

Abstract

The present study examined the effect of music therapy (MT) on the social behavior of Alzheimer's patients in Hong Kong. There were 30 participants with age ranging from 71 to 95. They were assigned to the music group and the non-music group randomly. Both groups of participants received a six sessions program except that there MT was used in the music group but not in the non-music group. More eye-contact was found significantly in the music group. There is no significant main effect of group on the participation or smiling. The use of a percussion instrument (chopsticks) in the music group increased their participation and eye-contact. It is concluded that music could, to a certain extent, facilitate the operation of a therapy group and chopsticks contributed even more to this effect.