

## Database – Academic Search

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### Record: 1

Determining the effects of therapeutic clowning on nurses in a children's rehabilitation hospital. By: Blain, Stefanie; Kingsnorth, Shauna; Stephens, Lindsay; McKeever, Patricia. Arts & Health: International Journal for Research, Policy & Practice. Feb2012, Vol. 4 Issue 1, p26-38. 13p. 2 Charts, 1 Graph. Abstract: Objective: This pilot study aimed to determine the effects of therapeutic clowns for hospitalized children on their nurses. Methods: Semi-structured interviews with 13 nurses explored perceptions of the clowns. Measures of physiological arousal, emotion and anxiety were also obtained from nine of these 13 nurses under two conditions – the presence or absence of therapeutic clowns on the unit. Results: Physiologically, the automatic nervous system signals of eight of the nine nurses exhibited consistent changes in patterns of responding when the clowns were present. Emotionally, nurses' reports of negative mood states were also reduced; no changes in anxiety were found. Qualitative data corroborated these findings and suggest that although therapeutic clowns expressly work with children, they also have a relational impact. Conclusions: Clowning seems to improve communication, role negotiation and the meaning of the unit as a social and physical place. A recommendation for mixed method research designs is offered to determine varied effects of arts-based interventions on stakeholders within healthcare settings. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR] DOI: 10.1080/17533015.2011.561359. (AN: 70858807)

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### Record: 2

Drama therapy role theory as a context for understanding medical clowning. By: Grinberg, Zohar; Pendzik, Susana; Kowalsky, Ronen; Goshen, Yaron "Sancho". Arts in Psychotherapy. Feb2012, Vol. 39 Issue 1, p42-51. 10p. Abstract: Abstract: Most research in the field of medical clowning looks at humor as the main explanation of the beneficial impact that medical clowns have on hospitalized patients. The present paper attempts to challenge this idea by applying drama therapy role theory to the work of medical clowns. First, both 'clown' and 'patient' are defined and comprehended from a role perspective. Then, using primarily Landy's role method and ideas, the authors analyze clinical examples from the actual work of "Sancho" (a medical clown from the Dream Doctor's Project) by means of role theory. The paper illustrates that besides the typical clown tools and techniques, the medical clown uses role strategies as therapeutic interventions in the interaction with patients. Thus an innovative context for conceptualizing medical clowning is provided, which expands the scope of therapeutic clowning and the use of drama therapy role theory as well. [Copyright &y& Elsevier] DOI: 10.1016/j.aip.2011.11.006. (AN: 71334141)

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**Record: 3**

The Life Threatened Child and the Life Enhancing Clown: Towards a Model of Therapeutic Clowning. By: Koller, Donna; Gyski, Camilla. Evidence-based Complementary & Alternative Medicine (eCAM). Mar2008, Vol. 5 Issue 1, p17-25. 9p. Abstract: In the last decade, there has been a rapid growth in the presence of clowns in hospitals, particularly in pediatric settings. The proliferation of clowns in health care settings has resulted in varying levels of professionalism and accountability. For this reason, there is a need to examine various forms of clowning, in particular therapeutic clowning in pediatric settings. The purpose of this article is to address what therapeutic clowning is and to describe the extent to which it can provide a complementary form of health care. In an attempt to apply theory to practice, the article will draw upon the experiences of a therapeutic clown within a pediatric setting while providing a historical and theoretical account of how clowns came to be in hospitals. Toward this end, a proposed model of therapeutic clowning will be offered which can be adapted for a variety of settings where children require specialized forms of play in order to enhance their coping, development and adjustment to life changes. Finally, current research on clowning in children's hospitals will be reviewed including a summary of findings from surveys administered at the Hospital for Sick Children. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR] DOI: 10.1093/ecam/nem033. (AN: 31525106)

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**Record: 4**

Therapeutic clowning and drama therapy: A family resemblance. By: Pendzik, Susana; Raviv, Amnon. Arts in Psychotherapy. Sep2011, Vol. 38 Issue 4, p267-275. 9p. Abstract: Abstract: This paper compares therapeutic clowning and drama therapy, starting with a brief survey of the development of medical clowning as a profession, a definition of the field, and a claim to its ancient link with drama therapy. It then proceeds to analyze four vignettes describing the work of a medical clown in a hospital, and examining them through the lens of drama therapy concepts and theory. The paper shows that the clown's working techniques can be conceptualized using drama therapeutic models and theory, and that using this approach as a method of analysis can serve to enhance the body of knowledge of the rapidly growing profession of therapeutic clowning. [Copyright &y& Elsevier] DOI: 10.1016/j.aip.2011.08.005. (AN: 66306395)

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