



## Tweets from 11th set of 100 posts in S4ME thread: Michael Sharpe skewered by @JohntheJack on Twitter





**Cheshire**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)


Messages: 503  
Likes Received: 5,936

Wessely's answers

 **Robert McMullen** @RobertHMcMullen 14 Jun  
Replying to @RobertHMcMullen @sfmneonic  
When PACE finally sinks, it will be necessary to establish whether its flaws were due to incompetence and/or unconscious bias, or whether there was a deliberate attempt to mislead. I hope such questions will be answered by an independent inquiry.

 **Simon Wessely** @WesselyS  
I certainly hope there will be an inquiry. But if it is independent I suspect that the results will be nothing like the assumptions in this thread.  
6:52 AM - Jun 15, 2018  
1 See Simon Wessely's other Tweets

 **Mike Godwin** @sfmneonic 14 Jun  
Replying to @secretspartacus @RobertHMcMullen  
None of the foregoing is a defense of the PACE trial, which, based on my current understanding, seems so profoundly flawed that it cannot be trusted. Nor is it a defense of researchers who should have been more rigorous. But humility is good practice for all of us, and ...

 **Simon Wessely** @WesselyS  
You won't be surprised mike to find that I don't agree with this. As far as I can see only one person has pointed out that this might not be so simple. Here's my analysis of the strengths of the trial and why the core findings remain reliable  
[simonwessely.com/Downloads/ment...](http://simonwessely.com/Downloads/ment...)  
7:11 AM - Jun 15, 2018  
1 See Simon Wessely's other Tweets



**Mike Godwin**  @sfmnemonic

14 Jun

Replying to @secretspartacus @RobertHMcMullen

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**Simon Wessely**

@WesselyS



You may also by now have picked up that there are very strong feelings now on both sides. It's hard to see these being reconciled. I moved away from this field some years ago because of this, feeling I could no longer contribute. The PACE team stayed.

7:17 AM - Jun 15, 2018

 1  See Simon Wessely's other Tweets



**Mike Godwin**  @sfmnemonic

14 Jun

Replying to @secretspartacus @RobertHMcMullen

None of the foregoing is a defense of the PACE trial, which, based on my current understanding, seems so profoundly flawed that it cannot be trusted. Nor is it a defense of researchers who should have been more rigorous. But humility is good practice for all of us, and ...



**Simon Wessely**

@WesselyS



I continue to believe they did a good job with the trial and that it was carried out to a high standard. The data is sound even if the results are relatively modest. Such is the nature of large pragmatic trials. Our book on clinical trials written pre PACE talks about this.

7:20 AM - Jun 15, 2018

 2  See Simon Wessely's other Tweets





**Cheshire**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 503  
Likes Received: 5,936

dave30th said: ↑

Thanks for posting his tweets here, since he blocked me a couple of years ago.

Here are his last two tweets:



**Mike Godwin** ✓ @sfmneonic

14 Jun

Replying to @secretspartacus @RobertHMcMullen

None of the foregoing is a defense of the PACE trial, which, based on my current understanding, seems so profoundly flawed that it cannot be trusted. Nor is it a defense of researchers who should have been more rigorous. But humility is good practice for all of us, and ...



**Simon Wessely**

@WesselyS



I have moved on since then and am glad I did. It was the right choice. I still see patients on our clinic which remains satisfying and an antidote to some of what goes on outside.

7:25 AM - Jun 15, 2018



See Simon Wessely's other Tweets



**Mike Godwin** ✓ @sfmneonic

14 Jun

Replying to @secretspartacus @RobertHMcMullen

None of the foregoing is a defense of the PACE trial, which, based on my current understanding, seems so profoundly flawed that it cannot be trusted. Nor is it a defense of researchers who should have been more rigorous. But humility is good practice for all of us, and ...



**Simon Wessely**

@WesselyS



Last comment then that's it. I didn't mean to trigger all this but have followed your career with interest since those happy days at Lamar which will always be precious to me. If you are ever in London it would be good to catch up for our own version of "40 Years On"

7:29 AM - Jun 15, 2018



See Simon Wessely's other Tweets





**Lucibee**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)  
Messages: 259  
Likes Received: 2,694  
Location: Mid-Wales

Re: this tweet from SW:



**Emma Joy** @emmajoy6 14 Jun  
Replying to @WesselyS and 8 others  
Biomarker or not, that doesn't mean your theory was correct does it?



