

ECP02-01

GLOBALISATION AND THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC FACTORS ON PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS

D. Bhugra^{1,2}

¹Health Service & Population Research, Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London, ²The Royal College of Psychiatrists, London, UK

Introduction: With the process of globalisation in full flow, the movement of people and products across the globe has brought a series of difficulties. With migration the socio-economic status of the individuals may change with the likelihood that this status will be lower rather than higher, although depending upon the reasons for migration this may change too.

Objectives: Literature shows that low socio-economic status is associated with a higher level of psychiatric morbidity.

Aims: Whether migration acts as a mediator needs to be investigated further.

Methods: Various studies have shown that rates of psychosis are elevated in migrants though these rates are differentially increased in different groups indicating that factors other than migration may be at play.

Results: In this presentation the literature and link the acculturation and cultural identity with post-migration experiences will be reviewed.

Conclusion: A link exists between the perceptions within cultures and level of economic development of what constitutes mental health. The state of advancement of mental health services of a country will certainly have a large impact on prevalence rates. Further investigation should be carried out to examine in greater depth the relationship between social inequality and disorder prevalence, as distinct from income inequality.