for each doctor would be needed wholly for psychotherapy supervision. The Royal College of Psychiatrists (1971) has preferred that the training of juniors be done by specialist psychotherapists, yet the consultants in our survey favoured training by general psychiatrists with a special interest in psychotherapy, and were opposed to their juniors being supervised solely by a psychoanalyst.

Both at Maudsley and St George's Hospitals, where independent psychotherapy departments have been set up, there tends to be friction between the full-time specialist psychotherapist and the general psychiatrist, leading to infighting and jealousy. Some general psychiatric attitudes can be paraphrased as follows: 'If only psychotherapists can train our junior doctors then perhaps only psychotherapists can do psychotherapy which, therefore, absolves us of the responsibility of both training the junior doctor and of doing any type of psychological or psychotherapeutic treatment ourselves.' On the other hand, the specialist psychotherapist could be paraphrased as saying, 'I am the only one who is skilled enough both to supervise juniors in psychotherapy and to do psychotherapy of a proper kind.'

It would be interesting to hear the opinions of other

general psychiatrists about the way in which supervision of the various psychotherapies should be conducted within their hospital and in other teaching centres.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- CAINE, T. M. & SMAIL, D. J. (1969) *The Treatment of Mental Illness: Science, Faith and the Therapeutic Personality*. London University Press.
- HAFNER, R. J., LIEBERMAN, S. & CRISP, A. H. (1977) A survey of consultant psychiatrists' attitudes to their work, with particular reference to psychotherapy. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, **131**, 415-19.
- HOOK, R. H. (1973) Psychotherapy: Practice and training—opinions of members of the Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, **7**, 87-96.
- LIEBERMAN, S., HAFNER, R. J. & CRISP, A. H. (1978) Teaching psychotherapy in mental hospitals. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, **132**, 398-402.
- PALLIS, D. J. & STOFFELMEYER, B. E. (1973) Social attitudes and treatment orientation among psychiatrists. *British Journal of Medical Psychology*, **46**, 75-81.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS (1971) Guidelines for the training of general psychiatrists in psychotherapy. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, **119**, 555-7.
- SCHLESSINGER, N. (1966) Supervision of psychotherapy: A critical review of the literature. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, **15**, 129-34.

---

## News Items

### ***The Australian Journal of Psychotherapy***

The *Australian Journal of Psychotherapy*, published by the Psychotherapy Association of Australia, was launched last year. It will be published at least annually. Among other topics, the first issue contains discussions on the formative function of the human group; the psychotherapeutic process with children, adolescents and individuals in extreme situations; the dynamics of countertransference; and the intersection between linguistics and psychoanalysis. Manuscripts, book reviews and comments should be sent to Mrs V. McLaine, and subscription enquiries should be sent to Silvia Rodriguez, both at the following address: Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Science, Royal Children's Hospital, Flemington Road, Parkville, Victoria 3052.

### ***Peter Beckett Postgraduate Research Award***

The Peter Beckett Postgraduate Research Award, worth approximately £275, will be given to the candidate who, in the opinion of the Award Committee, has carried out the best research project in psychiatry during his or her postgraduate training. This research should normally have been

carried out in Ireland. The Award is open to all postgraduate trainees in psychiatry who have completed at least three years of a formal training programme approved by the Committee. Applications should reach the Medical School Office by 31 December 1983 and should include a description of the completed research project. Address: Medical School Office, Faculty of Medical and Dental Sciences, Trinity College, Dublin 2.

### ***Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology***

The first part of this new journal was launched last month. There are three joint editors: Professor John Newton (Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Birmingham); Dr Peter Stratton (Department of Psychology, University of Leeds); and Dr Mary Houston (Maternity Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford). The executive editor is Christopher Macy (Department of Psychology, South Lincolnshire Health Authority). Manuscripts on psychological aspects of all matters relating to reproduction, both human and animal, should be sent to Christopher Macy, Department of Psychology, Orchard House, South Rauceby, Sleaford, Lincs.

# BJPsych Bulletin

## News Items

*Psychiatric Bulletin* 1983, 7:103.

Access the most recent version at DOI: [10.1192/pb.7.6.103](https://doi.org/10.1192/pb.7.6.103)

---

### References

This article cites 0 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at:  
<http://pb.rcpsych.org/content/7/6/103.citation#BIBL>

### Reprints/ permissions

To obtain reprints or permission to reproduce material from this paper, please write to [permissions@rcpsych.ac.uk](mailto:permissions@rcpsych.ac.uk)

### You can respond to this article at

</letters/submit/pbrcpsych;7/6/103>

### Downloaded from

<http://pb.rcpsych.org/> on November 21, 2017  
Published by The Royal College of Psychiatrists

---

---

To subscribe to *BJPsych Bulletin* go to:  
<http://pb.rcpsych.org/site/subscriptions/>

---