

NOVEMBER, 2025 E-News
Division of Professional Practice (Division 17)



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WISHING YOU ALL
HAPPY HOLIDAY CHEER
(for multiple Festivals in the month ahead)

November, 2025 E-News:

- We are 'gearing up' for **ICAP in Florence (21st-25th July, 2026)** with a number of our executive team reviewing submitted papers and symposia for Division 17, as requested by the Congress team. Abstracts for 21 papers and symposia have been sent to us to canvas, to ensure the quality of presentations being undertaken as part of our Division.

Invited symposia and other presentations: on 'Integrated health care'

In line with our 15-year-campaign focused on the need for integrated general and mental health care involving **psychologists as a core part of a multi-disciplinary team in primary and hospital-based mental health care**, we have submitted multiple invited papers and other presentations advancing this cause.

We have presented previously as follows: *ICAP in Melbourne in 2010; ICP: 2012, Capetown; ECP: 2013, Stockholm; ICAP: 2014, Paris; ECP: 2015, Milan; ICP: 2016, Okinawa; ECP: 2017, Amsterdam; ICAP: 2018, Montreal; post-COVID – ECP: 2023, Brighton; ICP: 2024, Prague; ECP: 2025, Cyprus*).

Further details will be provided, once abstract submissions have been confirmed by the Congress committee.

Monthly Division 17 Executive Committee zoom meeting: we continue to meet monthly as a team to discuss the Division of Professional Practice's contribution to IAAP;

We now have a monthly series in which members of the Executive make presentations about their work; sharing key issues as practising psychologists around the world.

Our last meeting was held on **12th/13th November** with attendees from the USA, Ireland, Rwanda and Australia (apologies from Argentina, the US and Australia).

- **Our Division President, Susan McDaniel presented her work at the 'Institute for the Family'** in the Department of Psychiatry, University of Rochester, New York (see:

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/psychiatry/institute-for-the-family>) She has developed and has been at the forefront of developing this Institute for decades. It will be discussed in detail in a future edition of E-News when a forthcoming paper describing the work is available.

Further discussion included:

- **Effective and Deep Change:** how to ensure continuity of new ideas and building on what has been learnt, rather than going in cycles and ‘reinventing the wheel’ (e.g. ‘new’ approaches to recruitment and retention for rural and remote locations)
- **Inclusion of Lifestyle Factors in any intervention:** Use of the term ‘social prescription’ was discussed at length (i.e. encouragement of GPs to think more diversely about what to include in their ‘treatment armamentarium’: e.g. sleep strategies, diet, exercise, time in nature, social encounters/activities, etc. rather than ‘just’ medication). The value of social prescribing for patients who ‘expect a prescription’ was canvassed vs concern about the problem of medicalizing behavior change.
- **Adverse consequences of ‘medicalization’ in treatment settings in our society** (i.e. the ‘medicalization of unhappiness’ and chronic lifestyle-related ‘diseases’):

Recent examples:

- Joe recommended a thought-provoking article:
[“Opening doors or building cages? The adverse consequences of psychiatric diagnostic labels”](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352250X25000892)
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352250X25000892>
- Susan: recommended *another entertaining article about diagnosis: about measuring intelligence, and what it is.*
[“Why aren’t smart people happier”: https://www.theseedsofscience.pub/p/why-arent-smart-people-happier?utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web](https://www.theseedsofscience.pub/p/why-arent-smart-people-happier?utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web)
Susan said: *“I really like the distinction in this article of solving well-defined problems vs ill-defined problems. We have plenty of the latter (and fortunately the former too) in medicine and mental health.”*
- Tim provided a recent example: **‘Pathological demand avoidance’**: a ‘medicalised’ profile within the autism spectrum <https://www.autismbc.ca/blog/resource-guide/pathological-demand-avoidance-pda-explained/#article>
WEBSITES/LINKS FOR ‘PATHOLOGICAL DEMAND PERFORMANCE’:
 - [Child Mind Institute](https://childmind.org/): <https://childmind.org/>
 - When children resist anything that feels like a demand
 - [Reframing Autism](#)
 - a specific profile within the Autism spectrum, where individuals exhibit a strong desire for independence and have an increased sensitivity towards demands that challenge their autonomy
 - [National Autistic Society](#)
 - Everyone experiences ‘demand avoidance’ (resistance to doing something that is requested or expected of you) sometimes. However, here we use demand avoidance to mean the characteristic of a persistent and marked resistance to ‘the demands of everyday life’, which may include essential demands such as eating and sleeping as well as expected demands such as going to school or work.
- **Further Ideas: how to facilitate uptake of health behaviours** given ‘advice often does not work!': **Trying to find a language of meeting people where they are.**

Our next meeting will be held in mid-January, 2026:

Agenda items will include:

- ICAP submissions – outcome of reviews (if abstracts have been received by then)
- Adding a junior member to our committee to ensure mentorship and ‘succession planning’ into the next generation.

Publications by Division Members:

- **Of particular interest this month:** are two articles on “Integrated Health Care” published by the APA, Dr. Diana Prescott (Div. 17) is Co-author on one:
- **‘Why Hire a Psychologist: A case for psychologists in Integrated Care’**
American Psychological Association: <https://www.apa.org/topics/health-care/why-hire-psychologist.pdf>
- **‘Where are psychologists working in specialty medicine?’:**
American Psychological Association: <https://www.apa.org/practice/psychologists> -
- **Our President-Elect, Tim Carey** continues to write monthly blogs/articles (as he has since 2014), for the internationally renowned publication: **‘Psychology Today’** –
Latest article: ‘No One Else Can Look in the Mirror for You’ Psychology Today
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/in-control/202510/no-one-else-can-look-in-the-mirror-for-you>

you

Please have a browse: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/au/blog/in-control> - they’re interesting and thought-provoking.

Other Recent Publications Articles:

- Carey, Timothy A.: *‘How Can Research Have Greater Beneficial Impact in Rural Australia?’* Australian Journal of Rural Health COMMENTARY OPEN ACCESS
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ajr.70104>
- Osuagwu UL, **Vines R.** : *Service Providers' Perspectives on Delivering Support for Domestic Violence Victims in Rural New South Wales*. Inquiry. 2025 Jan-Dec;62:469580251366958. doi: 10.1177/00469580251366958. Epub 2025 Sep 3. PMID: 40899859; PMCID: PMC12409060.

Please contact us if you have information, items to share, questions to ask and ideas to put forward in relation to Division 17 activities.

We welcome contact from all Members and those interested in joining.

Div. 17 E-News Editor:

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