



## SPECIALISMS

Anxiety  
Bereavement  
Brain Injury  
Capacity  
Dementia  
Depression  
Mood Disorder  
Non-Accidental Injury  
Perinatal  
Personality Disorders  
Psychosis  
Psychosomatic  
PTSD  
Risk  
Self Harm  
Suicidal Ideation

## CASE TYPES

Capacity Certificates  
Clinical Negligence  
Cognitive  
Coroner's Reports  
Litigation Capacity  
Neuropsychiatric  
Personal Injury  
Second Opinion  
Testamentary Capacity

## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 | Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2020 | LLM (medical law) with distinction (Northumbria University)<br>Dissertation title: <i>Mind the Gap. A critical analysis of mental health and capacity law in the general hospital setting</i> |
| 2013 | Certificate of Completion of Training: General adult and liaison psychiatry                                                                                                                   |
| 2013 | Approved Clinician Status (GMC no. 6104440)                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2009 | MRCPsych                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2004 | MBBS (London)                                                                                                                                                                                 |

## CURRENT ROLE

My current post is as consultant psychiatrist and clinical lead for a liaison psychiatry service in a busy general hospital. Our multidisciplinary team sees inpatients on medical, surgical and maternity wards as well as those attending the Emergency Department. We also consult to a regional neurorehabilitation service. The clinical work is broad, and includes psychiatric emergencies (acute psychosis, suicide risk management), neuropsychiatry, eating disorders, old age psychiatry and diagnostic memory assessments, and perinatal psychiatry. I have experience with a large number of very complex cases requiring decisions under the MCA including those involving acquired brain injury, artificial feeding, electroconvulsive therapy and refusal of serious medical treatment. I am Responsible Clinician (RC) under the MHA for patients detained to the acute hospital. Outside my NHS role, I regularly provide expert witness reports in civil cases: clinical negligence, personal injury and Court of Protection.

## TEACHING AND SPEAKING

I regularly teach psychiatric trainees and medical undergraduates in the form of lectures, webinars, practical sessions and small-group seminars. I am honorary clinical senior lecturer in recognition of my contribution to teaching. I teach a wide variety of non-psychiatric professionals including physicians, emergency department staff, nurses, and physiotherapists. I have a particular interest in mental capacity law and emergency medicine and work with a number of emergency medicine colleagues to deliver lectures and simulation training. I am often invited to speak to paramedics and air ambulance clinicians. I teach on mental health and capacity law as part of the MSc in Critical Care and the MSc in Pre-Hospital Care at Queen Mary, University of London. I speak widely on the subject of mental capacity, suicide and mental health service culture and have worked with a number of external organisations to train non-mental-health professionals. My skills in speaking and public engagement result in frequent invitations to speak at conferences and other CPD events; I give at least 25 invited talks regionally, nationally or internationally every year as well as speaking to lay audiences.





## LAW AND POLICY

I speak and write about mental capacity on a regular basis, including at the International Congress of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and the Mental Capacity Law and Policy webinar series. I was involved in the RCPsych response to the Draft Mental Health and Mental Capacity Act consultation. In November 2022 I was invited to give oral evidence to the Select Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill and was consulted by the Homelessness, Mental Health & Policing Team of the Home Office. I have been invited to present to the government advisory group on suicide prevention. I am recognised as an authority on mental capacity in suicidal patients and the misinterpretation of law in this context. I have spoken about this in conferences at national and international level and published literature on the phenomenon of mental capacity being used as justification for inaction when people are in suicidal crisis. I was appointed to provide independent, technical advice on the Government's proposals for changes to the infected blood compensation scheme.

## ADDITIONAL ROLES AND ACTIVITIES

|              |                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025—2026    | Member of the Cabinet Office Infected Blood Compensation Scheme Technical Expert Group (expert in psychological medicine)                      |
| 2022—2024    | RCPsych cross-faculty working group to improve recognition and management of patients with disordered eating in acute medical settings (chair) |
| 2022—2024    | RCPsych Eating Disorder Faculty Executive Committee (co-opted member)                                                                          |
| 2021—2025    | RCPsych Liaison Faculty Executive Committee (elected member)                                                                                   |
| 2020—2024    | RCPsych Effect of Patient Suicide & Homicide on Clinicians Working Group (member)                                                              |
| 2020—2024    | RCPsych Patient Safety Working Group (member)                                                                                                  |
| 2016—present | Advisor to The Listening Place (suicide prevention charity)                                                                                    |

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### **Mental capacity in practice part 1: how do we really assess capacity?**

Beale C, Lee-Davey J, Lee T, Ruck Keene A.

*BJPsych Advances*, February 2023, 1-9. doi:10.1192/bja.2022.81

### **Mental capacity in practice part 2: capacity and the suicidal patient**

Beale C, Lee-Davey J, Lee T, Ruck Keene A.

*BJPsych Advances*, February 2023, 1-10. doi:10.1192/bja.2022.82

### **Magical thinking and moral injury: Exclusion culture in psychiatry**

Beale C.

*BJPsych Bulletin*, September 2021, 1-4. doi:10.1192/bjb.2021.86

**(Winner of the BJPsych Bulletin Editor's Choice Award 2022)**

### **Intramuscular levothyroxine: a solution to a mental health related thyroid crisis**

Laycock K, Beale C, Peters C, Anderson J.

*BMJ Case Rep* 2019; 12:e228147. doi:10.1136/bcr-2018-228147





## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS Contd.

### **Screening medical patients for distress and depression: does measurement in the clinic prior to the consultation overestimate distress measured at home?**

Holm Hansen C, Walker J, Thekkumparath P, Kleiboer A, Beale C, Sawhney A, Murray G, Sharpe M.  
*Psychological Medicine*, October 2013, 43 (10): 2121-2128

### **'The Patient is Medically Cleared'**

Beale C, Turner T.  
*British Journal of Hospital Medicine*, September 2013, 74(9): 492-496

### **Prevalence of depression in adults with cancer: a systematic review**

Walker J, Holm Hansen C, Martin P, Sawhney A, Thekkumparath P, Beale C, Symeonides S, Wall L, Murray G, Sharpe M.  
*Annals of Oncology*, April 2013, 24 (4): 895-900

## REFERENCES

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