

# Best Evidence Summaries of Topics in Mental Healthcare

**BEST in MH** *clinical question-answering service*

## Question

For older adults with any cognitive impairment, how effective is drama and/or art therapy compared with other interventions or no intervention, in improving all patient outcomes?

## Clarification of question using *PICO* structure

*Patients:* Older adults with any cognitive impairment  
*Intervention:* Drama and/or art therapy  
*Comparator:* Other or no intervention  
*Outcome:* All patient outcomes

**Clinical and research implications**

No relevant systematic reviews or randomised controlled trials could be found for this question.

**What does the evidence say?*****Number of included studies/reviews (number of participants)***

N/A

***Main findings***

N/A

***Authors conclusions***

N/A

***Reliability of conclusions/Strength of evidence***

N/A

**What do guidelines say?**

Neither National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) nor Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) guidelines comment on the effectiveness of drama and/ or art therapy on improving patient outcomes of older adults with cognitive impairment.

**Date question received:** 07/08/15

**Date searches conducted:** 12/08/15

**Date answer completed:** 14/08/15

## Search details

Source	Search Strategy	Number of hits	Relevant evidence identified
<i>Guidelines</i>			
NICE	Art Therapy Drama Therapy	34 8	0 0
<i>Systematic Reviews / Primary Studies</i>			
MEDLINE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Medline; (older adj6 adult*).ti,ab; 49007 results.</li> <li>2. Medline; exp AGED/; 2432773 results.</li> <li>3. Medline; elderly.ti,ab; 181985 results.</li> <li>4. Medline; (frail ADJ elderly).ti,ab; 2288 results.</li> <li>5. Medline; 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4; 2487294 results.</li> <li>6. Medline; exp DRAMA/; 1679 results.</li> <li>7. Medline; exp PSYCHODRAMA/; 2753 results.</li> <li>8. Medline; exp ART THERAPY/; 1142 results.</li> <li>9. Medline; (drama ADJ therap*).ti,ab; 39 results.</li> <li>10. Medline; ((cognit* OR memory) adj6 (declin* OR impair* OR deteriorat* OR disturb* OR disorder*)).ti,ab; 91176 results.</li> <li>11. Medline; 5 AND 10; 32705 results.</li> <li>12. Medline; 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9; 5495 results.</li> <li>13. Medline; 11 AND 12; 18 results.</li> </ol>	18	0
EMBASE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EMBASE; (older adj6 adult*).ti,ab; 62394 results.</li> <li>2. EMBASE; exp AGED/; 2304807 results.</li> <li>3. EMBASE; elderly.ti,ab; 244201 results.</li> <li>4. EMBASE; (frail ADJ elderly).ti,ab; 2959 results.</li> <li>5. EMBASE; 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4; 2384747 results.</li> </ol>	63	0

	<p>6. EMBASE; exp DRAMA/; 48267 results.</p> <p>7. EMBASE; exp PSYCHODRAMA/; 1077 results.</p> <p>8. EMBASE; exp ART THERAPY/; 2541 results.</p> <p>9. EMBASE; (drama ADJ therap*).ti,ab; 95 results.</p> <p>10. EMBASE; ((cognit* OR memory) adj6 (declin* OR impair* OR deteriorat* OR disturb* OR disorder*)).ti,ab; 129511 results.</p> <p>11. EMBASE; 5 AND 10; 39773 results.</p> <p>12. EMBASE; 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9; 51776 results.</p> <p>13. EMBASE; 11 AND 12; 63 results.</p>		
PsycINFO	<p>1. PsycInfo; (older adj6 adult*).ti,ab; 35626 results.</p> <p>2. PsycInfo; exp AGED/; 351 results.</p> <p>3. PsycInfo; elderly.ti,ab; 48027 results.</p> <p>4. PsycInfo; (frail ADJ elderly).ti,ab; 734 results.</p> <p>5. PsycInfo; 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4; 79364 results.</p> <p>6. PsycInfo; exp DRAMA/; 1829 results.</p> <p>7. PsycInfo; exp PSYCHODRAMA/; 1941 results.</p> <p>8. PsycInfo; exp ART THERAPY/; 3798 results.</p> <p>9. PsycInfo; (drama ADJ therap*).ti,ab; 337 results.</p> <p>10. PsycInfo; ((cognit* OR memory) adj6 (declin* OR impair* OR deteriorat* OR disturb* OR disorder*)).ti,ab; 70749 results.</p> <p>11. PsycInfo; 5 AND 10; 9698 results.</p> <p>12. PsycInfo; 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9; 7429 results.</p> <p>13. PsycInfo; 11 AND 12; 9 results.</p>	9	0
CINAHL	<p>1. CINAHL; (older adj6 adult*).ti,ab; 24542 results.</p> <p>2. CINAHL; exp AGED/; 360882 results.</p> <p>3. CINAHL; elderly.ti,ab; 42815 results.</p> <p>4. CINAHL; (frail ADJ elderly).ti,ab; 956 results.</p> <p>5. CINAHL; 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4; 372162 results.</p>	11	0

	<p>6. CINAHL; exp DRAMA/; 572 results.</p> <p>7. CINAHL; exp PSYCHODRAMA/; 1192 results.</p> <p>8. CINAHL; exp ART THERAPY/; 1840 results.</p> <p>9. CINAHL; (drama ADJ therap*).ti,ab; 25 results.</p> <p>10. CINAHL; ((cognit* OR memory) adj6 (declin* OR impair* OR deteriorat* OR disturb* OR disorder*)).ti,ab; 15460 results.</p> <p>11. CINAHL; 5 AND 10; 8489 results.</p> <p>12. CINAHL; 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9; 3541 results.</p> <p>13. CINAHL; 11 AND 12; 11 results</p>		
CENTRAL	<p>#1 MeSH descriptor: [Frail Elderly] explode all trees 535</p> <p>#2 aged 327699</p> <p>#3 older adj6 adult* 165</p> <p>#4 #1 or #2 or #3 327750</p> <p>#5 (cognit* or memory) adj6 (declin* or impair* or deteriorat* or disturb* or disorder*) 121</p> <p>#6 #4 and #5 99</p> <p>#7 MeSH descriptor: [Psychodrama] explode all trees 160</p> <p>#8 MeSH descriptor: [Art Therapy] explode all trees 61</p> <p>#9 drama adj therap* 12</p> <p>#10 drama 88</p> <p>#11 #7 or #8 or #9 or #10 305</p> <p>#12 #6 and #11 1</p>	0	0

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