

# ECNP research internship 2017

30.10.2017-10.11.2017

**Intern:** *Volha Bialuhina*

*Assistant professor at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology,  
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**Host:** *Hamish McAllister-Williams*

*Professor of Affective Disorders*

*Academic Psychiatry and Regional Affective Disorders Service*

*Institute of Neuroscience, Newcastle University*

*Wolfson Research Centre*

*Campus for Ageing and Vitality*

ECNP internship gave me great opportunity to meet Prof. Hamish McAllister-Williams and his creative research team.

During my internship, I learned more about emotional processing abnormalities in patients and its impact on treatment, got more knowledge in neuropsychological testing methodologies (emotional blink task, modality bias task etc.) and developed my own ideas for my PhD research on the basis of suggested approaches.

During these two weeks I attended lectures, visited research labs, got acquainted with ongoing and planned research projects. I was sitting-in on new patient appointments, visiting case presentations and supervision meetings, where I had the opportunity to observe how senior colleagues examine and discuss patients cases.

Also, I learned more about medical education and healthcare system in United Kingdom after visiting the medical university, hospital wards and informative talks with academicians, doctors and nurses. Furthermore, I got acquainted with diagnostic (MRI, fMRI and EEG) and treatment methods (ECT, VNS etc.) in psychiatry.

All this helped me expand my knowledge in up-to-date treatment and diagnostic methods of resistant affective disorders. Therefore, I will definitely share this information with doctors, trainees and students in my country.

Thanks to ECNP internship I got valuable research and clinical experience from Prof. Hamish McAllister-Williams and his team. Thus, I encourage all young psychiatrists to apply for the ECNP internship. It will help you to establish new professional contacts and broaden your knowledge. In addition, it will be useful for your future career as a medical doctor and a researcher.

