



## Finding Our Social Model

From The Collaborating Centre for Values-based Practice in Health and Social Care, St Catherine's College, Oxford

<https://valuesbasedpractice.org>

We thank Peter Lyne for the opportunity to write this editorial and welcome his generous offer of on-going collaboration

Fulfilling the promise of its title, in its first seven years our Centre has established wide-ranging collaborations with over 300 individuals and organisations. Our shared vision of values-based practice (VBP) is to find more effective ways of working with the diverse individual values – the diversity of *what matters or is important* to each of us as unique individuals – in healthcare.

But there's the rub – for until Peter introduced us to MASIS, our collaborations had been focused on the 'health' part of our title largely to the exclusion of social care.

There is VBP irony in this! There has surely never been a time when (in the language of VBP) it has mattered more or been more important that health and social care should work together in a fully joined up way.

True, as Directors of the Centre we are both medical doctors. But there is no excuse in this. To the contrary, the vital importance of social care is transparently evident not least in our respective disciplines, surgery and psychiatry, albeit in different ways. Surgical beds are all too often blocked by our inability to discharge medically well patients for lack of social care. While in psychiatry, full-on social interventions may sometimes be more effective in their own right than our core treatments, viz., medications and 'talking therapies'. Indeed, the Royal College of Psychiatrists, no less, in its recently revised training curriculum, reflects contemporary standards of person-centred care, in reinforcing the need for all three to be prescribed together in a holistic social-medical-psychological approach aimed at meeting the particular needs and other values of the individual concerned (see [silver-guide-version-final\\_15-june-22.pdf \(rcpsych.ac.uk\)](https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/files/default.asp?doc=/media/1368/1368main.pdf))

Person-centred care of this joined-up kind has received further support in recent years with the publication (in 2015) of the UK Supreme Court *Montgomery* judgement (see: <https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/uksc-2013-0136.html>). The effect of *Montgomery* has been to make shared decision making (decision-making that is shared between professional and patient/client) the basis of consent in all areas not only of health but also of social care.

There could be no better collaborator in finding our social model than MASIS. Like us, MASIS starts from the values of – from what matters or is important to - its constituencies. Its current priorities – focussing on enhanced mobility and improved housing - speak directly to medical challenges of the kind just noted. And like the Collaborating Centre, MASIS has an explicit commitment to and track record in delivering, collaborative ventures.

Just what form our collaboration will take remains to be decided – watch this space for future announcements. But one thing is for sure. The urgency afforded a joined-up approach to health and social care as the basis of contemporary person-centred care, means that, in values-based practice, in finding our social model we will be finding our medical model too.

Ashok Handa  
Director

Bill (KWM) Fulford  
Founding Director

**A recent announcement** from the Collaborating Centre for Values-based Practice in Health and Social Care

**The Collaborating Centre for Values-based Practice in Health and Social Care**  
St Catherine's College, Oxford

**Joint Congress of the World Association of Social Psychiatry (WASP) and the Faculty of Rehabilitation and Social Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych, UK).**

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As President-Elect of the World Association of Social Psychiatry (WASP), Centre Partner, Professor Vincenzo Di Nicola, is pleased to join the WASP Executive Committee and the leaders of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in announcing their joint congress next year:

[Joint Congress of the World Association of Social Psychiatry \(WASP\) and the Faculty of Rehabilitation and](#)

## Social Psychiatry, Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych, UK).

The conference will take place in-person, on

**16-18 January 2023**

at **21 Prescot Street, London, UK.**

For further information please go to:

<https://rcpsych-mail.com/3S85-1GQ27-22B7A3C37C17DDDF2GODX59CC7DA1FDBE1E759/cr.aspx>

For a call for session ideas and posters please go to:

<https://www.worldsopsychiatry.org/article.asp?issn=2667-1077;year=2021;volume=3;issue=2;spage=60;epage=64;aurlast=Di>