

# Laugh Therapy: in Effort to Decrease Work Stressing of Nurse

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Living in the city has already been a particular problem; moreover there are so many situations in occupation of healthy sector, as a nurse, that cause stress. Work stress that is suffered by nurse, can be sourced from demand of work environment and organization in hospital, demand of patient and characteristic of nurse's job. The most of people can't work self without helping of the others, so is a nurse. The role of nurse is so big in recovery of patient. A nurse which working in the hospital have relationship to patient. They will have relationship with a doctor. After a doctor make diagnosis and then appoint a medicine, furthermore continue to the nurse about the result of diagnosis. If occur change in patient self, then any change whether progression or decline of physical patient must be reported to the doctor. That's why needed a good cooperation and communication between a nurse and a doctor. Moreover his time status and authority's nurse not only as a assistant of doctor, but also responsible to make a decision in the practise. This meaning that accusation of professionalism of nurse in doing the duty as well as possible. Nurse is pioneer of service who has a role in determining bad or good service in hospital. That's why nurse profession is a profession which very stressable.

Accusation of work environment and organization in the hospital, patient, and characteristic of duty can be sources of work stressing for nurse. Most of stressor from organization is accusation of higher and confrere to do as maximal possibility of duty. Work stressing is usual phenomenon experienced by people who working at the healthy sector (Ellis, 1995).

When we see the laughing person, we think first is something funny. Even to create humor is not easy, cause needed cost and intelligence or creativity. As in the daily life, no all person own high sense of humor. To make a laugh we have to buy cassette of humor, vcd humor, or books of humor, or watching TV at the humor program.

To create laugh via humor must need cost to invite comedian group for children. Opportunitely this humor therapy also limited by someone's interest. Interest of humor from people is different. There are interests of humor about politic, science, ever there is someone just laughs if see action and motion Charlie Chaplin, Mr. Bean, and Srimulat Group.

The youth and children easier laugh more are adult the frequency will be decreased. This case is caused by over serious attitude, that's way our humor is decreasing too. Besides the children can be free laugh in the situation without anything condition, but more adult will be more limited, as laugh slowly, that is not polite.

In the daily life only few cases which use make soo laugh, while there are hundreds cases even can make us sad and crying, moreover increasing cost of goods and phenomenon of economy more and more difficult, the case make people will be more stress so it will make more difficult to laugh.

Nowadays, we can't base on sense of humor to create laugh, because humor is a phenomenon which have relationship with mental and intelligence, and not all people have sense of humor. Joke can't make you laugh everyday and sense of humor doesn't belong to people. The

important question is how to laugh and who will make you laugh? The first, Madan Kataria is a doctor who practice in Mumbai (India), have developed new technique: laugh of group gratis yoga. Every session of laugh started by breathe so much, and followed by few of techniques of stimulating laugh.

There are some ways used to omit work stressing, they are meditation, relaxation, practise of time management, yoga, and so on. Researchers choose sense of humor as one of way to decrease work stressing because have relationship with emotion. Consideration hold this training to see how the role of emotion in the work environment of someone.

The research has objective to know the effect of the training laugh therapy to work stressing which experienced the nurse. Meanwhile its benefit: by theoretic are

- a. Able to add the theoretic reference about how to solve the work stressing
- b. Able to add the empiric evidence about effectivity of training laugh therapy in solving the work stressing. By practice, if the result of the research show there is significant effect after laugh therapy in solving to the work stressing, then it can be used as model or way of thinking in the decreasing of work stressing.

## 2 METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

Dependent variable is work stressing and independent variable is laugh therapy. The subject in this research is 62 nurses. Sampling technique use purposive sampling because researcher to have criteries in selecting subject. Selection of subject is done with use matching group design system with category of evaluation E as the experiment group and k as the controll group. Tool of pooling data shich used questionnaire.

Design of research which used in the research is quasi experiment two group pre test post test design. The purpose of quasi experiment is the control group and the experiment group, it also use treatment ever do random assignment. The design of research can be described as following:

KE	X1	X	X2
KK	X3	O	X4

X: Laugh Therapy

X1: Experiment pre-test froup (before treatment of laugh)

X2: Experiment post-test group (after treatment of laugh)

X3: Controll pre-test group

X4: Controll post-test group

## 3 DISCUSSION

Result of research prove that between group which given and not training of laugh therapy there is different very significant in the score of work stressing. The other result supporting success training of laugh therapy is the differencce of work stressing scare between before and after training of laugh therapy, at the experiment groups. The differene explain that training at laugh therapy can decrease work stressing. When doing training, the nurses learn to manage and controlle emotional, so in facing the special situation. The nurses can respond the situation with more positive. This case is as Martin (2003) about most model theory show that emotional some body influences some body responds the special situation. If the individual able to manage and controll the emotional well, then they can respond the situation with positive so it will not lead stress, and the otherhand. This case as Selye's theory (1995) which state that the negative emotional can lead work stressing. Also equal recognition of subject who said that by knowing the emotion, then controll and manage it, the nurse become more able to understand the others. So able to do interaction more over with the others, learn for not angry, and offended directly with the somebody else so decreasing their work stressing.

