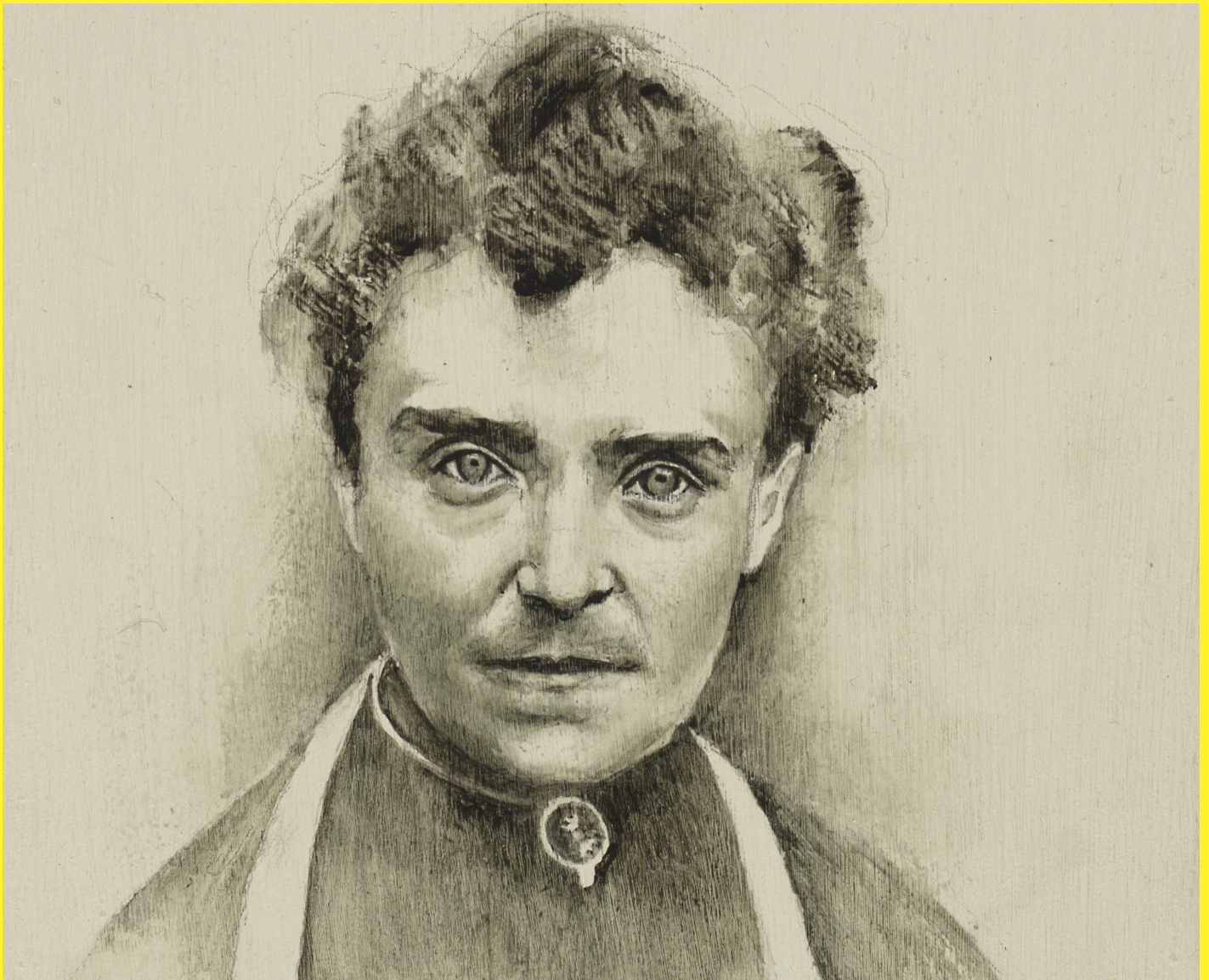


BJPpsych

The British Journal of Psychiatry



The impact of COVID-19 on mental health research: is this the breaking point?

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Rezaii et al

Comorbidity between types of eating disorders and general medical conditions

Momen et al

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The British Journal of Psychiatry

ISSN 0007 - 1250

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British Journal of Psychiatry (ISSN 0007-1250) is published monthly. The six issues starting January 2022 comprise Volume 220, the six issues starting July 2022 comprise Volume 221. Orders from non-members of the College, which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to any bookseller or subscription agent or direct to the publishers: Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, UK, email journals@cambridge.org; or in the USA, Canada and Mexico, to Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, 1 Liberty Plaza, Floor 20, New York, NY 10006, USA, email subscriptions_newyork@cambridge.org. Japanese prices for institutions are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan.

The annual subscription prices (including delivery by air but excluding VAT) for Volumes 220/221 are as follows:

	INSTITUTIONS	INDIVIDUALS
Print and online	£607/\$1080	£489/\$761
Online only	£474/\$726	£308/\$481

Single issues are £57 (US\$101 in the USA, Canada and Mexico) plus postage. EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered subscribers should provide their VAT registration number. Claims for missing issues should be made immediately on receipt of the subsequent issue.

