



Believe the Patient

Uriel Halbreich*

Bio-Behavioral Research, SUNY-AB, WPA Section on Interdisciplinary Collaboration, USA

Editorial

In the 1960's, when I was a resident in an Academic Hospital in a suburb of Tel Aviv in Israel, I was called to the Emergency Room (ER) to see a Psychotic patient. I was the Psychiatrist on call and it was very unusual to be called that late at night but the surgeon at the ER said that this was a major disturbance to all personnel and patients. "You should do something to calm this crazy girl".

Upon arrival at the ER area crying, shouting and yelling was heard from a far. I was brought to see a Yemenite woman in her early 20's. She was irritated, crying and repeatedly asked to bring over Ruth Dayan. Ruth Dayan was the wife of Moshe Dayan who was an admirer Israeli Chief of Staff and later minister of Defense. His wife-Ruth was famous on her own right. She was a powerful CEO of a large network of folklore industry and socialite who was a favorite of newspaper reporters. Demands to bring her to the ER to see a disturbed patient were deemed to be "crazy" and a symptom of Psychosis which called for a Psychiatric intervention.

This was especially bizarre when the story of her ER admission unfolded. She was hitchhiking at night on a road from Tel Aviv to a neighboring town and was picked up by a van driver. Shortly thereafter the driver turned on the light to look at his "pick-up pee", he gasped with a surprise and yelled "a Kushite" (Black in Hebrew, Yemenites are quite dark). He stared at her and got into an accident. Both were brought to the ER, he -with multiple bone fractures and she-with a dislocated hand. As mentioned before, the most apparent symptom was behavioral, she was loudly crying, "uncooperative" and demands that a National celebrity would immediately come over to her. The ER staff begged of me "inject her with some halloo and take her away to the Psych Department". I asked the patient "why Ruth Dayan?" she said "she is my Boss". I asked her if she knows Ruth's personal Phone home phone number, I called the number that she gave me, Ms Dayan answered and said that the young woman is her personal assistant, she immediately said that of course she would come to see her. Ruth Dayan showed up very shortly. Once the patient learnt that her Boss is on her way her crying became quite, she received an anti-pain medication to which she responded well and became well-communicable.

When Ruth Dayan arrived she hugged the patient, graciously signed autographs requested by the ER nurses and took her protege to her home for the night. The patient underwent rehabilitation for the limb injury and returned to her usual functions. No Psychotropic medications were prescribed. A brief phone call was only intervention required.

Conclusion

Listen to the patients, take their words seriously and believe them even if their truth differs from your beliefs.

OPEN ACCESS

*Correspondence:

Uriel Halbreich, Bio-Behavioral Research, SUNY-AB, WPA Section on Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Buffalo, NY, USA,

E-mail: uhalbreich@gmail.com

Received Date: 12 Jan 2022

Accepted Date: 28 Jan 2022

Published Date: 02 Feb 2022

Citation:

Halbreich U. Believe the Patient. Clin Case Rep Int. 2022; 6: 1275.

Copyright © 2022 Uriel Halbreich. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.