

CAMSTRAND

“CAM research in a cold(er) climate – a forum/workshop”
With Kate Thomas and Hugh MacPherson

March 30th 2011
1-4pm, Aldermoor Health Centre, Southampton
Maximum 20 participants, fee £20.

A forum/workshop is offered for those in the CAM research and practice community to share experiences and discuss how we might respond as a community to the recent attacks on CAM therapies from our positions in our routine clinical work and in our research activities. For example what are the options when confronted by persistent attacks on the credibility of anything connected with CAM, how do we address these issues, how might this context effect grant and job applications, pitches to commissioners, career options, strategic directions, etc.

The aim of the forum is to generate a more creative and positive framework in which to pursue our work and develop our longer term strategies. Specifically focussing not just on using the emerging evidence base to rebut inaccurate and ill-informed opinions, but also side-stepping the attacks and shifting the debate to one based more on our own terms of engagement.

The discussion will be led by Kate Thomas and Hugh MacPherson and will cover two related strands;

- a.) thinking about how to marshal and deploy the existing scientific evidence in the most effective way.
- b.) thinking about how to refocus the current debate on to more productive terms of engagement; for example by widening the meaning of evidence used within the policy arena, as seen in the Government response to the Science and Technology Homeopathy Evidence Check report (i.e by exploring the constructive messages contained in the Government response, rather than focussing on the narrow negativity of the report itself).

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