



PBSGL
NHS Education for Scotland
Centre for Health Science
Old Perth Road
Inverness IV2 3JH
Tel: 01463 255712
Fax: 01463 255736



PBSGLadministrator@nes.scot.nhs.uk
www.gpcpd.nes.scot.nhs.uk/pbsgl

Art, music and literature - can these help us to understand illness?

INTRODUCTION

There is evidence that engaging with subjects such as art and literature (the “humanities”) helps foster resilience, and widens the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) agenda for individuals working in medicine and its allied professions.

PBSGL aims to bring evidence into practice, and this module provides a different focus for groups. There are no clinical cases, but instead groups are encouraged to read two short stories provided - and look for others if they wish to do so. Questions will then be posed to encourage discussion, but there are no “answers” to these questions, and groups may find that their discussion moves in an entirely different direction to the structure of the questions set out.

EXAMPLE TEXTS FOR DISCUSSION

The authors of this module recommend that group members read the appendices (this should take no more than 20 minutes), and then have a discussion around the themes, the characters and the current relevance of the stories. The authors of this module have provided some information on the circumstances in which the stories were written, to provide some context, and also some questions to reflect on.

These stories explore the personal relationships that clinicians develop, and the pressures they find themselves under, by juxtaposing the management of the same condition by two doctors in different parts of the world in the early years of the 20th century.

Group members may benefit from bringing a piece of art/literature that means something to them, or has helped with their professional development, to this meeting