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A study of which peer reviewed journals are read and perceived
as important by clinical practitioners in the field of
mental health

This questionnaire can be completed in about 5 minutes. Your answers will be entirely anonymous: there is no identification number on the questionnaire.

Please return the questionnaire to us within two weeks in the pre-paid envelope provided.

Thank you for your time and co-operation.

Further details about the background to the project are supplied on the last page but if you have any questions about the survey please contact:

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1. Please tick up to 10 journals in total that you read or consult on a regular basis with regard to your clinical work and then rank the top three of these (i.e. 1,2 or 3). Please add any journals you feel are of importance in the context of mental health clinical practice.

[illegible]

2. What type of NHS contract do you have?

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Whole time | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum part time | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Part time | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Honorary | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3. How many clinical sessions per week do you work?

4. How many academic sessions per week do you work?

5. In which sub-group do you work? (Please tick as many as necessary)

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Childhood & adolescence | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adults of working age | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Old age psychiatry | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Liaison psychiatry | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6. With which disorders do you work? (Please tick as many as necessary)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Anxiety disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bipolar disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Conduct disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The dementias | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Depression | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Eating disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Obsessive-compulsive disorder | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Phobias | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Schizophrenia | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suicide and self-harm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Alcohol, drug or substance abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Learning difficulties | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(Please specify.....)

Background: Clinical research generally does not command the same level of citation as basic research. The assessment of research quality often uses the journal impact factor, based on the average citation rate of the journal, but clinical research is less likely to appear in a journal with a high impact factor. Too often the result is the *apparent* poor performance of establishments involved in clinical research relative to those concentrating on research of a more basic nature. Our research is attempting to identify a more realistic way to assess publications for clinical practitioners. The intention is to extend the study to other medical fields in the future.

Journals: The list of journals has been taken from the Research Outputs Database (ROD) that was constructed by The Wellcome Trust and based on the Science Citation Index (SCI). It is now maintained by the Department of Information Science at City University. A subset of ROD (NHS ROD) has been constructed containing details of publications from England that involve some element of NHS financial input and this is being studied by the NHS-funded Fellowship at the Health Economics Research Group, Brunel University. For this questionnaire a list of journals has been extracted from the NHS ROD covering 60% of mental health publications over the period 1990-1999. It covers all levels of research publications, from basic to clinical, found in the peer reviewed journals contained on the SCI database.