**Simon Wessely** @WesselyS  
No it doesn't. It does mean that we taken a broad approach over many years. One example. When we and others found compelling replicated evidence of hypocortisolism we went on to do the RCT of replacement. We recruited to the galanathamime trial etc  
2:59 PM - Jun 14, 2018  
See Simon Wessely's other Tweets

This is one thing that bothers me particularly about what they've done over the years, and I probably need to investigate further. They claim to have looked into biological causes/treatments, and then abandoned them. It's almost



**Indigophoton**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)  
Messages: 688  
Likes Received: 7,496  
Location: UK



**strategist** Senior Member (Voting Rights)  
Messages: 475  
Likes Received: 4,792  
#1040  
large donner said: 1  
Is anyone else worried that the "solution" to all this will be, "the PACE trial was done so badly it all needs to be funded and done again?"  
I'm not worried. The PACE authors know CBT/GET doesn't work. And no one else seems really interested in CBT/GET except perhaps Crawley, who is doing a fine job eroding her own credibility.  
However I believe that unless the PACE authors don't face consequences or the UK addresses its junk science problem, there will be a risk that over time someone will follow the exact same recipe. The MUS and FND people seem to be already positioning themselves to take their place.  
strategist, Today at 4:12 PM



**CFS Research** @cfs\_research  
Discussion on CFS/ME forum shows that campaigners don't care about the science. They're just opposed to PACE on principle, and wouldn't accept the results no matter how well it was done..  
6:43 PM - Jun 15, 2018  
See CFS Research's other Tweets

Sharpe retweeted this. Presumably he didn't actually read the quote from the forum, since it doesn't say what cfsresearch claims. In fact, bit of an own goal.



**Indigophoton**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 688  
Likes Received: 7,496  
Location: UK

Mike Godwin is still tweeting extensively on the topic of PACE and ME. @Robert 1973 is doing a fantastic job - congrats on the song retweet, and thanks to @Mike Godwin for that,



**Robert McMullen** @RobertHMcMullen 15 Jun

Replying to @RobertHMcMullen @sfmnemonic  
And if you were willing to show solidarity with people with ME by retweeting/sharing my adaptation of Blowin' in the Wind, performed by people with ME from around the world, I would be most appreciative: [youtu.be/BncUDXRA1v4](https://youtu.be/BncUDXRA1v4)



**Mike Godwin** ✓  
@sfmnemonic

Done.  
3:14 PM - Jun 15, 2018  
♥ 29 👤 See Mike Godwin's other Tweets

Indigophoton, Friday at 9:00 PM Report Bookmark

#1062 Unlike + Multiquote Reply



**Indigophoton**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 688  
Likes Received: 7,496  
Location: UK

Carol Monaghan got looped into this part of the conversation (posting for those not on twitter who might be interested),



**Simon Wessely** @WesselyS 9 Jun

Replying to @DrCSGillberg and 3 others  
Putting to one side a further example of my school friend @sfmnemonic famous Law, what have been the 'horrendous' consequences of the trial, since its publication in 2011? I don't think it changed clinical practice in the UK, but perhaps it did elsewhere?



**Trees Are Green**  
@teresaboat

In Spain definitely. Denied ANY benefits by high court judges after appeal due to not having undergone CBT & GET despite being in a wheelchair and therefore unsuitable treatment for my severity  
2:00 PM - Jun 10, 2018  
♥ 55 💬 21 people are talking about this



**Anne Dean** @AnneDean10 15 Jun

The effect of the #PACEtrial has sadly spread throughout the entire world@dauidtuller1 @CMonaghanSNP @sfmnemonic [twitter.com/teresaboat/sta...](https://twitter.com/teresaboat/status...)



**Mike Godwin** ✓  
@sfmnemonic

It seems clear to me that the PACE trial will continue to be used to deny patients benefits. That sucks.  
1:46 PM - Jun 15, 2018  
♥ 107 💬 37 people are talking about this

**Mike Godwin** @sfmneonic 15 Jun  
 Replying to @AnneDean10 and 2 others  
 It seems clear to me that the PACE trial will continue to be used to deny patients benefits. That sucks.

