

we piloted a new version of Imaginator extended to adolescents from age 12 after co-producing a new app with a diverse group of young people experts-by-experience.

We aimed to assess feasibility of delivering Imaginator in Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and adult secondary mental health services and gather young people's feedback on the intervention

**Methods.** Participants were recruited from West London NHS Trust Tier 2 CAMHS and adult Mental health Integrated Network Teams (MINT) teams. They underwent a baseline screening and were allocated to a therapist for three face-to-face FIT sessions in which the app was introduced followed by five phone support sessions. Outcome assessments were conducted after completing therapy, approximately 3-months post-baseline, including questionnaire measures and a qualitative feedback interview.

Qualitative data were analysed using a co-produced thematic analysis method with lived experience co-researchers.

**Results.** Thirty-four participants were referred (31 female, 2 male, 1 transgender; mean age = 18.4), of which 30 met inclusion criteria and completed screening. Out of 25 who started therapy 16 completed the intervention. Only 15 completed the quantitative outcome assessment, and 10 the interviews. There was an overall reduction in number of self-harm episodes over 3-months from pre- to post-intervention

Five main themes were identified: Imaginator therapy impact, mental imagery acceptability and efficacy, usefulness and usability of the app, integration of the app in therapy and need for improvements. Young people found Imaginator helpful at improving their mental health, in particular the use of mental imagery techniques. The app was overall well received but improvements were suggested.

**Conclusion.** Our study suggests that Imaginator can be extended to adolescents, is acceptable and has potential as a brief intervention reducing self-harm in young people under mental health services. A future RCT is needed to robustly test the intervention efficacy, after considering issues around high attrition in outcome measures.

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### Administration of Atropine Eye Drops Sublingually for Clozapine-Induced Sialorrhea in Bipolar Disorder

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**Aims.** The aim of this study is to explore the off-label use of atropine, administered sublingually, for the management of clozapine-induced sialorrhea in a patient who showed inadequate response to commonly used agents. The investigation stems from a clinical scenario where traditional approaches failed, prompting an exploration of alternative and cost-effective options to alleviate sialorrhea associated with clozapine therapy in a patient of lower socio-economic status.

**Methods.** Mr. A, a 29-year-old with bipolar affective disorder, experienced persistent sialorrhea during clozapine treatment, resistant to trials with trihexyphenidyl and glycopyrrolate. Following a brief discontinuation of clozapine, the patient

relapsed into a manic episode, leading to hospitalization. Despite the re-initiation of clozapine, sialorrhea reoccurred. Various doses and combinations of trihexyphenidyl and glycopyrrolate were ineffective, with affordability issues limiting the latter. As sialorrhea persisted, clozapine dose reduction was necessary. Attempts with different antipsychotics were made, and valproate sodium was increased, but sialorrhea remained problematic.

Given the patient's unique case and previous medication failures, an off-label use of atropine via a sublingual route was done after obtaining informed consent. Quantitative measurement of sialorrhea was conducted using a sialometry machine. The patient underwent a trial with sublingual atropine drops, and the salivary rate significantly decreased, indicating a potential efficacy in managing clozapine-induced sialorrhea.

**Results.** The discussion encompasses the challenges faced in managing clozapine-induced sialorrhea in the presented case. Traditional agents, including glycopyrrolate and trihexyphenidyl, proved ineffective or were hindered by affordability issues. The subsequent reduction of clozapine dose compromised overall treatment efficacy. The introduction of atropine eye drops via sublingual administration emerged as a novel approach, demonstrating a reduction in salivary rate without notable adverse effects except elevated heart rate 2 hours after administration of atropine. The unique pharmacological properties of atropine, despite being an off-label use, provided a potential avenue for addressing persistent sialorrhea.

**Conclusion.** In conclusion, the off-label use of atropine via the sublingual route showed promise in alleviating clozapine-induced sialorrhea in this particular case. Despite demonstrable efficacy in pre and post-sialometry, the clinical challenges and practical considerations associated with atropine's use in this context raise concerns. The case underscores the need for alternative strategies in managing medication-induced side effects, especially when standard interventions fail. Further research is warranted to explore the broader applicability and safety of this approach in a larger cohort.

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### Diagnosis and Treatment of Anxiety Disorders in Autistic Patients: A Case Report

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**Aims.** Anxiety disorders are common in Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) patients. There are limited resources dedicated to ASD and mental health services are not equipped to adapt assessment and treatment protocols to address their needs. Adaptations to diagnosis and treatment are discussed in a single case study of an autistic patient with anxiety disorders. In addition, effectiveness of providing adapted versus standard treatment is evaluated.

**Methods.** This study describes a 45-year-old, single, employed male diagnosed as autistic at age 37. He was referred for a second course of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for anxiety disorders consisting of agoraphobia with panic; blood injury phobia; needle phobia; dental phobia; claustrophobia. The duration of symptoms was 35 years. The main impairments to functioning were inability to use public transport; attending

healthcare appointments; going to public places; returning to office-based working.

