

Editorial

## Freedom for Science

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Although the Editors of this journal are convinced that political discussions do not belong amongst the topics that a scientific journal should cover, in times when life-threatening measures are taken by political leadership, self-defense is an obligatory duty of any editor of any scientific journal.

Therefore, the Editorial Board of Music and Medicine joins with the growing global protest movement of scientists against political ignorance endangering freedom of academic and non-academic research, education and exchange. Freedom, equal rights and sense for reality are vital not only for scientific progress but for the future of human society and its development.

What can we as publishing individuals actually contribute to ensure the building of trust in science among politicians and society in general?

One aspect could be sharing data.

Sharing clinical trial data as an ethical obligation for all authors of scientific publications is a proposal under discussion, published recently by International Committee of Medical Journal.

Editors ICMJE (1):

Sharing data will increase confidence and trust in the conclusions drawn from clinical trials. It will enable the independent confirmation of results, an essential tenet of the scientific process. It will foster the development and testing of new hypotheses. Done well, sharing clinical trial data should also make progress more efficient by making the most of what may be learned from each trial and by avoiding unwarranted repetition. It will help to fulfill our moral obligation to study participants, and we believe it will benefit patients, investigators, sponsors, and society. The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) believes that there is an ethical obligation to responsibly share data generated by interventional clinical trials because participants have put

themselves at risk. In a growing consensus, many funders around the world—foundations, government agencies, and industry—now mandate data sharing.

While we should be aware that issues of confidentiality and responsibility require serious contemplation that in turn relies upon in-depth discussions, such discussions must begin. Survival of scientific research demands such discussions from our entire collective science community. The Editors of Music and Medicine invite authors and readers to share their thoughts through letters to the editors, respectively.

This month's issue covers a broad range of populations—beginning with NICU and ending with end of life care.

Our journal begins with the wonderfully integrative research team at the Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden. In a much needed but under researched population Alexandra Ullsten, and her colleagues, Pernilla Hugoson, Malin Forsberg, Lisa Forzelius, Maria Klässbo, Emma Olsson, Ulrik Volgsten, Björn Westrup, Ulrika Ådén, Lena Bergqvist, Mats Eriksson delve into the fragile topic of neonatal pain and consider live lullabys as a strong treatment option. Their 'Efficacy of Live Lullaby Singing During Procedural Pain in Preterm and Term Neonates' opens new doorways for NICU music therapy and pain treatment possibilities.

Moving toward Australia, an interesting study entitled 'Exploring the Feasibility of a Music-assisted Relaxation Intervention to Assist Initiation of Non-invasive Ventilation in People with Motor Neuron Disease' is undertaken by Jeanette Tamplin, Felicity A. Baker, Rebecca Davies, Eleanor Bajo, Karen Bolger, Nicole Sheers, and David Berlowitz. How often music therapists develop goals toward benefit of relaxation outcomes, and yet, in research, we see few actual studies that explore such interventions, and particularly fewer with those in greatest need. This unique study helps to fill this gap—thus laying groundwork for future replications and enhancements for these most fragile patients..

The journal of the International Association for Music and Medicine takes a committed stance in the development of a global health community, and in doing so—we seek articles that address populations of great need. The third article of this issue moves us to Japan where Hiromi Sakai, Naoto Kamide, Masahiro Kohzuki address elders in 'The Effects of a Program Combining Exercise and Music on Promoting Exercise

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Continuance and Psychological Factors in Older People.’ Readers are sure to be engaged in this comprehensive way the authors address endurance and mind-body orientation through programming music as an incentive and enhancement of eldercare wellbeing.

In speaking of wellness and endurance, the next article takes us to the Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSD), in the United States of America. Herein, Thomas Michael Christian, Ayesha Edwards, Amanda Stickler, Eric Henderson, Rachel Markwald, Marlo Narro, Lisa Hess, Jeffrey Millegan connect music and health in a military outpatient setting. In ‘Bridging Music and Military Mental Health: A Pilot Study Examining Music Interventions in the Military Outpatient Mental Health Waiting Room Environment’ this team assembles a first of its kind study, and one which lends itself to creative incentive opportunities, and possible implementation of such programming at other clinics. There is such need for our veterans, and this work provides an important baseline.

The next article provides readers with an in-depth, comprehensive research protocol in two parts. Out of this significant, and detailed with precision clinical trail, evolves a new and unique ‘Protocol for a Neurophenomenological Investigation of a Guided Imagery and Music Experience (Part I&II).’ Within this 2-part series Andrea McGraw Hunt leaves no stone unturned. GIM has been in clinical use for decades. This research, however, may be the one and only attempt to bring in brain research mechanisms as part of the clinical process and the way we understand GIM and neurologic research-this is significant in many levels

And finally, in a truly unique read, the world renowned creator and developer of music thanatology Therese

Schroeder-Sheker shares ‘The Chalice of Repose Project’s Music-Thanatology History and Praxis.’ This invited article is truly a gift, and the principles that are so generously shared will undoubtedly enhance music therapists’ ways of thinking and working with people when they become gravely ill. Therese Schroeder-Sheker’s renowned Chalice of Repose Project, is the only one of its kind at the School of Music-Thanatology, in Mount Angel, Oregon, USA. Her model provides rich concepts that can enhance practice outcomes.

We are grateful to have a comprehensive book review by Amy Clements-Cortes of *Music Therapy Training Programs in Europe: Theme and Variations (2016)*. This new text is edited by Thomas Stegemann, Elena Fitzthum, and Tonius Timmermann.

This quarter our readership may take notice that our international abstracts are posted on the platform. You are welcome to use these in whatever way is most helpful toward building within your medical and university communities. As ever, we welcome your submissions, and additionally, we also welcome and very much value your feedback.

Happy Spring...

#### References

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