

Friday 27 June 2025

CMF Psychiatry Day Conference

Life and Death: a Christian Medical
Exploration of the Impact of Suicide

6 Marshalsea Road, London SE1 1HL



psychiatry day conference: cmf.li/PDC25



Life and Death: a Christian Medical Exploration of the Impact of Suicide

We will carefully and thoughtfully explore suicide—a complex and tragic issue that is a particular challenge for those working in psychiatry and healthcare. Engage with interactive and insightful sessions with specialists in the field and brothers and sisters In Christ, sensitively sharing from a combination of their professional and personal experiences. Join us as we discuss theological, cultural/societal, psychological, and occupational dimensions— including a Q&A conversation about the ethics of assisted suicide. There will also be opportunities for networking and reflection in a caring and supportive environment.

The conference is open to professionals of all ages and levels of experience and expertise.

We hope and trust there will also be opportunities for prayer during the day, offering moments to reach up to God, as we reach out to each other. Please do consider being part of this important and impactful 2025 CMF Psychiatry (in-person only) gathering.

For more details or enquiries, contact:
events@cmf.org.uk

PROGRAMME

Friday 25 June

09:20-10:00	Registration (tea/coffee)
10:00-10:20	Introduction, prayer, and worship <i>Angharad Gray</i>
10:20-11:40	The death of a patient by suicide <i>Dr Evelyn Sharpe</i>
11:40-12:00	Tea/coffee break
12:00-12:45	Considering the theology: morality, cultural, scriptural, and traditional perspectives about suicide <i>Rachel Newham/Dr Jonathan Haynes</i>
12:45-13:00	CMF Update <i>Mark Pickering</i>
13:00-13:40	Lunch
13:40-14:00	Dear Dr Jacobs (a letter asking forgiveness) <i>Ruth Owusu-Ansa</i>
14:00-14:20	Suicide amongst healthcare professionals <i>Dr Jenny Bryden</i>
14:20-14:40	Overview of new NHS England guidance - 'Staying safe from suicide' <i>Dr Jonathan Buckley</i>
14:40 - 15:25	Legalising assisted suicide devalues all of us: notes from Canada <i>Dr Ewan Goligher MD PhD</i>
15:25-15:55	Panel discussion and Q&A
16:00-16:15	Final prayer time (people are welcome to stay on and pray together. Doors close at 17:00).

Angharad Gray

Angharad is a CMF Psych Link

Dr Evelyn Sharpe

Evelyn is a retired consultant psychiatrist with experience in general adult psychiatry and serving people abroad in mission and aid work, who now works in pastoral care at her local church.

Rachael Newham

Rachel is an author and speaker specialising in the theology of mental health. She holds a Theology BA(Hons) and completed a research masters (MTh) entitled "Towards a Contemporary Pastoral Theology of Clinical Depression". Rachael founded and led ThinkTwice, a national charity delivering theology of mental health training, has experience as a chaplaincy assistant on an acute mental health unit, and has run a national church mental health project. She writes and speaks regularly on issues of faith and mental health and can be found as @RachaelNewham90 on social media

Dr Jonathan Haynes

Jonathan is a consultant psychiatrist, working for Gloucestershire Health & Care NHSFT. His clinical role is with an early intervention in psychosis team. He also works as Deputy Medical Director with responsibility for patient safety and quality; in this role he chairs reviews of deaths by suicide, and meets with bereaved families. He lives in Bristol and worships at Redland Church.

Mark Pickering

Mark is CMF Chief Executive and a secure environment GP, working regularly in secure forensic settings. He oversees CMF's public policy ministry, including on end of life issues.

Ruth Owusu-Ansah

Ruth is a registered mental health nurse (DIP HE) who previously worked for over 20 years in a medium secure unit in North London, as a forensic nurse. Ruth now works with adults with learning disabilities, autism and challenging behaviours, in a part time capacity.

Dr Ewan Goligher MD PhD

Ewan is an associate professor of medicine and physiology and a physician-scientist at the University of Toronto. He has kindly agreed to lead this session remotely via video from Canada. He practices critical care medicine and in that capacity is regularly involved in navigating ethical issues in end-of-life care with patients and their families. He has published on ethical issues surrounding physician-assisted death, freedom of conscience, and withholding/withdrawing life-sustaining measures. He is author of 'How Should We Then Die? A Christian Response to Physician-Assisted Death', from Lexham Press (2024).

Dr Jenny Bryden

Jenny Bryden is a consultant psychiatrist for an NHS trust in South East Scotland. She specialises in rehabilitation psychiatry and has a special interest in autism and ADHD in adults.

Dr Jonathan Buckley

Jonathan is a consultant psychiatrist in general adult. He is also the EDI lead on Spirituality SIG RCPsych.

COST

Doctors	£50
FY1 doctor	£35
Non-clinical	£30
Nurses/Midwives/AHP	£30
Student/Unwaged	£15

Book via cmf.li/PDC25



DIRECTIONS

The Christian Medical Fellowship
6 Marshalsea Road, Borough, SE1 1HL



For more details or enquiries, contact:
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