This training can be said success although there are 8 nurses (25.806%) in the same category, but the most of subject of training experience. Decreasing of work stressing. This case caused

by some causes, as following: the result of observation show there is seriousness of participant in joining every session training. The result of evaluation show there is application of matter which given by researcher to nurse in the real life. Except the emotion effect on someone's stressing although there is several other factors which possible (Martin, 2003). Success training of laugh therapy is also have relationship with sharing when holding of training, each participant can learn to communicate with the participant else in the group. Each participant also can learn to understand themselves in relationship with the others and can learn to communicate effectively. The group can be considered as a social microcosmic. Each participant can use group as place to practice and try a new behavior. Received support of the other participant is very important something in their learning process (Prawitasari, 1987).

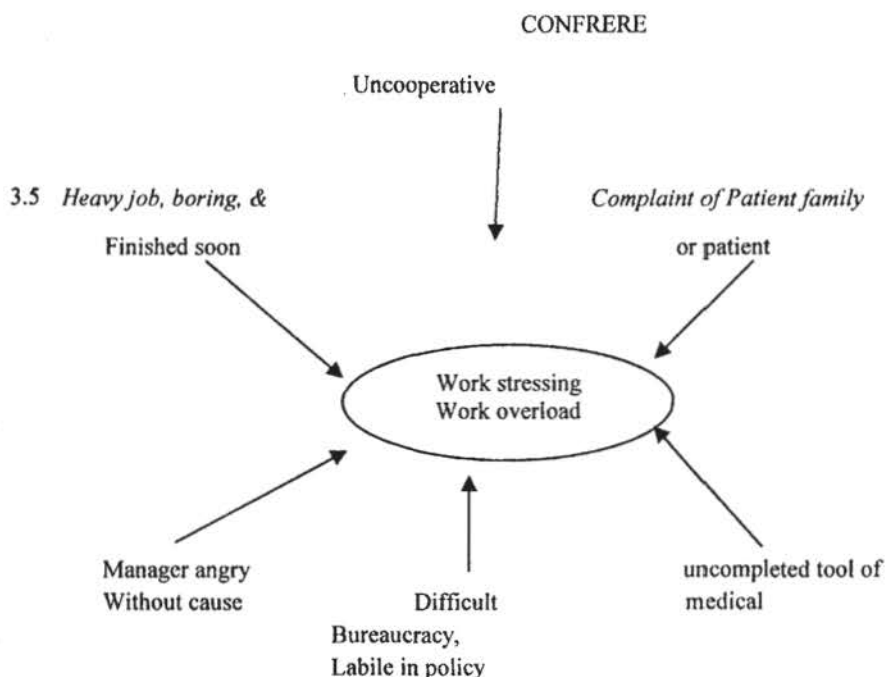
In the group, the participant has opportunity to understand that the other person also has the some problem and they can help them. This case is different with working situation which is not cooperative tendency (38.710%), confrere won't cooperate and be egocentric (25.806%), meanwhile 22.581%. Shows that among confrere have not harmonious relationship and their behavior are annoying. This the training can lead to self confidence of participants.

The other group can be as a source of support if needed. The participant can learn to get skill each other. They also take and give feedback and responding each other. The participant who at the first has frightened to express themselves. They will get the different reality with their belief. So expected they will more active in doing interaction.

At the training of group looks the participant more objective and flexible in evaluating the other participant than evaluating themselves. Also they are easy to find and recognize negative way of the other participant's mind, than in the existing self. This reality will be focus in the group training. Ability of the participant evaluates and recognizes way of mind the other participant will able to evaluate and recognize to their negative way of mind. So member of group do a testing of reality each other and this cause will increase capability each participant in improving the wrong reaction.

Training of group give opportunity to the participant learns communication with the other participant. Learn to respond the other person and learn to solve a conflict. Some researches about effectively treatment of group, fund proof that success modality of treatment which given is supported with use treatment of group (Penninx, 1998, Morgan, 1999).

Stress also is defined as an excess of occusement on ability of individual in complying it. The schemes in this below are factors caused work overload:



The scheme upon describe that work stressing of nurse can be an individual or organizational. This case equal with model "The occupational Indicators" scheme (Bright & Jones, 2001) state that work stressing is caused by various factors, those are, oppressed situation at the workplace, for examples uncompleted tool of medical, work overload and boring, complaint of patient. Except that the bureaucratic structure and organization atmosphere, labile in policy, manager is easy angry without cause, uncooperative among confrere.

