

Professor Peter Tyrer is the interim Head of the Centre for Mental Health at Imperial College, London and was previously Head of the Department of Psychological Medicine there. He is also Professor of Community Psychiatry and Honorary Consultant in Rehabilitation Psychiatry, Central North West London Mental Health NHS Trust & Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist to West London Mental Health Trust. He obtained his medical qualifications at the University of Cambridge at St Thomas's Hospital London in 1965 and subsequently trained in psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital and Institute of Psychiatry, London. He has carried out research into personality disorder since a medical student and has published two books and over 100 original articles on the subject. He is the founder president of the British and Irish Group for the Study of Personality Disorders, Chair of the Section on Personality Disorders of the World Psychiatric Association and of the ICD-11 Work Group for the Revision of the Classification of Personality Disorders. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, of the Royal College of Physicians, and of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He is the Editor of the British Journal of Psychiatry and on the Editorial Board of seven other journals. Despite his academic interests he still regards himself primarily as a 'coal-face' psychiatrist who has learnt most from his patients – and among the most stimulating and challenging of these have been those with personality disorder.