**dauidtuller** @dauidtuller1  
 PACE has been a nightmare for patients on that front, yes. And insurers can drag things out in court forever. PACE PIs advised= disability insurers and failed to disclose this to participants, despite promise in trial protocol to disclose "any possible" conflicts of interests  
 7:04 PM - Jun 15, 2018  
 35 likes See dauidtuller's other Tweets

Indigophoton, Friday at 9:14 PM Report Bookmark #1064 Like + Multiquote Reply



**benji**  
 Established Member  
 Messages: 17  
 Likes Received: 94

mobile.twitter.com

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Logg inn Registrer deg

**CFS Research** @cfs\_research  
 More CFS/ME campaigners comparing scientists to Nazi war criminals, saying they have no empathy and deliberately mistreat patients. This is really sick and nasty stuff. In what twisted universe is this considered helpful to patients, or even sane?

I like the expression banality of evil.

**strategist** @strategist1  
 Can one do evil without being evil? This was the puzzling question that the philosopher Hannah Arendt grappled with when she reported for The New Yorker in 1963 on the war crimes trial of Adolph Eichmann, the Nazi operative responsible for organizing the transportation of millions of Jews and others to various concentration camps in support of the Nazi 'Final Solution'.  
 Arendt found Eichmann an ordinary, rather bland, bureaucrat, who in her words, was 'rather contemptible in the only sense that he lacked all feeling for the reality that he was doing'.  
<https://aeon.co/ideas/what-did-hannah-arendt-really-mean-by-the-banality-of-evil>  
 I still subscribe to the theory that the BPSers know exactly what they are doing and simply have no empathy or consider patients unworthy of anything but exploitation and mistreatment (in line with cruel austerity policies inflicted on the sick by the current UK government).  
 Maybe this banality of evil theory is a better fit though.  
 Last edited: Yesterday at 12:28 PM

4:39 a.m. · 16 Jun 2018  
 1 Liker

View attachment 3329

Mr. «published researcher» wants to have a battle.  
 I think maybe he deliberately quote strategist because he knows now that strategist is not on Twitter.

benji, Saturday at 12:24 PM Report Bookmark #1085 Like + Multiquote Reply



**EzzieD**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)  
Messages: 103  
Likes Received: 1,214  
Location: UK

Mr Sharpe is unhappy with Mr Godwin's comment about the PACE trial. (Will Sharpe tell Mr Godwin that he should 'read the paper', as Sharpe always thinks everyone critical of the PACE trial hasn't done?)



**Mike Godwin** @sfmnemonic 14 Jun  
Replying to @secretspartacus @RobertHMcMullen  
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**michael sharpe** @profmsharpe  
Please let me know why you personally have concluded that this trial is 'profoundly flawed' thanks .  
5:00 AM - Jun 16, 2018  
2 See michael sharpe's other Tweets

EzzieD, Saturday at 12:38 PM Report Bookmark

#1086 Like + Multiquote Reply



**Robert 1973**  
Senior Member  
(Voting Rights)  
Messages: 130  
Likes Received: 1,944  
Location: UK

Meanwhile, should I be concerned that Simon Wessely has liked the link to my essay on perceptions of ME that I shared with Mike Godwin?



**Mike Godwin** @sfmnemonic 15 Jun  
Replying to @RobertHMcMullen and 2 others  
Thanks. My only real criticism of the Lubet letter is that, when one brings up falsifiability, it's typically better to refer to Popper than to Kuhn (or to both).



**Robert McMullen** @RobertHMcMullen  
One final recommendation for your reading list – my essay on perceptions of ME: [strangerandstranger.net/miscellanea.ht...](http://strangerandstranger.net/miscellanea.ht...)  
3:01 PM - Jun 15, 2018  
6 See Robert McMullen's other Tweets

## Notifications



**Simon Wessely** liked your reply

One final recommendation for your reading list – my essay on perceptions of ME: [strangerandstranger.net/miscellanea.ht...](http://strangerandstranger.net/miscellanea.ht...)