Many cases which must be done by nurses, but the available time to finish it is limited. Sometimes often found overlap of duty, so it can hamper the solution. Some researcher state that the stress happen cause the unsuitable condition between the people and their environment so lead to unability somebody to face many accusation effectively. (Cookfair, 1996).

Stressor or source of stress is very variable and having the reaction which variable too at every body. According to Cooper (Rice, 1999), there are some stressor in the job, those are, work overload, available work time is not enough, so this condition not able to inspire passion work.

#### 4 CONCLUSION

The result of research is as following:

- The nurse who get training of laugh therapy experience decreasing of work stressing and the otherhand.
- The factor else which can decrease work stressing, that are cooperation in the group, interaction among confrere, via relation well, like empathy, feedback, and sensitivity on subject's problem, safety feel, and moral support.
- Success training at laugh therapy also influenced by seriousness of subject in joining training just seriousness of subject in doing training will experience decreasing of work stressing. There is or not nurse's work stressing is only individual, but organizational. Work stressing which nurse's experience is caused by pressing situation which happen at work place in the physical environment, work overload in the physical environment, over workload and boring, and getting complain from patient or patient family frequently.
- Except bureaucratic structure and organization atmosphere, change of policy quickly, chief is angry without cause, and bad interpersonal relationship.

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Anniversary  
Faculty of Psychology  
University of Surabaya

Proceeding of International Conference

# IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF HUMAN LIFE:

*Multidisciplinary Approach on Strategic Relevance for Urban Issues*

September 6-7, 2007  
JW Marriott Hotel Surabaya, Indonesia

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## PREFACE

*On September 6-7, 2007, the Faculty of Psychology - University of Surabaya hosted the International Conference entitled "Improving the Quality of Human Life: Multidisciplinary Approach on Strategic Relevance for Urban Issues". The event took place in Surabaya and was organized in conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Faculty of Psychology, University of Surabaya. The International Conference was held at the JW Marriott Surabaya Hotel.*

*The need for multidisciplinary approach on improving the quality of human life has never been greater. Rapid economic and social changes may bring negative effects to the quality of human life. The changes have led to changing in various aspects of human life. It seems clear that multidisciplinary approach on strategic relevance for urban issues will continue to be important.*

*Taking the time to review our quality of life gives us a chance to re-evaluate what we are doing and where we want to go. It lets us fine-tune our direction, to ensure we are on track for what we most want. Therefore this conference provided opportunities for all participants to discuss ways of improving the quality of human life.*

*The conference presented three sub-themes related to the quality of life in urban settings: industrial and social setting, community health setting, educational, developmental and environmental setting. Each sub-theme produced numerous interesting discussions during the event, of which the full papers can be read in this proceeding. We wish for the proceeding to be fruitful and able to provide insight for readers, particularly those interested in the central theme on Improving the Quality of Human Life.*

Surabaya, September 2007

Jenny Lukito Setiawan  
Chair, Scientific Committee

## Acknowledgments

We are truly indebted to our invited plenary speakers for their willingness to share their expertise and experience before the conference audience. It is partly from their contribution that this conference turns to big success. We would like in this opportunity to thank those people:

- Associate Professor Anne Bardoel  
*Deputy Director, Australian Centre for Research in Employment and Work,  
Department of Management, Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash  
University, Australia*
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*School of Psychology and Human Development, Faculty of Social Science and  
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*Faculty of Psychology, Surabaya University, Surabaya, Indonesia*
- Dr. Ing. Haryo Sulistiarso  
*Faculty of Architecture, Institut Teknologi Sepuluh November, Surabaya, Indonesia*

We also thank to all presenters who participate in this conference.

## OPENING REMARKS

*The Honorable Speakers;*

*Distinguished Guests and Participants;*

*Ladies and Gentlemen:*

*I am very much honored to deliver the opening remarks of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Faculty of Psychology, University of Surabaya (UBAYA) International Conference "Improving the Quality of Human Life: Multidisciplinary Approach on Strategic Relevance for Urban Issues". I also wish to take this opportunity to welcome all of the distinguished participants in beautiful city of Surabaya and to express my utmost appreciation to Mrs. Artiawati Mawardi the Chairperson of this conference and all the members of the committee who have been such gracious personnel, serve this a wholehearted conference.*

*It is the nature of every Higher Education Institution to be gratified with the values of truth, democracy, human rights, supporting marginal and lower class society, peace, and sustainable development. As a Higher Education Institution that possesses a high commitment upon those values, UBAYA organized this International conference not only as the commemoration of a silver jubilee in the history of Faculty of Psychology UBAYA, but more importantly also as the Social Responsibility of UBAYA upon the beneficial of the society. Perhaps the most important rationale the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Faculty of Psychology UBAYA International Conference will address is to gather various ideas and perspectives to respond the challenges of improving the quality of human life for the beneficial of the society.*

