

Professor Ian Brockington MD, FRCP

Professor Emeritus, University of Birmingham

FRC Psych; FRCP (London); MD (Cantab); M Phil (London); MB, BChir (Cantab)

Brockington trained as a [cardiologist](#) and went to [Nigeria](#) where he completed a monumental work on [cardiomyopathy](#). In 1969 he switched to psychiatry, training at the Institute of Psychiatry, London. He developed a strong interest in [nosology](#) of psychiatric illnesses. He moved to [Chicago](#) as a Visiting Professor where he produced several works on the nosology of psychiatric illnesses in association with R E Kendell and H Y Meltzer.

In 1975-82, as Senior Lecturer in Manchester, he worked on the methodology of clinical research, and developed an interest in the psychiatry of motherhood, especially disorders of the mother infant relationship. In 1980-1981, he held visiting professorships at the Universities of Chicago (1980-1) and Washington University in St Louis (1981). From 1983 until retirement in 2001 he held the Chair of Psychiatry at the University of Birmingham. In 1988, he was Cottman Fellow at Monash University in Australia, and in 2000 locum tenens Consultant at the Mother & Baby unit in Christchurch, New Zealand. After retirement he held visiting professorships at the Universities of Nagoya (2002) and Kumamoto (2003) in Japan. In 2009 he chaired a WPA Taskforce on child protection and the promotion of mental health in the children of parents with psychiatric disorders.

His present research is on the long term course of puerperal psychosis. He is researching the psychoses of childbearing. This includes a long term follow-up of patients with puerperal psychosis and, under the title Action on Menstrual Psychosis, an international panel of sufferers, formed to provide support and promote research.

From 1987 he developed, in the West Midlands, a community-based clinical service for mentally ill mothers, which received >500 referrals/year, backed by a purpose-built in-patient mother-and-baby unit and day hospital.

He was founder (with others, 1980) and first President (1982-4) of the Marcé Society (1980), and founder (1993) and first Chairman of the Section on Women's Mental Health in the World Psychiatric Association.

In 2001, he established Eryr Press, which publishes hand-crafted books.

Books:

-Motherhood and Mental Health

-Eileithya's Mischief: the Organic Psychoses of Pregnancy, Parturition and the Puerperium

- Menstrual Psychosis and the Catamenial Process

-What is Worth Knowing about ' Puerperal Psychosis , Eryr Press, 2014

