

Editorial

Providing a Critical Role...

Publishing provides a critical role for communicating research findings, launching new ideas and generating discussion on topics that have clinical and research importance. The latter, raising awareness through debate, is a crucial part of science as it assists in determining the direction of research and allows for reappraisal and evaluation of ongoing and previous achievements.

Whereas typically *reviews* provide a synthesis of findings, *editorials* provide greater scope for opinion and commentary. This is an essential component of scientific discourse as it encourages the examination of research findings with respect to their pertinence in the field and potential clinical application. Thus in this issue I draw your attention to an editorial by Walter et al. (1) that tackles the important topic of whether young people can reliably rate side effects of antipsychotic medication. Further, I am grateful to this same author and his junior colleague for their wonderful submission to our regular Pix and Prose section (2). The broad theme of these articles namely, integrating basic and clinical science, is pursued further in Intervention Insights (3), in which attachment and its neurobiology is explored deftly.

I am pleased to report that *The Journal* continues to receive interesting *Comment & Critique*, however there is scope for increasing our capacity for critical comment in the form of relevant and up to date editorials. I therefore strongly encourage readers to submit articles in this format¹.

Professor Gin S. Malhi
CADE Clinic,
Discipline of Psychiatry,
University of Sydney,
Sydney, Australia

References

1. WALTER G, BYRNE S, GRIFFITHS O, HUNT G, SOH N, CLEARY M, DUFFY P, CRAWFORD G, KRABMAN P, CONCANNON P, MALHI G. Can young people reliably rate side effects of low-dose antipsychotic medication using a self-report survey? *Acta Neuropsychiatrica*. 2010;**22**:168–173.
2. ROBERTSON M, WALTER G. Eric Kandel and Aplysia californica: their role in the elucidation of mechanisms of memory and the study of psychotherapy. *Acta Neuropsychiatrica*. 2010;**22**:195–196.
3. DIGNAM P, PARRY P, BERK M. Detached from attachment: neurobiology and phenomenology have a human face. *Acta Neuropsychiatrica*. 2010;**22**:202–206.

¹ If you wish to ascertain whether a particular topic will be deemed suitable as an editorial, please contact the editorial office of the journal directly with a brief outline.