

Third open discussion

Rosemarie Heyn: The use of cinema in medical education presented by Magí Farré is a really fascinating topic. What are the main characteristics of these seminars?

Magí Farré: These seminars are included in a six ECTS pharmacology course, which has 16 compulsory seminars, and during one of them we use a film as a teaching tool. And then, afterwards, we include some questions about the lessons learned from watching and discussing the film in the final test exam of the pharmacology subject.

Magí Farré: Regarding Claudia Vinciguerra's presentation about the use of music in medical facilities, I would like to say that the hospital where I work has ambient music in the palliative care unit. What do you think about the use of music in these situations?

Claudia Vinciguerra: I think that using music to improve the ambience of a hospital is good, especially while doing any type of therapy. Playing an instrument is good during therapy but so is listening to music during therapy sessions. What I want to remark is that

I believe we should use music all over the hospital, and not only during therapy sessions. We usually use jazz and classical music, especially Bach.

Magí Farré: Additionally, as I mentioned, we use ambient music in the palliative care unit. I am sure that this has had a positive effect on our patients, although we have not evaluated the changes in brain neuroplasticity in those patients. Additionally, we have also created a choir with patients taking anti-anxiety drugs. After 2 or 3 hours singing together, patients report they are less anxious and more comfortable with

themselves. How relevant do you think it is to evaluate physical changes in the brain in those patients?

Claudia Vinciguerra: I think that it would be very useful to evaluate the brain by doing functional MRIs before, during, and after the music intervention therapy in order to evaluate possible changes during the intervention, as well as to do MRIs while patients are playing an instrument to see the real effects of music on the brain function.