**International Journal of Art Therapy: Inscape** <onbehalfof@manuscriptcentral.com>

**To:**tsuf22@yahoo.com

Sun, Sep 10 at 7:15 PM

10-Sep-2023

Dear Tsufit Shemer,

We are mindful of the work and time commitment that goes into writing and preparing a manuscript, and therefore thank you sincerely for your submission to the International Journal of Art Therapy: Inscape.

Your manuscript entitled "The Meaning of The Holocaust in Professional Selection among Third generation Arts Therapists has now been peer reviewed and reviewer comments are included at the end of this letter, along with those of the associate editor and editor-in-chief who coordinated the review of your paper.

The peer reviewers/editors have suggested that subject to major revisions, your paper may be reconsidered for publication.  You are therefore invited to revise your manuscript and resubmit.  When you revise your manuscript please highlight the changes you make in the manuscript by using the track changes mode in MS Word or by using bold or coloured text in PDFs.

In accordance with our format-free submission policy, an editable version of the article must be supplied at the revision stage. Please submit your revised manuscript files in an editable file format.

Please ensure that you use the relevant IJAT author template for your article.  These are available on the IJAT web page under ‘Instructions for Authors’ <a href=https://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?show=instructions&journalCode=rart20 target=”new”>here</a>

Once you are ready to resubmit your manuscript, please do so by way way of the following link:

To submit a revision, go to <https://rp.tandfonline.com/submission/flow?submissionId=234200634&step=1>. If you decide to revise the work, please submit a list of changes or a rebuttal against each point which is being raised when you submit the revised manuscript.

If you have any questions or technical issues, please contact the journal's editorial office at [RART-peerreview@journals.tandf.co.uk.](mailto:RART-peerreview@journals.tandf.co.uk.)

IMPORTANT:  Your original files are available to you when you upload your revised manuscript.  Please delete any redundant files before completing the submission. Please note that re-submission does not guarantee publication. You must ensure that the appropriate informed consent has been obtained for the publication in hard copy and online of client related material both written and visual.

To ensure timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the International Journal of Art Therapy: Inscape, please revise and resubmit your manuscript as soon as possible.

Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the International Journal of Art Therapy: Inscape and we look forward to receiving your revision.

Sincerely,

Dr Zoe Moula

Lecturer in Mental Health, King's College London

Editor-in-Chief Designate, International Journal of Art Therapy: Inscape

[zoe.moula@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:zoe.moula@kcl.ac.uk)

Associate Editor's Comments to Author:

Thank you for submitting this paper for the special issue on art therapy with people who have experiencing trauma. Thank you also for clarifying that your ethics committee is happy for you to use data which is over 10 years old.

We would like to consider your paper for inclusion in the special issue, subject to major revision in line with the comments below. We would need to receive your revised manuscript by 15 October. Please can you let us know if you do not think that it will be possible for you to make the suggested revisions by that date.

In addition to the peer reviewer comments, please can you make the following changes:

Title - It's not clear what 'professional selection' means - please reword to make it obvious that you are looking at how these experiences relate to arts therapists selection of their profession

Abstract - Please include a section titled 'Implications for practice/policy/future research', as per the template.

Plain language summary - This is rather short and doesn't link fully to your topic ie it does not mention selection of profession - please can you ensure it reflects the paper content

Main body of text - Please restructure under the required headings and subheadings listed in the research paper template, making the hierarchy of headings clear by using bold/italics

Reviewer 1 comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to read this study. The topic is very interesting and seems to have a lot of potential. At the same time, the presentation of the study is problematic and the authors will need to decide whether they want to revise it to meet the scientific standards of the journal. Below are my comments.

Introduction

The whole literature review is extremely old. There are almost no references from the last decade. Has nothing been written in the field recently? I would drop references dating back 30-40 years (and there are many of them) if they are not really groundbreaking. Even the definition of art therapy is more than twenty years old. There are more current definitions.

I don't think that a journal dealing with art therapy in the 21st century needs to explain what art therapy is or what the general benefits of this type of therapy are.

Method

I understand from the description of the participants that the sample was composed of arts therapists and not visual art therapists. You should be precise in the terminology from the beginning.

The entire study was conducted a decade ago. It is important to explain why it should be published now and how it contributes to the current literature.

The data analysis approach is not clear. There are different references that make it hard to tell whether grounded theory or a thematic analysis or a phenomenological qualitative approach was used. Please describe the steps in the analysis in relation to the specific approach.

I don't see any reference to ethics. Who approved this study? How were the participants recruited? What was explained to them? This is especially important since the study involved interviews that could evoke sensitive content.

Results

The themes are described very briefly whereas the quotes are very long. I find it difficult to pinpoint the main ideas that emerge from the individual cases.

There is a comment on page 11 about the description of the themes, but in my opinion the choices made in the article are misguided. I would shorten the literature review and the citations considerably to have enough room for the description of the results.

Discussion

The discussion section connects the findings with the literature. Here, too, the literature is outdated.

Please be very careful with overgeneralizations since this is a qualitative study with few participants (in the discussion as a whole but specifically in the “Applicative implications”).

In addition, only insert references in parentheses when describing findings from the literature and not at the end of sentences describing findings from this study (for example line 471, 497, 513 and elsewhere).

The stated limitation of the lack of a control group is not relevant in qualitative research.

Reviewer 2 comments:

The manuscript documents an interesting phenomenological study, which would be of interest not only to arts therapists who themselves are third-generation Holocaust survivors, but also to the wider community of practitioners who deal with intergenerational trauma and, in particular, war and displacement-related trauma.

There are several areas which, I feel, need further clarification (my detailed recommendations are listed below), with two that I consider most prominent:

1. Having read the interesting introduction and moving on to the ‘Methods’ section (pages 7/8), I felt that connection between these two sections was missing. I would like to know more about the rationale for undertaking this research (why is it important to learn about arts therapists’ experiences and career choices) and see a paragraph or two describing the research questions/aims or purpose (even if the sole purpose was in exploration of those experiences).

2. The practitioners-participants (listed in lines 219-221) might not be described (and identify) as ‘art therapists’ in all countries. In the UK, some of them would be practising as ‘dance movement therapists’ or ‘dramatherapists’ – this would be their named profession. They would still belong to the wider community of ‘arts therapists’ (but not ‘art therapists’). I would recommend considering a correction of instances of ‘art therapists’ to ‘arts therapists’ throughout the manuscript (as is indeed indicated in the title) with exception of instances referring specifically to art therapists.

Some other recommended corrections:

Line 53: ‘are’ instead of ‘at’

Line 148: ‘as opposed to’ instead of ‘against’?

Lines 182-184: The provided definition of art therapy demands further clarification, as it might not be accurate for art therapy profession in some countries. For example, in the UK art therapy is a distinctive profession within a wider set of ‘arts therapies’, which also include music, dance movement and dramatherapy (see also my comment above). A change of term to ‘arts therapies’ is therefore recommended.

Lines 189-193: Consider shortening this background information, as it is likely to be common knowledge for the IJAT readership, and seems to perhaps distract from the focus of this paper.

Lines 216-224, Participants: What country (or countries) was the study based in? What were the academic institutions recruiting participants? (or at least, how many agreed to help?)

Lines 219-221: The practitioners-participants listed here might not be described (and identify) as ‘art therapists’ in all countries (see also a more detailed comment above)

Lines 234-236: This sentence needs rewording as it is not clear what the interview guide looked like: What themes were explored? What are the ‘two content worlds’ you refer to?

Line 236: You don’t need to specify that the questions were open-ended, as this is the nature of interviewing and particularly of in-depth interviews, and seems to be a logical repetition.