

Doctor patient relationship and the art of communication

S. Horowitz

Yorktown Science Program, Yorktown School, USA

Patients with epilepsy often experience poor emotional well-being. In one study it was determined that 38.4% of epilepsy patients showed symptoms of depression (Hecimovic, 2012). A good doctor-patient relationship has proved to be a central component, to both the physical and emotional health of the patient. Although various studies have looked at the impact that doctor-patient relationships has on health, there are no studies specifically studying the impact it has on patients with epilepsy. The goal of this study was to compare neurologists and patient's perspective on how doctor-patient relationship impacts one's health. Online surveys were created and Neurologists were identified with the US through pattern matching. A total of 65 patients and 255 Neurologists participated in this study. After analyzing the result from the two different surveys, it was discovered that, doctor patient relationship, plays a critical role in the emotional wellbeing of patients, from both the doctor's and the patient's perspective. Moreover, humor in care, was also seen by both the patients and neurologists as a significant factor in establishing communication, fostering better outcomes in care. The findings of this research emphasized the importance of doctor patient relationships, specifically around patient centered care and communication and health. A greater emphasis on doctor patient communication should be broadened, covered throughout the spectrum of one's training, and covered using various modalities. The use of humor within doctor patient communication should also be further addressed, as it was an important factor in care.