

Editorials

Exciting new direction for *Primary Care Mental Health*

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Welcome to the third volume of *Primary Care Mental Health*. This new volume has been redesigned and expanded to bring a broader range of articles and regular columns that cover the breadth of what makes up the provision of mental health services within primary care in the UK.

As part of the redesign, each issue of the third volume will have several new sections. In addition to the international research section, edited by Professor André Tylee, there will be a development and policy section, edited by Dr Alan Cohen, which will reflect changing patterns of care. Each issue in this volume will have a general theme; the theme for this issue will be (appropriately) 'New ways of working'. Other themes include:

- the primary care mental health needs of those who come to live in the UK, including refugees and asylum seekers
- commissioning mental health services
- how do we know that we are providing quality care?

These themes are very broad, but we hope they will start to describe some of the challenges faced by those providing primary care mental health services. We

would welcome suggestions for future themes, and articles to consider for publication.

In each edition there will also be the same regular columns as already exist, together with two new regular columns; the first is a 'Conversation with a Finance Director' and the second is a 'A day in the life of a PCT mental health lead'. These too will contribute towards providing a broader perspective to this journal. The intention of the development and policy section is to encourage a broader readership that maintains high standards, but does not require the strict protocols of a formal academic research journal.

This journal is published soon after a general election, and although at the time of writing, we do not yet know which political party will have been successful, what is clear is that the NHS will continue to have to change and adapt to both patient expectation, and political pressure. We hope that this new look journal will provide some of the information that you will need to help provide better care to your patients, and understand the underlying development and policy agenda.

We hope that you find this journal useful.