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### MCQs

#### 1 Intrusive sexual thoughts about children:

- a are always a sign of a paedophilia
- b occur in the normal population
- c should necessitate immediate reporting to social services
- d are a sign that a person is bad and disgusting
- e can be suppressed if the person tries hard enough.

#### 2 People with OCD:

- a are never violent or aggressive
- b may have intrusive violent thoughts which are ego-dystonic and repugnant
- c never act on urges of self-harm
- d have a higher risk of acting on their intrusive violent thoughts
- e are at a lower risk of taking their own life.

#### 3 When depression occurs secondary to OCD:

- a the patient usually describes their depression as their biggest problem
- b the symptoms of depression usually develop before the onset of OCD
- c noradrenergic reuptake inhibitors should be used before serotonin reuptake inhibitors for treating depression in OCD
- d the symptoms of depression can only be treated with antidepressant medication
- e the symptoms of depression are usually overcome when OCD is treated.

#### 4 In people with OCD who are housebound and have little insight:

- a admission under Mental Health Act should always be used
- b an out-patient appointment should be offered and it is up to them if they want to attend

- c the parents are the main problem since they collude with the patient
- d every effort should be made to engage the person in treatment on domiciliary visits
- e rehousing away from carers is unlikely to motivate a person with OCD to change.

#### 5 Children and adolescents with OCD:

- a should always be referred to social services if they disclose sexual obsessions
- b should always be invited to have their parents involved in their treatment
- c are more likely to be developing a homosexual orientation if they have sexual obsessions
- d will not behave aggressively unless they have a comorbid diagnosis in addition to OCD
- e may have more insight into the unnecessary nature of obsessions and compulsions.

## 'Amber innocent' by Joan Adeney Easdale

Selected by Femi Oyebode

### POEM

The sun was sinking.  
     In an upstairs window  
 A tailor's dummy underwent transfiguration.  
 A crimson tape-measure crossed the bust  
 As an order, such as queens wear,  
 And her diamonds were scintillating dust.  
 Paper-covered books curled,  
 A needle slid towards the scissors on the sill,  
 Shadows unfurled  
 Like rolls of dark crêpe across the counter.

For so things happen when the tailor turns the key  
 And goes away, and no one's there to see.  
 None can witness when a change is wrought  
 Till afterwards. Few have heard  
 The last tick before the clock stops short  
 Or seen the crack appear upon the ceiling.

The life of **Joan Adeney Easdale** (1913–1998) has recently been described in a biography *Who Was Sophie? The Lives of My Grandmother, Poet and Stranger*, written by her granddaughter Celia Robertson. Joan Easdale was admitted to Holloway Sanatorium in October 1954 and remained there until September 1961, when she discharged herself. She lived as a vagrant for a period and later settled in Nottingham. The poem is an extract from 'Amber Innocent', published by The Hogarth Press in 1939. Reproduced with permission.

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