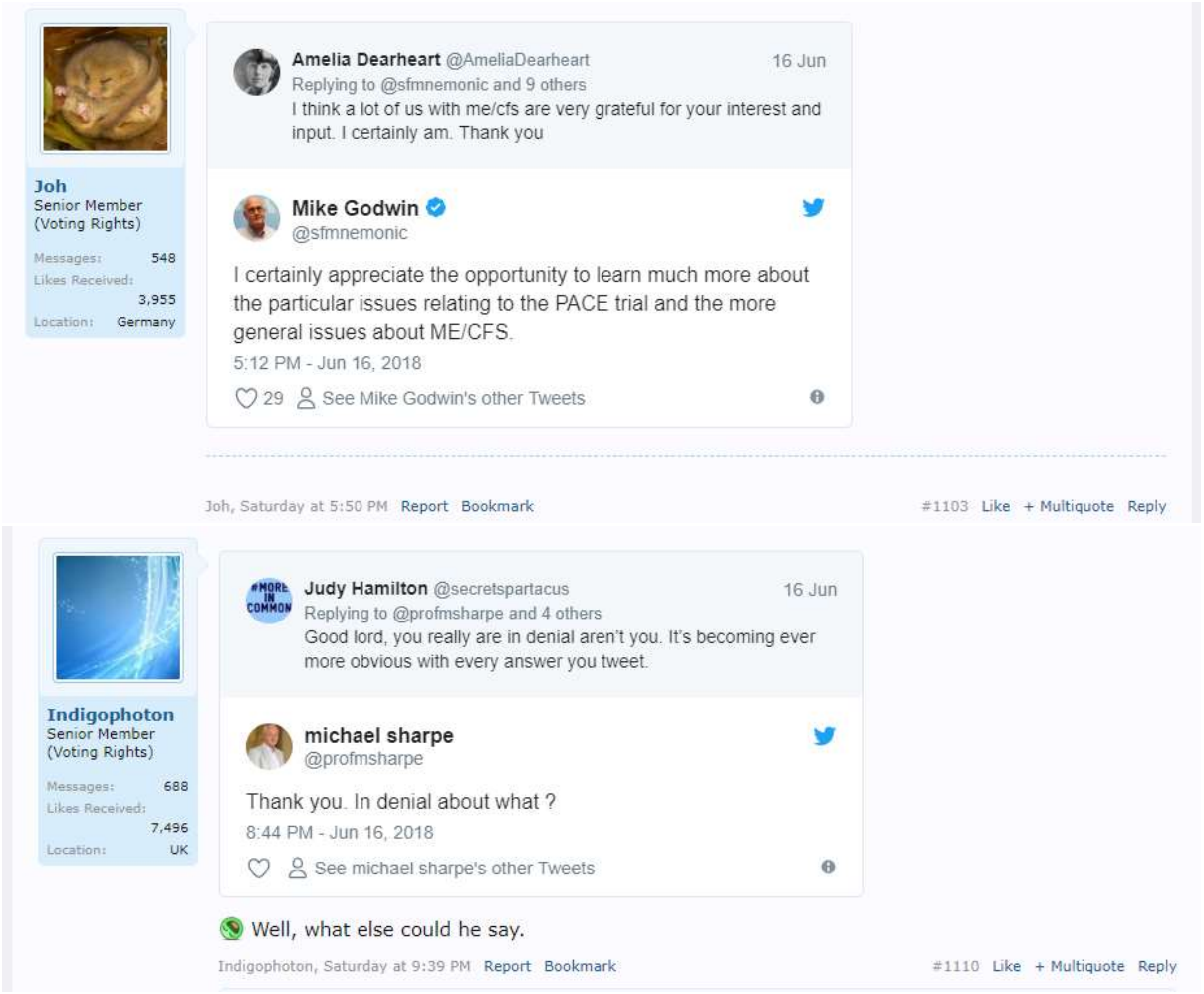
Tweets from 12th set of100 posts in S4ME thread: Michael Sharpe skewered by @JohntheJack on Twitter



Joh
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 548
Likes Received: 3,955
Location: Germany

Amelia Dearheart @AmeliaDearheart 16 Jun
Replying to @sfmnemonic and 9 others
I think a lot of us with me/cfs are very grateful for your interest and input. I certainly am. Thank you

Mike Godwin
@sfmnemonic

I certainly appreciate the opportunity to learn much more about the particular issues relating to the PACE trial and the more general issues about ME/CFS.

