MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS AND SOCIEDAD ESPAÑOLA DE PSIQUIATRÍA

Assembled

On one side, Prof Sheila Hollins, President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych);

and on the other, Julio Vallejo Ruiloba, President of the Sociedad Española de Psiquiatría (SEP);

both bodies being legally constituted in accordance with the respective legislation of their countries of origin

consider

that both institutions here represented, have as their common interest, and as set down in their respective bye-laws, to promote training and research in all those areas of psychiatry that result in better care for patients with mental illness;

that the two institutions are based in the United Kingdom and Spain, which are countries with unquestionable cultural and social links;

that the exchange of information could signify a major improvement in training and psychiatric care for both countries.

Consequently,

agree

to sign a general framework agreement on collaboration, subject to specific annexes, which will permit the exchange of research, experience and the organisation of joint activities, in close collaboration with the pursuants to the following fundamental objectives:

1. To establish close collaboration in all relevant fields with the European Division of the College.

2. To enable the exchange of information between both psychiatric institutions in all areas relating to training and teaching activities.

3. To promote joint research projects in epidemiology, clinical practice, diagnosis and the treatment of psychiatric disorders.

4. To support the exchange of publications (bulletins, journals, books) between both professional institutions, with special emphasis being placed on the establishment of a direct relationship between their web sites, thus permitting, by means of specific agreements, the translation of training materials of mutual interest to both institutions, into the corresponding languages.

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5. To study the viability of establishing assistance to professionals who wish to undertake periods of training in either of the countries that are the object of this agreement.

6. To study ways of working together that will lead to greater participation for both bodies in other psychiatric institutions, in Europe in particular.

7. To establish all measures with respect to support and exchange that may assist the institutions in fulfilling their statutory objectives with more ease.

8. To set up a joint commission, formed by two representatives from the RCP and two from the SEP, in order to examine immediate projects.

9. To this framework agreement on collaboration, specific annexes will be added that, referring always to this text signed today set down and develop some of the aspects to which the established objectives refer.

This framework agreement will be valid for a period of four years, and may be automatically extended unless either party gives notice of termination at any time up to two months prior to the expiry date.

In witness thereof, both parties sign the following agreement.

[Signatures]

Professor Sheila Hollins, President
Royal College of Psychiatrists

Professor Julio Vallejo Ruloba, President
Spanish Society of Psychiatry

Date signed: Glasgow Place: 12.07.2006