Questionnaires routinely completed at assessment and end of treatment: Montgomery-Åsberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS); Beck's Anxiety Inventory (BAI); Beck's Depression Inventory (BDI). Adapted treatment with CBT included an extended assessment which helped differentiate anxiety symptoms from ASD. Main CBT adaptations included development of skills for the patient to identify and express emotional experiences and thoughts with the focus on physical sensations and behaviour. Graded exposure items were linked to concrete aims or interests and structured to fit around the patient's routine daily activities. Clinical data was analysed and compared outcomes from the initial standard and subsequent adapted treatment.

**Results.** The patient's response to the initial course of standard CBT showed a 14% increase in anxiety and 14% increase in symptoms of depression on self-rated measures. The subsequent adapted CBT showed a 31% improvement in anxiety and a 16% improvement in symptoms of depression on self-rated measures.

**Conclusion.** This case report supports literature describing the need to adapt standard assessment and treatment to differentiate experiences related to ASD from discrete anxiety disorders, although there may be some overlap. The promising results support using adapted CBT to ensure appropriate treatment of anxiety disorders in autistic people.

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## Huntington's Disease and Criminal Behaviour: An Exploration of Psychiatric Risk and Management in a High Secure Forensic Unit

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**Aims.** Huntington's disease (HD) is an autosomal dominant neurodegenerative disorder characterised by a pathologically prolonged CAG nucleotide sequence in the huntingtin gene (HTT). Neuropsychiatric symptoms such as aggression, depression, impulsivity and psychosis are non-motor signs of HD. The association between HD and criminal behaviour is debated, and evidence lacking. This is particularly relevant in forensic psychiatry, which focusses on the risk assessment of mentally disordered offenders. This manuscript examines the antecedents of offending behaviour in a male diagnosed with HD during admission to a high secure unit, and the evolution of his risk profile from childhood to post-diagnosis. Additionally, through exploration of psychopharmacological management of psychiatric symptoms in HD, this study aims to further our understanding as to how we can best support people with HD in a forensic mental health setting.

**Methods.** Following review of relevant literature on criminal behaviour in the context of HD, we report the case of a 41-year-old man with a background of dissocial personality traits admitted to a high security unit with symptoms of a delusional disorder; manifesting as paranoia, delusional beliefs and aggression. These were believed to be organically induced within the context of HD, a diagnosis confirmed through genetic testing six months following admission. The patient's symptoms were

only partially responsive to first-line antipsychotics; however, good symptomatic control was achieved with clozapine and sodium valproate, enabling step-down to medium secure specialist services.

**Results.** In HD patients, there may be a challenge of discerning whether offending behaviour relates to prodromal presentation or whether there are pre-existing antisocial attitudes or behaviour; an uncertainty which was present in this case and within the literature. The age of HD onset is inversely correlated with CAG repeat length, and a longer repeat length has been associated with criminal behaviour. This has the potential for use as a marker to determine the time point in which presenting features are attributable to HD. In this case study it was possible to determine through analysis of the CAG repeat length that the delusional disorder was likely linked to the onset of HD; however, dissocial personality traits were not.

**Conclusion.** A patient's background relating to the life-course persistence of violence, suicidality and psychiatric symptoms in patients with HD informs the process of formulating their risk profile. Changes to the risk profile also reflect the progressing stages of HD. This highlights the need for awareness of how HD may contribute or predispose to criminal behaviour and how interventions could be targeted during critical periods where they benefit most.

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## Ghosts From the Past: A Juvenile Onset Huntington's Disease Case From Bahrain

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**Aims.** Huntington's disease (HD) is a rare inherited disease in an autosomal dominant pattern, that is most prevalent among Caucasians.

Juvenile onset Huntington disease (JHD) is a rare subtype of the disease, defined by presence of the disease by the age of 20 or younger.

We report a case of a 28-year-old woman with JHD and discuss the challenges we faced in her diagnosis and management.

**Methods.** A now 28-year-old Arab woman, presented to the psychiatric hospital when she was an 18-year-old, complaining of restlessness and low mood. She was diagnosed to be having social phobia and panic attacks, and was given escitalopram. About 6 months after her first presentation, the patient's mother showed up reporting that the patient is doing well without the medication and that she is not going to take them anymore. However, the patient started developing anxiety symptoms two years later and started taking the same medication. Moreover, three years after her first presentation, the patient started developing movement symptoms and mentioned that her father passed away by Huntington's disease. The patient was immediately referred to a genetic lab and a Huntington disease diagnosis was given along with tetrabenazine and risperidone. Moreover, the patient attempted suicide multiple times after worsening of symptoms over the years. A brain magnetic resonance imaging of the patient showed bilateral caudate nuclei atrophy with similar changes affecting the putamen as well but to a lesser extent, changes that are associated with Huntington's disease.