5:12 PM - Jun 16, 2018

29 See Mike Godwin's other Tweets

Joh, Saturday at 5:50 PM Report Bookmark #1103 Like + Multiquote Reply

Indigophoton
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

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

Judy Hamilton @secretspartacus 16 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe and 4 others
Good lord, you really are in denial aren't you. It's becoming ever more obvious with every answer you tweet.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Thank you. In denial about what ?

8:44 PM - Jun 16, 2018

See michael sharpe's other Tweets

Well, what else could he say.

Indigophoton, Saturday at 9:39 PM Report Bookmark #1110 Like + Multiquote Reply

Lucibee
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 260
Likes Received: 2,695
Location: Mid-Wales

> Sly Saint said: ↑
>
> Wonder how they would all score on MADS?
>
> "The Maudsley Assessment of Delusions Scale (MADS; Wessely et al., 1993) is a standardized interview that assesses eight dimensions of delusional experience. The belief maintenance section of the MADS inquires about the evidence for the delusion, and two of its items have been used to measure aspects of belief flexibility (the possibility of being mistaken, PM, and the reaction to hypothetical contradiction, RTHC). The evidence for the delusion cited by participants is sensitively discussed.
>
> Click to expand...

I guess that's why MS never answered my question...

> **Lucibee** @_Lucibee 23 May
> Replying to @profmsharpe
> I'll have a think. There are so many questions I'd like answered, it's difficult to pick just one. It's also hard to know what you might find to be loaded, and there are plenty you that you haven't adequately addressed (tho you might think you have). But I'll have a go...
>
> **Lucibee**
> @_Lucibee
>
> OK, here goes:
>
> What makes you so sure you are right, when so many people (scientists, patients, carers) can attest that you are wrong?
>
> 11:58 AM - May 23, 2018
>
> 49 See Lucibee's other Tweets

Lucibee, Sunday at 10:36 AM Report Bookmark #1119 Like + Multiquote Reply

Robert 1973
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 130
Likes Received: 1,944
Location: UK

Godwin responds to Sharpe:

> **michael sharpe** @profmsharpe 16 Jun
> Replying to @sfmnemonic and 2 others
> Please let me know why you personally have concluded that this trial is 'profoundly flawed' thanks .

Mike Godwin ✓
@sfmnemonic

Essentially, I find the methodological criticisms persuasive. The defenses seem to be reducible to something like "everything we did was normal practice." But the model seems not to have been designed with the possibility of disconfirmation in mind.

1:45 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 135 💬 28 people are talking about this

> **Mike Godwin** ✓ @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
> Replying to @profmsharpe and 2 others
> Essentially, I find the methodological criticisms persuasive. The defenses seem to be reducible to something like "everything we did was normal practice." But the model seems not to have been designed with the possibility of disconfirmation in mind.

Mike Godwin ✓
@sfmnemonic

In my view, a model has to be constructed so that there is significant risk that, if the theory of a particular therapeutic approach is incorrect, the data will demonstrate its incorrectness. I don't think your model does that.

1:49 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 111 💬 22 people are talking about this

Robert 1973, Sunday at 1:53 PM Report Bookmark #1123 Like + Multiquote Reply

Cheshire
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 503
Likes Received: 5,936

And Sharpes's to Godwin:

> **Mike Godwin** ✓ @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
> Replying to @sfmnemonic and 3 others
> In my view, a model has to be constructed so that there is significant risk that, if the theory of a particular therapeutic approach is incorrect, the data will demonstrate its incorrectness. I don't think your model does that.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Hi. I am lost there i am afriad. A clinical trial is an experiment. Not a model. Any outcome is possible and must be respected.

2:39 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ See michael sharpe's other Tweets

Yep, lost...

Cheshire, Sunday at 3:04 PM Report Bookmark #1125 Like + Multiquote Reply

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

For those not on Twitter, or not following:

michael sharpe @profmsharpe 17 Jun
Replying to @sfmnemonic and 2 others
Hi. I am lost there i am afriad. A clinical trial is an experiment. Not a model. Any outcome is possible and must be respected.

