



*Service Users in Research*

*Mental Health Research Network*



## **National Institute for Health Research**

### **MHRN Service Users in Research**

Department of Psychology PO77

Institute of Psychiatry

King's College London

De Crespigny Park

London

SE5 8AF

**Tel** 020 7848 0644

**Fax** 020 7848 0696

**Website** <http://www.mhrn.info>

## **Service Users in Research Bulletin**

### **Issue Eight: November 2010**

This is the seventh edition of the bulletin that we send out to members via post or email. In these bulletins we provide news about user involvement in the NIHR Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) and advertise opportunities for people to get involved in the MHRN and mental health research generally.

**If anyone has anything that they would like to be in the bulletin or if you would like to join Service Users in Research then please let us know. You can email us at: [mhrnppi@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:mhrnppi@kcl.ac.uk).**

**To join Service Users in Research please fill out the membership form which is sent out alongside this email. You can also join online at:**

**<http://www.mhrn.info/pages/join-service-users-in-research-online.html>**

**These bulletins are additionally placed online at [www.mhrn.info](http://www.mhrn.info)**



**We are on Facebook! To find the Service Users in Research page type in 'Service Users in Research' in the search box at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)**

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# Unanswered Questions in the Treatment of Schizophrenia

## James Lind Alliance Schizophrenia Priority Setting Exercise

The James Lind Alliance (JLA, <http://www.lindalliance.org/>) is an organisation that “aims to identify the most important gaps in knowledge about the effects of treatments, and has been established to bring patients and clinicians together in '**Priority Setting Partnerships**' to identify and prioritize the unanswered questions that they agree are most important. This information will help ensure that those who fund health research are aware of what matters to patients and clinicians”

The MHRN is currently supporting the JLA Priority Setting Partnership relating to unanswered research questions in the treatment of Schizophrenia. The MHRN will be hosting the final meeting of the group.

Basically, a list of ‘unanswered research questions’ in the treatment of schizophrenia has been drawn up from an existing database<sup>1</sup> and the JLA need as many clinicians, service users and carers to ‘rank’ these research questions from what they regard to be most important to least important. **These research questions are in the document attached to this bulletin called JLAFormB.pdf.**

**We are asking everyone who feels that this exercise is relevant to them to ‘vote’ for their ‘top ten’ most important research questions from the list in JLAFormB.pdf. Please mark your choices in the voting grid on p5-7 of this Bulletin.**

There are a few basic questions which people need to fill out about themselves in the document as well. Once we have all the votes back, we will collate the results to get an overall view of what service users rank as their top ten research questions. Once this is done we will take this list to the final meeting of the JLA Schizophrenia Priority Setting Partnership. Your vote really does count as it will directly influence the list of research questions that are taken to the final meeting of the priority setting partnership.

In the final meeting all the organizations involved in this project (the MHRN, Rethink, Hafal, etc) will come up with a final list of the top ten unanswered research questions for schizophrenia. Efforts will then begin to draw up some detailed research proposals based on this final list.

**Please could all completed ‘voting forms’ be returned to Thomas Kabir ([Thomas.kabir@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Thomas.kabir@kcl.ac.uk)) as soon as possible. A FREEPOST postal address is also given on the form in case you want to post the form to us.**

**We promise to let everyone know what the result of this exercise is!**

<sup>1</sup> (<http://www.library.nhs.uk/duets/Page.aspx?pagename=ABOUTSCHZ>)

## **Mental Health in the News**

### **Leisure-time exercise 'reduces depression risk'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-11644775>

'People who take regular exercise during their free time are less likely to have symptoms of depression and anxiety, a study of 40,000 Norwegians has found'. This research was published in the British Journal of Psychiatry and received quite a lot of attention in the national press. You can read a bit more about this research at:

<http://www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/news/?id=463>

The above link contains a link to the original research paper in the British Journal of Psychiatry.

### **Has Belfast film-maker found time travel evidence? [Seriously]**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-11646933>

A Belfast filmmaker has discovered some footage from a Charlie Chaplin film from 1928. There is nothing too unusual in that. But part of the footage is of a woman speaking into something which looks very, very, like a mobile phone. Check out the video on YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6a4T2tJaSU>

The actual bit of interest is around 2 minutes and fifty seconds into the film.

# Voting Grid

## Unanswered Questions in the Treatment of Schizophrenia

### James Lind Alliance Schizophrenia Priority Setting Exercise

The James Lind Alliance ([www.lindalliance.org](http://www.lindalliance.org)) Schizophrenia Priority Setting Partnership has produced a 'long list' of 237 unanswered research questions (or 'uncertainties') about the treatment of schizophrenia (see form B).

These are from the UK Database of Uncertainties about the Effects of Treatments (UK DUETs: [www.library.nhs.uk/duets](http://www.library.nhs.uk/duets)) and originated from consultation with patients, carers and clinicians. We now need to create a shortlist of these unanswered research questions for consideration at a priority setting workshop (Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011). The overall aim of the workshop will be to rank 10 shortlisted research questions in order of importance.

### NOTES FOR COMPLETION

**Please mark you top ten unanswered research questions on the voting grid on the next page. There are a few questions for you to fill out on the page after. The actual long list of unanswered research questions are in the accompanying document entitled JLA Form B**

**Please return forms to Thomas Kabir as soon as possible**

**You can email them to me at: [Thomas.kabir@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Thomas.kabir@kcl.ac.uk)**

**Or my post (no stamp needed) at:**

**Thomas Kabir  
FREEPOST Plus  
RSAY-JJZB-BSLG  
MHRN Service Users in Research  
Institute of Psychiatry PO77  
De Crespigny Park  
London SE5 8AF**

**Many thanks for your help and we promise to let you know what the results of this prioritisation exercise are.**



**1.) Your name (optional):**

**2.) Please tell us if you are a service user, carer, or clinician**

**3.) Name of the stakeholder organisation that you represent/or are involved with (if applicable):**

**4.) Did you do this exercise on your own? Yes / No**

**5.) If you involved other people in the exercise please describe this:**

Thank you

Please send this form back to:  
Thomas.kabir@kcl.ac.uk

**OR BY POST TO**

**Thomas Kabir  
FREEPOST Plus  
RSAY-JJZB-BSLG  
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De Crespigny Park  
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