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USPS ID Statement

The *British Journal of Psychiatry*, ISSN 0007-1250, is published monthly by Cambridge University Press, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, UK. The US annual subscription price is \$976 print and online/\$688 online only for institutions and \$687 print and online/\$447 online only for individuals. Airfreight and mailing in the USA by agent named World Container Inc, 150-15, 183rd Street, Jamaica, NY 11413, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Brooklyn, NY 11256. US Postmaster: Send address changes to The *British Journal of Psychiatry*, World Container Inc, 150-15, 183rd Street, Jamaica, NY 11413, USA. Subscription records are maintained at Cambridge University Press, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, UK. Air Business Ltd is acting as our mailing agent.

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British Journal of Psychiatry is hosted on the Cambridge Core service at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/the-british-journal-of-psychiatry>.

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Founded by J. C. Bucknill in 1853 as the *Asylum Journal* and known as the *Journal of Mental Science* from 1858 to 1963.

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Printed in Great Britain by Henry Ling Limited, The Dorset Press, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1HD.

This journal issue has been printed on FSC™-certified paper and cover board. FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. Please see www.fsc.org for information.



The *British Journal of Psychiatry* is published monthly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists (a charity registered in England and Wales (228636) and in Scotland (SC038369)). The Journal publishes original work in all fields of psychiatry. Manuscripts for publication should be submitted online at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bjpsych>.

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- A17 Editorial Board
A19 Highlights of this issue

Editorials

- 251 **Natural language processing in psychiatry: the promises and perils of a transformative approach**
Neguine Rezaei, Phillip Wolff and Bruce H. Price

- 253 **Auschwitz: dreaming the nightmare of day – Professor Viktor Frankl (119,104)**
Greg Wilkinson

- 254 **Impact of COVID-19 on mental health research: is this the breaking point?**
Oli Sparasci, Kamaldeep Bhui, Asit Biswas, Samuel Chamberlain, Bernadka Dubicka, Robert Dudas, Saeed Farooq, Tamsin Ford, Nusrat Husain, Ian Jones, Helen Killaspy, William Lee, Anne Lingford-Hughes, Ciaran Mulholland, Judy Rubinsztein, Rohit Shankar, Aditya Sharma, Lindsey Sinclair, James Stone and Allan Young

Analysis

- 257 **Telepsychiatry: learning from the pandemic**
Trisha Greenhalgh and Joseph Wherton

Short Report

- 262 **Incidence and outcomes of eating disorders during the COVID-19 pandemic**
Maxime Taquet, John R. Geddes, Sierra Luciano and Paul J. Harrison

Papers

- 265 **Differences in mental health problems, coping self-efficacy and social support between adults victimised before and adults victimised after the COVID-19 outbreak: population-based prospective study**
Peter G. van der Velden, Carlo Contino, Marcel Das, Joost Leenen and Lutz Wittmann
- 272 **Stigmatising views towards individuals with eating disorders: trends and associations from 1998 to 2008 using a repeated cross-sectional design**
Jennifer Guy, Helen Bould, Glyn Lewis and Francesca Solmi
- 279 **Comorbidity between types of eating disorder and general medical conditions**
Natalie C. Momen, Oleguer Plana-Ripoll, Cynthia M. Bulik, John J. McGrath, Laura M. Thornton, Zeynep Yilmaz and Liselotte Vogdrup Petersen

- 287 **Comparing the mental health trajectories of four different types of keyworkers with non-keyworkers: 12-month follow-up observational study of 21 874 adults in England during the COVID-19 pandemic**
Feifei Bu, Hei Wan Mak, Daisy Fancourt and Elise Paul

- 294 **Walter Benjamin: brooding and melancholia**
George Ikkos and Giovanni Stanghellini

- 295 **The Penrose hypothesis in the second half of the 20th century: investigating the relationship between psychiatric bed numbers and the prison population in England between 1960 and 2018–2019**
Georgina Wild, Ross Alder, Scott Weich, Iain McKinnon and Patrick Keown

- 302 **Hermann Rorschach (c. 1884–1922): pioneer of inkblot personality tests**
Alexander Wellington and Jack Wellington

Columns

- 303 Correspondence
304 Book Reviews
306 Contents of *BJPsych Advances*
307 Kaleidoscope

Cover picture

“Bristol Lunatic Asylum, Case Studies 1” by Serena Curmi

© Serena Curmi

‘Bristol Lunatic Asylum, Case Studies 1’ (April 2019) is a small oil painting of a patient who was at Glenside Hospital in Bristol in 1895. The hospital was then known as Bristol Lunatic Asylum.

I am a painter and over the last couple of years, I have been working on a series of these small portraits featuring patients resident at the asylum from the late 19th to early 20th century. The 10x10cm paintings are rendered in oils and are produced from photographs which were included in the patients' admission books, now housed at Bristol Archives.

These photographs provide a glimpse into the emotional state of those facing incarceration and it is the subtleties of their fleeting expressions that I aim to capture in my paintings. The project highlights those on the fringes of society, challenging traditional, hierarchical assumptions about the subjects of portraiture. By focusing my attention upon these patients, I hope to imbue their lives with a sense of value, as we are invited to confront their steady and often melancholy gaze.

We are always looking for interesting and visually appealing images for the cover of the Journal and would welcome suggestions or pictures, which should be sent to Dr Allan Beveridge, British Journal of Psychiatry, 21 Prescot Street, London, E1 8BB, UK or bjp@rcpsych.ac.uk.