Mike Godwin ✓
@sfmnemonic

Well, my approach to the question of experimental design (and I consider trials to be a class of experiment) is Popper's critical rationalism. You have to design the experiment(s) with the express goal of trying to show how the theory may be wrong. (Counterintuitive, I know.)

3:50 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 103 18 people are talking about this

Mike Godwin ✓ @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe and 2 others
Well, my approach to the question of experimental design (and I consider trials to be a class of experiment) is Popper's critical rationalism. You have to design the experiment(s) with the express goal of trying to show how the theory may be wrong. (Counterintuitive, I know.)

Robert McMullen
@RobertHMcMullen

The irony, of course, is that, for all its faults, PACE is probably the best evidence we have that CBT and GET are ineffective treatments for ME/CFS.

4:11 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 17 See Robert McMullen's other Tweets

Mike Godwin @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe and 2 others
Essentially, I find the methodological criticisms persuasive. The defenses seem to be reducible to something like "everything we did was normal practice." But the model seems not to have been designed with the possibility of disconfirmation in mind.

Robert McMullen
@RobertHMcMullen

Absolutely right, Mike. That such poor methodology is deemed "normal practice" suggests that the problems run much deeper than one trial. The PACE trial's multiple flaws appear to be symptomatic of institutional failures in psychiatry as well as ME/CFS research and treatment.

2:37 PM - Jun 17, 2018

30 See Robert McMullen's other Tweets

Mike Godwin @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
Replying to @RobertHMcMullen and 2 others
That seems possible. There's a lot of rubbish research out there, produced primarily by people who aren't actively trying to produce rubbish. I'd say it's bigger than psychiatry, quite frankly.

Robert McMullen
@RobertHMcMullen

Indeed, but psychiatry/psychology appear to be at the extreme end of the scale. I very much doubt that such a poorly designed trial would have been funded in any other branch of medicine.

4:04 PM - Jun 17, 2018

5 See Robert McMullen's other Tweets

Robert 1973, Sunday at 5:08 PM Report Bookmark #1141 Like + Multiquote Reply

Joh
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 548
Likes Received: 3,955
Location: Germany

Mike Godwin @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe and 2 others
Well, my approach to the question of experimental design (and I consider trials to be a class of experiment) is Popper's critical rationalism. You have to design the experiment(s) with the express goal of trying to show how the theory may be wrong. (Counterintuitive, I know.)

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

I don't want to be rude but can I suggest that it is probably best to read and understand the scientific paper before tweeting criticism thelancet.com/journals/lance... it.

5:11 PM - Jun 17, 2018

See michael sharpe's other Tweets

Joh, Sunday at 5:29 PM Report Bookmark #1143 Like + Multiquote Reply

Lucibee
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 260
Likes Received: 2,696
Location: Mid-Wales

MS: "I don't want to be rude, but..."

> **Mike Godwin** @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
> Replying to @profmsharpe and 2 others
> Well, my approach to the question of experimental design (and I consider trials to be a class of experiment) is Popper's critical rationalism. You have to design the experiment(s) with the express goal of trying to show how the theory may be wrong.
> (Counterintuitive, I know.)
>
> **michael sharpe**
> @profmsharpe
>
> I don't want to be rude but can I suggest that it is probably best to read and understand the scientific paper before tweeting criticism thelancet.com/journals/lance… it.
> 5:11 PM - Jun 17, 2018
> See michael sharpe's other Tweets

I so want MG to say: "Do you know who I am?" [in a booming voice]

Lucibee, Sunday at 5:34 PM Report Bookmark #1145 Like + Multiquote Reply

Liv aka Mrs Sowester
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 1,189
Likes Received: 8,368

> **michael sharpe** @profmsharpe 17 Jun
> Replying to @sfmnemonic
> I don't want to be rude but can I suggest that it is probably best to read and understand the scientific paper before tweeting criticism thelancet.com/journals/lance… it.
>
> **Mike Godwin**
> @sfmnemonic
>
> Here your mistake, Professor, lies in imagining that I didn't read (or understand) the Lancet paper before reading all the criticism. If you knew me better, you'd not have made that elementary mistake about me. Perhaps you are more prone to mistaken presumptions than you imagine?
> 6:24 PM - Jun 17, 2018
> 216 55 people are talking about this

