

Laith Alexander PhD MB BChir (Dist.) MA (Cantab.) AHEA MAcadMEd

Academic Clinical Fellow in Translational Psychiatry

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Work and Education

Academic Clinical Fellow, King's College London and South London and the Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (start date: August 2022, no career breaks) **London, UK**

Speciality Trainee in Psychiatry with research in Translational Psychiatry – RCPsych 2022-
London Trainee of the year (2022)

- Forensic psychiatry

Academic Foundation Doctor, King's College London and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (August 2020 – August 2022, no career breaks) **London, UK**

Clinical rotations with Psychiatry research post – Junior Doctor of the Year (2021) 2020-2022

- Paediatrics
- Acute Medicine
- Geriatric medicine
- Psychiatry research post
- Emergency medicine
- Perioperative medicine

Designing Clinical Research course – winner for research presentation (2022) 2021-2022

MRCP Part I and II – pass on first attempts 2021-2022

MB/PhD, Trinity College, University of Cambridge **Cambridge, UK**

PhD in Neuroscience – Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience 2015-2018

MB/BChir – Distinction in Clinical Medicine 2011-2020

MA in Preclinical Medicine/Neuroscience, University of Cambridge **Cambridge, UK**

First class honours – ranked 1st in final year exams in psychology and neuroscience (ranked within top ten students in all years) 2011-2014

Academic and Clinical Achievements

Publications

Strawbridge R.*, **Alexander L.***, Richardson T., Young A.H., Cleare A.J. (2022) Is there a 'bipolar iceberg' in UK primary care psychological therapy services? ***Psychological Medicine***

Alexander L., Young A.H. (2021) Recent advances in the psychopharmacology of major depressive disorder. ***Br J Psych Advances***

Alexander L., Jelen L.A., Mehta M.A., Young A.H. (2021) The anterior cingulate cortex as a key locus of ketamine's antidepressant action. ***Neuroscience and Biobehavioural Reviews***

Alexander L.*, Wood C.M.*, Gaskin P.L.R., Sawiak S.J., Fryer T.D., Hong Y.T., Mclver L., Clarke H.F., Roberts A.C. (2020) Over-activation of primate subgenual cingulate cortex enhances the cardiovascular, behavioral and neural responses to threat. ***Nature Communications***

Stawicka Z.M., Massoudi R., Horst N.K., Koda K., Gaskin P.L.R., **Alexander L.**, Santangelo A.M., Mclver L., Cockcroft G.J., Wood C.M., Roberts A.C. (2020) Ventromedial prefrontal area 14 provides opposing regulation of threat and reward-elicited responses in the common marmoset. ***PNAS***

Alexander L., Clarke H.F., Roberts A.C. (2019) A Focus on the Functions of Area 25. ***Brain Sciences***

Zeredo J.L., Quah S.K.L., Wallis C.U., **Alexander L.**, Cockcroft G.J., Santangelo A.M., Xia J., Shiba Y., Dalley J.W., Cardinal R.N.C., Roberts A.C., Clarke H.F. (2019) Glutamate Within the Marmoset Anterior Hippocampus Interacts with Area 25 to Regulate the Behavioral and Cardiovascular Correlates of High-Trait Anxiety. ***Journal of Neuroscience***

Alexander L., Gaskin P.L.R., Sawiak S.J., Fryer T.D., Hong Y.T., Cockcroft G.J., Clarke H.F., Roberts A.C. (2019) Fractionating blunted reward processing characteristic of anhedonia by over-activating primate subgenual anterior cingulate cortex. ***Neuron***

Wallis C.U., Cardinal R.N., **Alexander L.**, Roberts A.C., Clarke H.F. (2017) Opposing roles of primate areas 25 and 32 and their putative rodent homologs in the regulation of negative emotion. ***PNAS***

Recent national and international presentations

British Association of Psychopharmacology 2022, oral & poster presentation **London, UK**

FENS conference 2022, poster presentation **Paris, France**

Healthcare Leadership Academy meeting 2020, oral presentation **Virtual conference**

