

Embracing Neurodiversity: Supporting Neurodivergent Medical Students

Date: Wednesday 29 April 2026

Venue: Online via Events Air

| Time | Session |
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| Session Chair: Dr Sherlie Arulanandam, Consultant Psychiatrist, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS trust, University of Bristol | |
| 9.15 - 9.30am | Welcome and introduction Professor Subodh Dave, RCPsych Dean |
| 9.30 - 9.40am | From accommodation to empowerment: rethinking support for neurodivergent students Sulaiman Ghiyas, Medical student |
| 9.40 - 10.05am | Understanding neurodiversity and promoting inclusion Dr Khurram Sadiq, Independent Neurodevelopmental Psychiatrist |
| 10.05 - 10.30am | Neurodiversity, physical health interface and impact on students Dr Jessica Eccles, Consultant Psychiatrist, Brighton and Sussex Medical School |
| 10.30 - 10.45am | Q&A session |
| 10.45 - 11.15am | Break |
| Session Chair: Dr Sherlie Arulanandam | |
| 11.15 - 11.45am | Suggestions for improving the learning environment and teaching on neurodiversity within medical education Dr Joanne Morrison, City St George's University of London |
| 11.45 - 12.15pm | Inclusive clinical spaces and supporting neurodivergent medical students - programme directors' perspective Dr David Rogers, Co-Programme Director, Bristol Medical School, Clinical GP, Bruton Surgery |
| 12.15 - 12.45pm | Supporting neurodivergent students - GMC perspective Ms Tista Chakravarty-Gannon, GMC, Head of Outreach Strategic Delivery and National Engagement |
| 12.45 - 1.00pm | Q&A session |

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| 1.00pm – 1.45pm | Lunch |
| Session Chair: Dr Tim Alnuamaani, Consultant General Psychiatrist, Greater Manchester Universities Student Mental Health Service, Greater Manchester NHS Mental Health Foundation Trust, RCPsych Special Advisor on Higher Education Mental Health | |
| 1.45 – 2.05pm | Neurodiversity - fostering strengths and interests Professor Raja Mukherjee, Professor at University of Surrey Medical School, Adult Learning Disability Consultant Psychiatrist at Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust |
| 2.05 – 2.15pm | Q&A session |
| 2.15 – 2.45pm | What the evidence tells us about autistic medical students - belonging, disclosure and shame Dr Mary Doherty, University College Dublin & Autistic Doctors International |
| 2.45 – 2.55pm | Q&A session |
| 2.55 – 3.25pm | Break |
| Session Chair: Dr Tim Alnuamaani | |
| 3.25 – 4.05pm | Supporting neurodivergent doctors to thrive at work - postgraduate support initiatives Dr Charlotte Heaps, TPD for LTFT, Flexible and accessible working, West Midlands School of Psychiatry |
| 4.05 – 4.15pm | Learning from the workplace Dr Muzaffer Kaser, Affiliated Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge and Consultant Psychiatrist, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust |
| 4.15 – 4.35pm | Panel discussion |
| 4.35pm | Closing comments |

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