



## THE WORSHIPFUL SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

FACULTY OF THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

### **‘WHY WE NEED MORE PLACEBOS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE, AND FEWER IN CLINICAL TRIALS’**

**DR JEREMY HOWICK,**  
Director of the Oxford Empathy Programme



JOHN LOCKE LECTURE

**6pm, Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Apothecaries Hall, Black Friar’s Lane, London EC4V 6EJ**

Placebos are often misunderstood, and the extent to which they are believed to be ethical in clinical trials and clinical practice is controversial. Dr Howick has conducted groundbreaking philosophical and empirical studies in this area. In this John Locke Lecture, he will share his cutting edge research on the nature, effects, and ethics of placebos and nocebos in clinical trials and clinical practice. He will use the emerging method of ‘empirical philosophy’, which uses empirical research to inform philosophical arguments. To anticipate, he will argue that it is usually unethical to use placebo controls in clinical trials, and that it is unethical *not* to use placebos in clinical practice.

**Library open from 5pm. Refreshments from 5:30pm.**

**Join us for a subscription buffet supper after the lecture:**

Faculty Members £25 Non-members £30 Students £10

For those attending the lecture, a suggested voluntary donation (£5 members, £10 non-members) to support the Faculty would be most welcome. Gift aid envelopes will be available

Please book with Maria Ferran, Faculty Manager, by 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020

Email: [facultyhp@apothecaries.org](mailto:facultyhp@apothecaries.org) or telephone: 020 7236 1189

#### **Payment options**

**Bank transfer** Bank name: Coutts & Co

Account name: The Society of Apothecaries

Account number: 05959640 Sort code: 18-00-02

Reference: JL/*your surname*

#### **Cheques**

payable to *The Society of Apothecaries*