



mean age at HD diagnosis was 38.09 years. The mean CAG repeat count was 44.71, and the mean age of onset of motor symptoms was 41.25 years. The review identified multiple cases of HD patients presenting with psychotic symptoms, including persecutory and grandiose delusions, auditory and visual hallucinations, and paranoia. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) was used in 20% of cases. The most frequently used antipsychotics were risperidone (26.7%), olanzapine (23.3%), clozapine (16.7%), aripiprazole (16.7%), and haloperidol (13.3%). A family history of HD was present in 73.3% of patients. In 36.6% of cases, side effects were reported, including extrapyramidal side effects, orthostatic hypotension, neutropenia, and increased sedation. In 93.3% of cases, symptomatic improvement was reported, though some patients exhibited persistent cognitive dysfunction and residual psychotic features.

Conclusion: Psychotic symptoms in HD are a significant but understudied phenomenon, frequently complicating disease management. The findings highlight the need for standardized assessment protocols and tailored treatment approaches to mitigate psychiatric distress while balancing cognitive and motor function preservation. Future research should focus on longitudinal studies to better understand the trajectory of psychosis in HD and optimize treatment strategies.

Abstracts were reviewed by the RCPsych Academic Faculty rather than by the standard *BJPsych Open* peer review process and should not be quoted as peer-reviewed by *BJPsych Open* in any subsequent publication.

Education and Training

The Effectiveness of Teaching Applied Transference Focused Psychotherapy on the Attitudes and Technical Confidence of Psychiatry Trainees in Malaysia, on the Management of Patients with Personality Disorder.

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Aims: Psychiatric trainees are often the “first responders” to manage patients with personality disorders but receive little specific training in this. Transference Focused Psychotherapy (TFP) is a manualized evidence-based treatment for severe personality disorders based on a psychodynamic approach that focuses on object relations theory. There is an expanding experience in applying TFP in different psychiatric settings. While there is evidence of effective training of applied TFP in the UK, Europe, South Africa and India, TFP training in Malaysia is a relatively new concept.

The aim of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a series of teaching sessions on TFP as applied to patients with personality disorders, on improving the attitude and technical confidence of psychiatric trainees in one of the major universities in Malaysia (UiTM), in their clinical encounters with patients with personality disorders.

Methods: A cohort of psychiatric trainees at UiTM received four 2-hour teaching sessions on applied TFP over consecutive weeks via video teleconference. Nineteen trainees completed 2 questionnaires, pre and post four teaching sessions. The cohort included first-year trainees (n=7) and senior trainees (n=12, comprising second, third

and final-year psychiatry trainees). The questionnaires used were the Attitude to Personality Disorder Questionnaire (APDQ) and the Clinical Confidence with Personality Disorder Questionnaire (CCPDQ), both are validated instruments with good psychometric properties.

Results: The mean age of participants was 33.18 years, with an average of 2–8 years of experience in psychiatry. Quantitative analyses revealed significant improvements in both attitudes and clinical confidence. For the Attitudes to Personality Disorder Questionnaire (APDQ), the mean pre-intervention score was 71.11 ± 9.87 , while the post-intervention mean score was 65.05 ± 10.79 , representing a statistically significant reduction ($t(18) = 4.11$, $p = 0.00065$). This finding indicates improved attitudes toward patients with personality disorders. Similarly, the Clinical Confidence with Personality Disorder Questionnaire (CCPDQ) showed a significant increase in confidence levels. The mean pre-intervention score was 16.11 ± 6.38 , which rose to 22.58 ± 7.76 post-intervention ($t(18) = -3.58$, $p = 0.0021$).

Conclusion: Teaching sessions on applied TFP to personality disorders can significantly improve psychiatric trainees' attitudes and technical confidence in clinical encounters with patients with personality disorders. Given the low resource requirements (8 hours of training, delivered remotely), and the growing international experience of effective teaching of applied TFP training, it may be considered not only in Malaysia but in a range of countries.

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Fostering Leadership in Psychiatry: Outcomes of the West Midlands Leadership Programme for Higher Trainees

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Aims: To outline the development and implementation of the West Midlands Psychiatry Leadership Programme, a pioneering initiative believed to be unique within UK psychiatry training, and to evaluate participant feedback on its impact and benefits.

Methods: The programme, led by honorary leadership tutors who are higher psychiatry trainees, combines three online training days and a face-to-face conference. Conducted across 2024, it allowed participants time to reflect between sessions. Open to all psychiatry higher trainees in the West Midlands Deanery, invitations were sent via email. Feedback, collected via Microsoft Forms, evaluated its impact in preparing trainees for consultant roles through theory, practical application, self-awareness, and team leadership.

Day 1: Focused on leadership roles within the NHS, exploring operational structures, financial frameworks, emotional intelligence, and personal leadership styles.

Day 2: Addressed “Preparing to be a Consultant” with presentations, scenario analysis, and panel discussions on transitioning to consultancy.

Day 3: Explored “Leading in Teams and Organisations” through organisational change frameworks, team-building exercises, and QI project workshops.