

Review of: "Effect of Clown Therapy on Symptoms and Emotions of Children with Neoplastic Disease: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analysis"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Authors,

Thank you for conducting research on such a relevant topic. Synthesizing evidence on strategies, interventions, and approaches to ameliorate children's experiences and symptom management in hospitals is undoubtedly useful for clinical practice and for achieving better outcomes.

However, I have a major concern regarding the tools you have chosen to assess the risk of bias in the included articles. I believe that the ROBINS-I would have been more appropriate considering the design of the included studies. The ROB 2 should be used to assess randomized controlled trials. Moreover, I suggest considering an assessment of the quality of the included studies, such as adopting the [JBI Checklist for Quasi-Experimental Studies](#).

Typographical errors in the text:

Introduction

- Line 8: Replace "child" with "children" (Children are removed—better "taken apart"—from their family).
- Line 12: Insert a comma between "separation" and "anxiety."
- Line 17: Remove "because of the above."
- Line 20: Add "or herself" after "himself."
- Line 22: Add "or her" after "him."

Results - Selection of Studies

- Start the second sentence with "Twenty-six," after the period.

Table 2

- I suggest using acronyms when reporting the assessment tools, including them in the table legend. This would make the table more legible. For the same reason, you could probably erase "no fear of clowns" from the inclusion criteria column, as you already stated it was an inclusion criterion for all the studies in the text.

Secondary Outcomes - Fatigue

- Please check the assertion: “in a statistically non-significant manner,” as referred to in Table 4.