



The Royal College of Psychiatrists is the professional and educational body for psychiatrists in the United Kingdom.

It aims to:

Set standards and promote excellence in psychiatry and mental healthcare

The Royal College of Psychiatrists is committed to improving the understanding of psychiatry and mental health. It wants a greater understanding of the interaction between mental and physical health and the social and cultural context in which people live. The college is at the forefront in setting and achieving the highest standards through education, training and research. It promotes research and publishes the results in its world-class psychiatric books and journals.

Lead, represent and support psychiatrists

The College actively promotes psychiatry as a career. College structures are robust and provide dedicated support to the members and associates. Nationally and internationally, the College has a vital role in representing the expertise of the psychiatric profession to governments and other agencies.

Besides having its own membership examination (MRCPsych), the College organises scientific and clinical conferences and lectures and continuing professional development activities. The College publishes books, reports and educational material for professionals and the general public.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has been in existence since 1841. First as the “Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane” (later changed to the Medico Psychological Association) then, in 1926 receiving its Royal Charter to become the “Royal Medico Psychological Association, and finally, in 1971 receiving a Supplemental Charter to become the “Royal College of Psychiatrists” we know today.



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