FENS conference 2020, poster presentation (2nd author) **Virtual conference**

Royal Society of Medicine Sir Roger Bannister lecture 2019, invited speaker **London, UK**

Society for Neuroscience conference 2019, poster presentation (2nd author) **Chicago, US**

Society for Neuroscience conference 2018, poster presentation **San Diego, US**

Viral Manipulations in Monkeys conference 2018, invited speaker **Paris, France**

Awards

Prizes awarded for clinical & university work: Royal College of Psychiatry Trainee of the Year London Division (2022), Junior Doctor of the Year, Leadership & Outstanding Contribution awards (2021), Knott Family Award for Palliative Care (2020), Cambridge Prize for Medical Electives (2019), Medical Schools' Council *Who's in Health?* Competition winner (2015), Werner Jacobson Halley Stewart Studentship for clinical medicine (4th year), Passingham Prize for Psychology (3rd year), British Psychological Society Undergraduate award (3rd year), Research Scholarship (3rd year), Rashbass Prize in Physiology (2nd year), Senior Scholarship (2nd year), Commendation in Anatomy (1st year), Junior Scholarship (1st year)

Prizes awarded for research: Designing Clinical Research first place award (2022), Gordon Holmes Prize in Clinical Neurosciences (2020), MRC-LMB poster prize (2017), British Association of Psychopharmacology Robert Kerwin Bursary (2017), Cambridge Neuroscience poster prize (2017), Royal College of Psychiatry Eastern division poster prize (2016), British Association of Psychopharmacology pre-clinical poster prize (2016), G.C. Grindley fund for Mental Health research (2014)

Additional Experience

Quality improvement projects

Improving substance misuse support provision in a medium secure unit (Alexander L. , Parkes C., Campbell C., Walker H.)	2022-
Improving staff confidence in managing dystonia on general paediatrics wards (Alexander L. , Croft C., Wai A., Ramachandran R., Lumsden D.)	2021-22
Auditing HRT prescribing at a single GP practice to reduce incorrect oestrogen-only prescriptions presented as a poster and oral presentation at Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Infertility congress, 2020 (Alexander L. , Zielinska A.)	2020-21
Auditing sick day guidance at a single GP practice for CKD patients to prevent AKI presented as a poster at RCGP Annual Primary Care Conference and Exhibition, 2019 (Lim H.K., Alexander L. , Lennox G.A.K., Elango M.)	2019

Recent teaching experience

MSc supervisor for Affective Disorders MSc, King's College London	2021-
Bedside teaching coordinator for Long Term Conditions, King's College London	2021-22
Clinical supervisor , MB/PhD course, University of Cambridge	2021
Supporting life facilitator , King's College London	2020-21
Clinical supervisor , King's College London	2020-21
Supervisor in Psychology and Neuroscience for Christ's College, Cambridge	2020
Pathology Supervisor for clinical medical students, Cambridge	2019-20
Associate of the Academy of Higher Education (AHEA)	2019
Membership of the Academy of Medical Educators (MAcadMED)	2018

Recent positions of responsibility

BMJ Best Practice clinical champion	2022-
Schwartz Round steering group member , St Thomas' Hospital	2020-22
Junior doctor representative , St Thomas' Hospital	2020-22
Marketing and Communications officer , Innovation Forum Cambridge	2019-20
MB/PhD representative , University of Cambridge	2019-20
Student representative , Royal Society of Medicine	2015-18

Recent media experience

Clegg Scholarship awarded with British Medical Journal, London, UK	2020
Medical Specialist , ABC News Medical Unit, New York, USA – a placement and ongoing collaboration with ABC News, reviewing studies and writing digital articles	2019-21

Affiliations with professional bodies

Royal College of Psychiatrists (Core Trainee)	2022-
British Neuroscience Association	2022-
Associate of the Higher Education Academy (AHEA)	2019-
Academy of Medical Educators (MAcadMED)	2017-
Royal Society of Medicine	2015-