



## **Dr Chike Okocha Consultant Psychiatrist**

*GMC: 3513840*

Dr Okocha has been a consultant psychiatrist for nearly 25 years and prior to his appointment spent several years as a clinician and academic researching various aspects of mental illness. In addition to his clinical expertise in both NHS and independent practice, he has been a clinical leader in various guises including teaching, training and developing doctors, leading and developing services as clinical director and in the last 11 years as medical Director. He has a wide area of clinical interest and expertise in psychiatry spanning anxiety; mood; dependency; trauma and complex trauma (including post-traumatic stress disorder); personality and psychotic disorders; chronic fatigue; chronic pain and the impact on mental health; psychogenic nonepileptic seizures; neuropsychiatry and somatoform disorders. These are in addition specialist and expert skills in psychopharmacology which is the use of drugs in treatment of psychological illnesses and he has scientific and lay publications in these areas.

### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

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- Psychosis
- Trauma
- Personality Disorder
- Chronic Pain
- Anxiety
- Mental Illness
- Dependence

### **PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

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1996 - present: Consultant Psychiatrist and Executive Medical Director, Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust

### **PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

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1985: Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery Degree (MB, BS 1985)  
1992: Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (MRCPsych, 1992)  
1996: Doctor of Philosophy Degree (Ph.D 1996)  
2007: Elected Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (FRCPsych, 2007)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP/AFFILIATIONS/REGISTRATIONS**

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Fellow of The Royal Society of Medicine  
International Fellow of The American Psychiatric Association (By Election) (May, 2014)  
Approved under Section 12 (2) of the Mental Health Act 1983  
Past Member of the British Neuropsychiatric Association (From 1992)  
Member of the British Association of Psychopharmacology  
Full registration with The General Medical Council (No. 351 3840)  
Member of the Medical Protection Society

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Member of the British Medical Association

## MEDICO-LEGAL PRACTICE

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My medicolegal practice and experience spans decades and I have provided reports and expert opinion across a wide range of conditions and for a variety of purposes:

- Forensic cases where mental illness is considered relevant in criminal proceedings;
- Child care & family proceedings where I am often instructed to assess risk to the child or children and also to offer an opinion about the impact of mental illness in parenting;
- Clinical negligence cases where my expertise is sought to consider the extent of negligence psychological impact and compensation;
- Employment tribunals to assess the extent of psychological impact and assess compensation
- Mental Health Review Tribunals to offer an independent or second opinion
- Fitness to practice tribunal hearings where I have been instructed to examine professionals and provide a psychiatric opinion either before the referral or hearing or during the hearing to enable the tribunal to reach a decision
- Personal injury cases and my instructions, often jointly are to assist in establishing the nature of the injury and deciding the quantum of damages
- Insurance company instructions are usually about the existence of psychological illness, the prognosis of this where it exists and also potential impact on functioning
- Asylum and home office related reports to determine the presence of mental illness, treatment and prognosis and in some cases whether similar treatments are available in the applicant's home country
- Occupational health and multiple requests for second opinions from organisations including the NHS and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) with respect to NHS patients and professional employed by the NHS especially general practitioners.

My expertise is often sought as a respected, established and senior clinician, researcher, and recognised medical leader on the roll of honour of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the UK. Also, I have undertaken a number of instructions where there are important cultural issues and I have provided the court with insight into those issues and the interplay between culture and mental health and behaviour.

## RESEARCH AWARDS, GRANTS AND TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

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1. South East Thames Regional Health Authority grant for research into measuring the brainblood flow in normal volunteers and patients with schizophrenia using the Single Photon Emission Computerised Tomographic scanner (subject of my Ph.D thesis).
2. Medical Research Council travel grant to Yale University, Connecticut, USA for research into the Brain Imaging of Benzodiazepine receptors using 123-Iomazenil and Single Photon Emission Computerised Tomographic scanner and a Single Brain probe (post doctorate research).
3. Medical Research Council grant to Bisperbieg Hospital Nuclear medicine Department to further develop quantitative methods for brain receptor imaging.
4. Eli Lilly grant for comparison of the efficacy of two novel antipsychotic drugs in schizophrenia.

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5. Janssen – Cilag research grant for 'early versus late initiation' study of Risperdal Consta
  6. Harvard University Division of Continuing Education: Consultants Toolkit programme
  7. Institute for Health Improvement, Boston, USA: Chief Quality Officer programme
  8. The Kings Fund Leadership programme

## OTHER AWARDS

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National Association of Psychiatric Intensive Care Units team of the year award for 2006/7

British Association of Medical Managers team of the year award for 2007.

Royal College of Psychiatrists Medical Manager/Leader of the year 2009 Awards for outstanding contributions to mental health in the United Kingdom

On the Roll of Honour of The Royal College of Psychiatrists (2009 - Date)

Elected International Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (May 2014)

## PUBLICATIONS

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Publications in the following areas of psychiatry:

- Schizophrenia and brain imaging
- Benzodiazepine receptor imaging
- Anxiety disorders
- Pharmacological therapy in Intensive Care Psychiatry.
- Writings in lay press on stress management, Anxiety and Depression
- National Audit of the use of various drugs in over 50 National Health Service Hospitals (and Trusts) in England and Northern Ireland (several publications)
- The benefits of Risperdal Consta in patients with Schizophrenia
- The pharmacological management of Complex post traumatic disorder (borderline personality disorder)
- Use of novel agents in the management of acutely disturbed behaviour
- Use of emerging technologies e.g., Mobile Telephone Short Messaging Service in mental health services.
- Leadership in healthcare
- Improving outcomes for users of health care services