

Review of: "Clowns, Clown Doctors, and Coulrophobia: A Scoping Review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for inviting me to review this paper. My remarks are as follows. I hope they will improve the manuscript.

The aims of the study are vaguely defined and overly broad, lacking the conciseness and direct relevance to the central topic of clown intervention. Restricting these aims to no more than three tightly focused objectives would greatly enhance the paper's clarity and direction. Furthermore, the absence of a clear hypothesis is a critical omission that needs to be addressed. A well-defined hypothesis is essential for guiding the research and providing a clear analytical framework.

The paper's literature review on clown interventions appears insufficient. A more comprehensive survey of the existing research is needed to provide a robust foundation for the study and to contextualize it within the broader scholarly discourse. For example, look at studies done around the world relating to various medical states that use clown intervention in relieving pain and distress symptoms, examine the effect of ethno-culture on the effect of clown intervention, and relate to parental escort with young patients and their possible impact on perceiving the clown intervention.

Once the aims are formulated in a more concise manner, together with the hypothesis, and the findings an Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. Here are my insights, aimed at enhancing the quality and coherence of the paper:

The study's aims currently lack specificity and direct relevance to the central topic of clown intervention, appearing overly broad and vaguely defined. I recommend refining these aims to no more than three well-defined objectives. This refinement would not only improve the paper's clarity but also give it a more focused direction. Additionally, the absence of a clear hypothesis significantly weakens the paper's structure. Formulating a well-defined hypothesis is crucial for steering the research and establishing a solid analytical framework.

In its current form, the literature review on clown interventions is not as comprehensive as it could be. The paper would benefit from a more thorough examination of existing research, particularly studies that explore the use of clown interventions in various medical settings to alleviate pain and distress symptoms. This expansion would provide a more robust foundation for the study and place it more effectively within the broader scholarly context. Specifically, it would be beneficial to include research on the impact of ethno-cultural factors on the effectiveness of clown interventions. Additionally, the influence of parental escorts on young patients' reception of clown interventions warrants deeper exploration.

With more concisely formulated aims and a well-established hypothesis, the findings and discussion sections of the paper can be refined to be more focused and directly linked to the research objectives. This revision would significantly enhance the paper's overall coherence and scholarly contribution.