Dr. Cosmo Hallström

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Cosmo Hallström MB ChB MD FRCP FRCPsych DPM

General Adult Psychiatrist. Past Consultant Psychiatrist at Charing Cross Hospital and Senior Lecturer at Imperial College Medical School.

Specialist in Psychopharmacology. Past examiner at the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Approved under Section 12 of the Mental Health Act, 1983.

Contributor to over 100 scientific papers, articles and books on anxiety, depression, sleep and tranquilliser dependency and general psychiatry.

I qualified in medicine from Liverpool University in 1971 and subsequently studied, post graduate medicine, qualifying as an MRCP at St Bartholomew's Hospital and then psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital, where I obtained the MRCPsych, being later elected to the Fellowships of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and the Royal College of Physicians. I have also worked in Sweden and spent two years working at the Nathan Kline Research Institute in New York, where I held a New York licence to practice. I was also an Assistant Clinical Professor at New York University

I became a Consultant Psychiatrist at Charing Cross Hospital and Senior Lecturer Imperial College Medical School in 1982, where I ran an inner-city catchment area for some 14 years. I resigned from the NHS in 1996 to take up full time private practice, specialising in pharmaceutical consultancy, NHS contract work for extra-contractual referrals (ECRs) when I was the medical director of the Charter Clinic in Chelsea. My private clinical practice specialised in neurotic disorders.

I have in the last 20 years focussed mainly on medicolegal work initially in the family courts and more recently in personal injury and other civil litigation.

Main Areas of Expertise

As an Adult General Psychiatrist, I have broad experience in the diagnosis and treatment of all manifestations of mental abnormality and mental illness. I was responsible for providing all the services in my catchment area in the NHS. As such I have considerable experience in schizophrenia, mood disorders, alcoholism, drug abuse and personality disorders.

As a Psychopharmacologist I hold an MD (similar to a PhD) from Liverpool University in Clinical Psychopharmacology, which was awarded in 1988. This work is specifically related to anxiety and tranquilliser dependency. I have retained an interest in this field.

I have conducted clinical drug trials since 1974 and have done research in schizophrenia, alcoholism, social phobia, depression and anxiety as the main areas of study.

Over the years I have increasingly become involved in medico-legal work. I do about 200 medico-legal reports per year; 20% Family, 5% criminal, 40% personal injury, 10% medical negligence, 15% employment law, 10% diverse matters. My work is about 45% for claimant, 45% defendant and 10% joint instructions.

I frequently appeared in the media, on behalf of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and had contact with the media, on average once a week, giving general comment on psychiatric matters in the public interest.

I have a small private practice seeing patients referred to me for specialist opinions. My practice covers the spectrum of psychiatry, and I work closely with my colleagues in allied disciplines.

As Medical Director of the Florence Nightingale Clinic Chelsea between 1997 and 2003, I was part of the management team of The Hospital Group, and involved myself in the teaching of junior staff and generally oversee the running of a busy clinic specialising in contract work for the NHS.

As a senior lecturer I had considerable experience in lecturing to a wide range of audiences ranging from school children to medical students and specialist psychiatric audiences. I have lectured extensively at home and abroad, mainly on mood disorders, but increasingly in areas of general psychiatric interest. I have volunteered to teach in 3rd world countries.

I gave evidence in court about 20 times a year but less frequently now. I am a Founder Member of the Family Drug and Alcohol Court Team (FDAC) which was awarded; "Psychiatric Team of the Year November 2011" by the Royal College of Psychiatrists at the Recognising Excellence in Psychiatry Awards.

My full CV is available via my website: www.hallstrom.co.uk