## Forthcoming events

Following the success of April 1996's "Clinical Audit in Psychiatry" conference, the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Research Unit (in association with the several other Royal Colleges and professional organisations) is holding a two-day multidisciplinary conference on the broad topic of **Clinical Effectiveness in Mental Health**.

The conference is aimed at everyone involved in providing, purchasing and using mental health services and will centre around the three main themes of clinical effectiveness; (1) getting research into practice, (2) monitoring practice and (3) changing practice. The conference aims to provide a comprehensive introduction to the principal issues around clinical effectiveness, to enable delegates to develop an "action plan" to support local clinical effectiveness initiatives and to publicise national initiatives including the launch of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' first evidence-based clinical practice guideline, "The Management of Violence in Clinical Settings".

Further details and booking forms available from: Ms Jackie Stewart, College Research Unit, 11 Grosvenor Crescent, London, SW1X 7EE. Tel: 0171 235 2351 x258, fax: 0171 235 2954, E-mail: 100347.1145@CompuServe.com.

Innovative poster submissions for the above conference are also welcome. Application forms and further information available from: Ms Victoria Thomas, College Research Unit, 11 Grosvenor Crescent, London, SW1X 7EE. Tel: 0171 235 2351 x143, fax: 0171 235 2954, E-mail: 100347.1145@CompuServe.com.

The North Thames Research Appraisal Group (NTRAG) have organised a series of workshops for managers and healthcare professionals, to run throughout 1997. Further information: the NTRAG office, 0171 830 2239. E-mail ntrag@rfhsm.ac.uk.

YoungMinds, the children's mental health charity, has organised a one-day conference entitled **The Forgotten Classroom**, to explore the relationship between education and mental health. This is due to take place in London on 21 January 1997. Further information: YoungMinds, 102–108 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1M 5SA. Tel: 0171 336 8445; fax: 0171 336 8446.

The **Eighth Leeds Examination Techniques Course**, designed to help candidates with MCQ and SAQ techniques, is to be held from 19–21 February 1997 at St James's Hospital in Leeds. Further information: Monika Stephenson (Tel: 0113 2433144 ext. 5646).

The second all day joint meeting of the History Group, and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, will be held at the Wellcome Institute on 21 February 1997. The theme will be **Making sense out of chaos: Psychiatric aspects of war**. Application forms and further information: Ms Frieda Houser, the Wellcome Institute, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE (Tel: 0171 611 8619).

IBC Legal Studies and Services Ltd is pleased to announce a one-day conference entitled **NHS Supplies**, designed to tackle the changing environment within NHS purchasing. The conference will take place on 28 January 1997, at the Posthouse Hotel, Birmingham. Further information: Rachel Robinson, IBC Legal Studies and Services, 0171 453 2151.

The World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry (WADP) together with the German Academy for Psychoanalysis will hold their next congress entitled **Dynamic Psychiatry Today: The Integration of Psychotherapy in Psychiatry** from 4–8 March 1997 in Munich, Fachhochschule München-Pasing. Further information: Ilse Burbiel, Press and Information Office, Goethestr. 54, 80336 Munich.

The Hester Adrian Research Centre has organised a one-day conference on **Lifespan Issues in the Psychiatry of Learning Disabilities** due to take place on 13 March 1997 at the Postgraduate Health Sciences Centre at Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road, Manchester. Further information: Conference Information Line: 0161 275 3538. The 8th International Bethel-Cleveland Epilepsy Symposium will be held in Bielefeld, Germany from 24–26 April, 1997. Special topics will include **Anti-Epileptic Drug Treatment: State of the Art and Future Perspectives** and **Seizures and Epilepsy in Childhood**. Further information: Mrs Marianne Wunderlich, Epilepsie-Zentrum Bethel-Klinik Mara 1, Maraweg 21, D-33617 Bielefeld, Germany (Tel: +49 521 144 4843; fax: 4637).

The Royal College of Psychiatrists will be holding a **One-day Workshop for all Educa**- tional Supervisors on Monday 12 May 1997. Further details: Catherine Lightfoot, The Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG (Tel: 0171 235 2351 ext. 157; fax: 0171 235 7976).

The First Asia-Pacific Congress on Psychosocial Rehabilitation has been planned for 12–14 September 1997 in Kuala Lumpar, Malaysia. Further information: Secretariat– 1st APCPSR c/o Pfizer Malaysia sdn. bhd. Lot 4, Jalan 13/6, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia (Tel: 60 3 7556833; fax: 60 3 7550907).

## The ECT Handbook

## The Second Report of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Special Committee on ECT

## Edited by C. P. Freeman

This report is a practical set of guidelines for psychiatrists who will be prescribing or administering ECT. It covers clinical guidelines, administration of ECT, the law and consent to treatment. Nursing guidelines, a review of ECT machines and a checklist for good practice are also included. Appendices covering new developments will regularly be produced and distributed as inserts to this volume. There is a separate teaching video available to complement the text, priced £30.00.



Available from the Publications Department, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG (Tel. 0171-235 2351 extension 146)

Contributions for this section should be submitted two months in advance of publication