Liv aka Mrs Sowester, Sunday at 6:27 PM Report Bookmark #1155 Unlike + Multiquote Reply

Indigophoton
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

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

> **Brent Merritt** @brentmerritt 17 Jun
> Replying to @sfmnemonic @profmsharpe
> Mike, you're getting a small glimpse of the disdain and condescension patients, including highly educated ones, have been treated with for years simply for questioning the quality of these studies. Even good-faith critiques are attacked as uninformed and "vexatious."

Mike Godwin ✓
@sfmnemonic

Yes, I can see plenty of evidence of that. Patients (and their advocates) who respond to that disdain and condescension with anger and frustration seem to me to be responding in a very normal human way.

6:51 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 170 39 people are talking about this

Indigophoton, Sunday at 6:53 PM Report Bookmark #1167 Like + Multiquote Reply

Joh
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 548
Likes Received: 3,956
Location: Germany

> **davidtuller** @davidtuller1 17 Jun
> Replying to @profmsharpe @sfmnemonic
> Professor Sharpe misunderstands. People become convinced about how bad PACE is AFTER they read the papers and see its flaws, including that 13% of participants were "within normal range" for physical function and "disabled" simultaneously, manipulated "recovery" results, etc.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

As long as they read in an open minded way make an effortto understand it and are not paid specifically to trash it I respect their opinion whatever it is.

6:50 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ See michael sharpe's other Tweets

> **michael sharpe** @profmsharpe 17 Jun
> Replying to @davidtuller1 @sfmnemonic
> As long as they read in an open minded way make an effortto understand it and are not paid specifically to trash it I respect their opinion whatever it is.

Mike Godwin ✓
@sfmnemonic

For what it's worth, nobody has paid me for my opinions as offered here. My predisposition is to uncouple judgments about personalities from judgments about methodologies and data.

6:53 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 69 See Mike Godwin's other Tweets

Joh, Sunday at 7:15 PM Report Bookmark #1173 Like + Multiquote Reply

Liv aka Mrs Sowester
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 1,189
Likes Received: 8,368

Mike Godwin @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe @davidtuller1
For what it's worth, nobody has paid me for my opinions as offered here. My predisposition is to uncouple judgments about personalities from judgments about methodologies and data.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Apologies. I wasn't suggesting you were. But sadly David Tuller is paid to trash this research. Ask him.

7:17 PM - Jun 17, 2018

See michael sharpe's other Tweets

Classy diversion tactic MS, keep on showing us who you are.

Liv aka Mrs Sowester, Sunday at 7:23 PM Report Bookmark #1177 Like + Multiquote Reply

Joh
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 548
Likes Received: 3,956
Location: Germany

davidtuller @davidtuller1 17 Jun
I have never said they were "recovered" at baseline. I have always said they were "recovered" for physical function at baseline, which is true. So do not accuse me of being misleading. The Lancet commentary approved by PACE team called it "a strict criterion for recovery." twitter.com/cfs_research/s...

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

FYI. Lancet commentaries are independent.

7:32 PM - Jun 17, 2018

See michael sharpe's other Tweets

michael sharpe @profmsharpe 17 Jun
Replying to @davidtuller1
FYI. Lancet commentaries are independent.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Unless you are obsessed with imagined conspiracies.

7:33 PM - Jun 17, 2018

1 See michael sharpe's other Tweets

Joh, Sunday at 7:37 PM Report Bookmark #1183 Like + Multiquote Reply

Indigophoton
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

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

michael sharpe @profmsharpe 17 Jun
Replying to @sfmnemonic @davidtuller1
Apologies. I wasn't suggesting you were. But sadly David Tuller is paid to trash this research. Ask him.

Nasim Marie Jafry
@velogubbed

May I venture to say that David Tuller isn't paid to trash research, Micheal - rather he is paid to represent a very ill population, a population that you and your colleagues have been trashing and gaslighting for years. I thank Mike for listening - and making up his own mind.