*Nowadays, we face complex and confusing problems surround us. If we try to take a glimpse to the condition of the environment where we live then we will know that the obstacles in our lives now are different with the condition we had several years ago. As people try to make some improvements in their lives, the other parts of the community may be still left behind. Either, they do not have the chance to improve or they have the chance but they fail to fulfill the improvement they want in their lives. The problem increases together with the increasing people's expectation of the quality of life. All those problems mostly deal with education, health and social life. We value all those three things as the judgment points whether we are facing a certain problem or we are doing fine.*

*We all agree that one of the bases of improving life lays on education. In reality, people still can not get equals access in gaining education, especially for people in lower-class society. Without enough education, it will be hard for the society to realize their condition, moreover facing their problems. Through education, people will find it easier to analyze something deeper because they have the knowledge to do it. That is why education not only helps people to understand themselves but also to understand others better. Modern life style also takes a great part in causing individual and social problems for both physical and mental health. Pathological behaviour gives rise to problems in area of sexual and reproductive health, impact of pollution on health, substance abuse, stress disorder, health-related attitudes and behaviors, physical and physiological health, pain and pain management and environment-behavior relationship. The effects of physical element and social changes are the discussions deal with industrial and social parts. Problems have appeared in these issues which include crowd and density, social conflict, criminality, multicultural issues, street hawkers (called 'anak jaianan' in Indonesian), and disaster management. Cities with growing industry have multifaceted impacts on labour life, city transportation, employee mental health, including work stress and burnout, and work-family conflict.*

*Those conditions take a great attention of certain people, in this case the scientists and practitioners. They hope to find the best solution to solve all the problems through multidisciplinary approach. That way will also help to improve the quality of life of the human kind. Definitely, we need to do something to make some progress for our lives and a better future. Putting a high concern upon the problems, several years ago, UBAYA has arranged 4 different centers named Center for Environmental Studies (PSL), Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM), Centre for Urban Community Empowerment (PUSDAKOTA) and Center for Business and Industrial Studies (CBIS). As we can see from their names, Center for Environmental studies is concentrated on how to provide better environment to the society; Center for Human Rights Studies concerns with Human Rights (especially, on political and civil rights and also economic and socio-cultural rights, ECOSOB); Center for Urban Community Empowerment deals with how to assist and serve the marginal and lower class society; while Center for Business and Industrial Studies deals with business and industrial community. Having those 4 centers is not enough, as UBAYA also expects some supports from the society as well as its Faculties. On this opportunity, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to the Faculty of Psychology UBAYA in organizing this International Conference. Yet, your obligation as a Faculty has not done yet, as I specially encourage and await this faculty to*

*continually develop contemporary ideas and strategies to respond all of the recent conditions and problems.*

*Let me conclude my remarks by wishing all of you a deeper, intensive, serious but enjoyable and productive discussion in this conference. Let me wish you every success in this Conference, and may all our fruitful works come to the excellent results.*

Surabaya, September 6, 2007

Wibisono Hardjopranoto  
Rector, University of Surabaya

Quality of life in urban settings is an area of study that has increased an amount of interest in recent years. Undoubtedly, urban life brings complex problems that interact to influence the quality of human life. In response to these issues, holistic recommendations for improving the quality of life based on multidisciplinary approach are highly needed. In this conference, scientists and practitioners from various disciplines (psychology, anthropology, sociology, economic, medical, engineering, architecture, etc) concerned with urban problems are encouraged to share and to discuss ideas.



Prof. Dr. M. Wicaksono Henggoro, M.S.  
Rector, University of Surabaya

Nowadays, we face complex and confusing problems surround us. If we try to take a glimpse to the condition of the environment where we live then we will know that the obstacles in our lives now are different with the condition we had several years ago. As people try to make some improvements in their lives, the other parts of the community may be still left behind. Either they do not have the chance to improve or they have the chance but

they fail to fulfill the improvement they want in their lives. The problem increases together with the increasing people's expectation of the quality of life. All those problems mostly deal with education, health and social life. We value all those three things as the judgment points whether we are facing a certain problem or we are doing fine.



Dra. Aniswati Alimatus, M.A., Ph.D.  
Chair, International Conference

Today is a special day. We celebrate the 25th anniversary of the faculty of Psychology Surabaya University. It is not such a coincidence that we picked up "improving the quality of human life in urban area" to become the theme of the conference. As a growing city, Surabaya, like many cities elsewhere, experiences huge complex problems related to education, health, industry, and providing healthy settlements for its inhabitants. It needs our serious and active participation to propose alternative solutions based on academic research across disciplines.

This conference is in advance to enhance the vision of the Faculty of Psychology University of Surabaya, to be an excellent educational institution in psychology based on scientific endeavor and to apply life values in managing urban problems.