



The Effects of Music on Pain Perception in Patients with Sickle Cell Disease

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ABSTRACT

Although the effects of music on pain have recently been examined, very few studies have examined the effects of music on pain perception in patients living with sickle cell disease. Sickle cell disease is categorized by episodes of severe pain that mainly affects the chest, back, and legs of diagnosed individuals. This kind of investigation is greatly needed. The application of music on pain management and the control of pain has increased in the last two decades. Past studies have shown that music is an effective medium to ease pain perception and decrease the threshold of pain. Although music therapy as an established allied health profession has produced numerous empirical and qualitative data on increased frequency in medical treatments, there is a dearth of empirical research that supports the use of music on patients with sickle cell disease. In addition, many of these studies are few and findings are often contradictory. This research will be devoted to examining the effects of music on pain perception on patients with sickle cell disease. The setting for this study will include but is not limited to the State of Mississippi. [The author can be reached at kristie.j.lipford@jsums.edu or david.o.akombo@jsums.edu]