7:40 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 50 See Nasim Marie Jafry's other Tweets

davidtuller
@davidtuller1

Professor Sharpe is likely referring to the fact that I have crowdfunded to support my investigation, and patients have supported me because of the stance I had taken on PACE. He interprets that to mean I am being paid to criticize the trial. The opposite is true.

> **Mike Godwin** @sfmnemonic
> Replying to @profmsharpe @davidtuller1
> For what it's worth, nobody has paid me for my opinions as offered here. My predisposition is to uncouple judgments about personalities from judgments about methodologies and data.

7:05 PM - Jun 17, 2018

♡ 71 See davidtuller's other Tweets

Indigophoton, Sunday at 7:46 PM Report Bookmark #1184 Unlike + Multiquote Reply

Joh
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

Messages: 548
Likes Received: 3,956
Location: Germany

Mike Godwin @sfmnemonic 17 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe
Here your mistake, Professor, lies in imagining that I didn't read (or understand) the Lancet paper before reading all the criticism. If you knew me better, you'd not have made that elementary mistake about me. Perhaps you are more prone to mistaken presumptions than you imagine?

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Ok. I can see you have your views. Thanks for reading the research paper. Kind regards.

7:08 PM - Jun 17, 2018

See michael sharpe's other Tweets

And @TiredSam already found this gem and mentioned it in this thread but it's so good that I wanted to post the original.

CFS Research @cfs_research 17 Jun
Replying to @davidtuller1 and 2 others
classed as recovered when they entered the trial.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Thank you - it is wearisome to have to keep correcting propaganda

6:53 PM - Jun 17, 2018

1 See michael sharpe's other Tweets

Joh, Sunday at 8:04 PM Report Bookmark #1186 Unlike + Multiquote Reply

Indigophoton
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

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

michael sharpe @profmsharpe 17 Jun
Replying to @davidtuller1
FYI. Lancet commentaries are independent.

michael sharpe
@profmsharpe

Unless you are obsessed with imagined conspiracies.
7:33 PM - Jun 17, 2018
1 See michael sharpe's other Tweets

michael sharpe @profmsharpe 17 Jun
Replying to @profmsharpe @davidtuller1
Unless you are obsessed with imagined conspiracies.

davidtuller
@davidtuller1

@sfmnemonic As I have documented, the PACE PIs read the draft commentary written by their Dutch colleagues BEFORE PUBLICATION. If Professor Sharpe doesn't remember that, he can refresh his memory here: virology.ws/2015/11/04/tri...
7:46 PM - Jun 17, 2018
26 See davidtuller's other Tweets

Indigophoton, Sunday at 8:11 PM Report Bookmark #1189 Like + Multiquote Reply

Indigophoton
Senior Member
(Voting Rights)

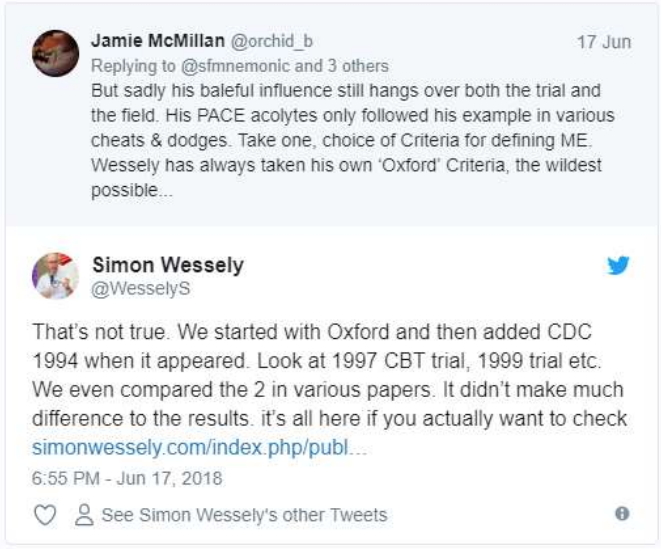
Messages: 688
Likes Received: 7,496
Location: UK

Wessely re-engaged this evening,

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

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



I can't help thinking that "it didn't make much difference" because of the poor nature of the underlying model, and the quality of the methodology.

Edit: spelling

Last edited: Sunday at 8:57 PM

Indigophoton, Sunday at 8:46 PM Report Bookmark #1198 Unlike + Multiquote Reply