Can music be used in medical education?

An experimental workshop

Dr Tim Senior
Why (on earth) are you here?
What are your ideas?

What have you tried previously?
“…I initiated a practice of putting a blank sheet of paper on every stand in rehearsal. The players are invited to write down in rehearsal any observation or coaching for me that might enable me to empower them to play the music more beautifully.”

Benjamin Zander, conductor
The Art of Possibility
Warm up!

Swap chairs in the loud music!
• Music enhances training in laparoscopic surgery
• Music hinders training in laparoscopic surgery
Literature review (continued)

Music to promote a holistic learning environment

Music to teach us humanities in medicine

Music as an aide-memoire
References

• See http://www.oppi.uku.fi/opk/video/ujbb/ for Beta Blocker Blues

• See http://www.citeulike.org/user/timsenior/tag/music for references
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…

We’re done!
Setting a mood

• How would a teaching session run if you played this?

• Or this?
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…

We’re done!
Listening

How many Da-Da-Da-Daaas?
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…
Cross-cultural awareness

• Tell us about a piece of music from your cultural background.
• Why this piece?
• What is its meaning, and how is this portrayed?
• What role does music play in this culture?
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…

We’re done!
Emotional literacy

• Have you ever had a consultation where you felt like this?
• What was the situation?
• What happened?
So, what can we do?

• Setting a mood
• Listening
• Cross-cultural awareness
• Emotional literacy
• Specifics of disease and people?
• Fun
• Your ideas…

We’re done!
• Smetana’s string quartet “From My life” – High E of tinnitus
• Puccini – La Boheme – is this what dying of TB is like? 📺
• Pulp – Common People – description of working class life 📺
...etc
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…
Fun!

• Tell us about some music that has meaning for you.
• What does music do for you?
• Can we play some now…?
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…

We’re done!
Your ideas
So, what can we do?

- Setting a mood
- Listening
- Cross-cultural awareness
- Emotional literacy
- Specifics of disease and people?
- Fun
- Your ideas…
What works?

- What worked for you?
- What didn’t work?
- What new ideas do you have?
- What might you go away and try?

- Or should we just go back to using novels?
Thank you for your enthusiasm, ideas and participation