COVID-19 PODCAST

CLINICAL

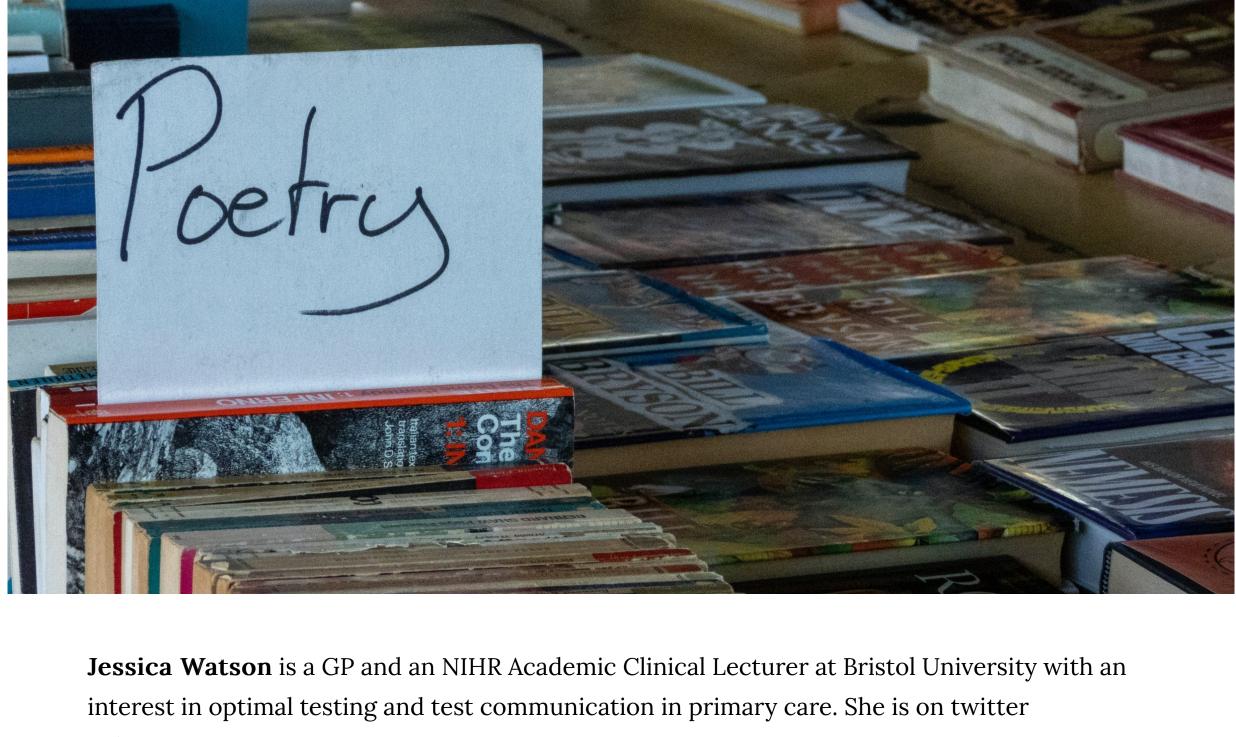
ARTS / BRIGHT IDEAS AND INNOVATION

HOME

ABOUT +

Found poetry: a creative approach to illuminate the findings of qualitative research by BJGP Life · 30 July 2022

OPINION +



ound poetry is created by taking words and phrases from other sources and reframing them – the literary equivalent of a collage. The form emerged in the twentieth century,

Hamilton used verbatim quotes from qualitative interviews with patients about recent experiences of test communication.² Different patient voices were interwoven to capture the patient experience in a creative way. Lines from the transcripts were selected for their resonance or linguistic impact and arranged with line breaks so that qualities of voice, tone and

Blood testing is an almost universal experience – most doctors Even in this 'trivial' will have had a blood test themselves at some point. Although exchange, there are as doctors we are trained to see blood tests as a routine, emotions and perhaps relatively trivial intervention, in most other contexts nuances: an blood is laden with mystery and deeper meanings: the giving of expectation of blood as sacrifice or propitiation; the duality of blood as lifesomething in return sustaining and life-draining. Even in this 'trivial' exchange, - information, or there are emotions and nuances: an expectation of something

in return - information, or illumination, or relief, or an end to

Symptoms might continue despite the test showing 'nothing

uncertainty. Yet results could turn out to be inconclusive.

wrong'. The patient may be left with more questions and

uncertainty. The exchange was not what they expected.

our traditional academic audience. As patient involvement and engagement becomes increasingly embedded in primary care research we suggest that found poetry may be a useful tool to help researchers connect with stakeholders and patient partners. We plan to use our found poems in future collaborative work with patient and public partners and stakeholders to help stimulate reflections, discussions and debate about how to improve test communication.

We also hope that this poem will help us to reach out beyond

with patients' lived experiences of blood testing.

reflective way with patients' lived experiences of blood testing.

We hope that

readers of our

might find this

poem offers a

perspective -

complementary

helping them to

engage in a more

academic paper

please contact your GP

I'm dying

you go oh my god

I'm guessing it's due to the elevated levels

but I don't know what that is

On the outside I could be fine

they know better than I do

with something that can be treated

I try to trust as much as I can

You almost hope for a result that's going to come back

Coming back normal is fine but does that mean they're going to drop it?

It just leaves me with more questions I wonder if I ought to make another appointment with the doctor

its fine

some different story References

doi:10.1177/2381336916661530

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On the outside I could be fine

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1. Patrick, L. D. Found Poetry: Creating Space for Imaginative Arts-Based Literacy Research

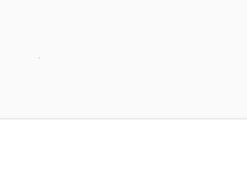
Writing. Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice. 2016;65(1):384-403.



MAYLIS de KEKANGAL MEND THE LIVING

Book review: Mend the Living LATEST FROM BRIGHT IDEAS AND INNOVATION

Finding meaning, locating **Bridging the child health** Frome's contribution to gap between primary and



secondary care

Lisa Broom, Frances Dutton (GPs),

and Chris Bird (Paediatric A&E

Consultant) reflect on a fellowship

that

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@drjessicawatson Fiona Hamilton is a writer, teaches Creative Writing for Therapeutic Purposes at Metanoia Institute and specialises in poetry exploring personal and social narratives. Her website is www.fionahamilton.org

influenced by Pop Art and Dadaism, whose artists sometimes placed everyday objects into different contexts to provoke fresh responses and questions. In this found poem, Fiona underlying meaning could emerge.

illumination, or relief, or an end to uncertainty. Poetry helps us to reconnect with this, and might trigger or remind us of the experience of being 'on the other side' as patients ourselves. We hope that readers of our academic paper might find this poem offers a complementary perspective - helping them to engage in a more reflective way

On the inside

on the inside my blood may be having some different story When you get a text saying something's come up on your blood tests

what is it you are looking to find? Is there a name for if this thing is elevated?

The receptionist said yes oh yes, I've looked it up

everything's fine, no further action

you're here, all clear

does that mean there's going to be any further investigation?

does that mean that this is we know

one of the other things

that they thought it could be?

I just leave it and I think well if nobody contacts me

I wish now I'd said to him

would you want to see me again

on the inside my blood may be having

2. Watson, J., Chris Salisbury, Penny F Whiting, William T Hamilton, Jonathan Banks. 'I guess I'll wait to hear'— communication of blood test results in primary care a qualitative study. British Journal of General Practice. 2022. DOI: 10.3399/BJGP.2022.0069

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