

COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS TASK 4

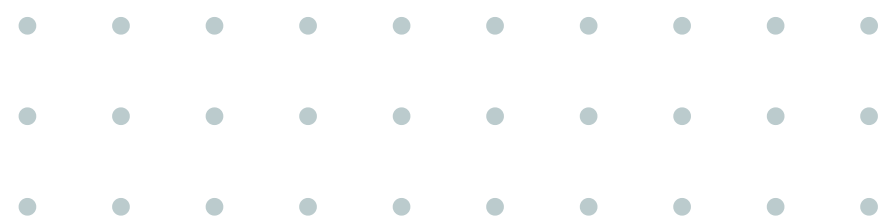
Emily Micallef JOU 5.1

INTRODUCTION

Exploring the Role of Emotional Support in Healthcare

INTRODUCTION

- Interview conducted with Corinne Wood
- Vice President of Dr KlowN Malta
- Topic focused on emotional support within healthcare
- Explored communication, patient wellbeing, and clown therapy
- Audio-visual interview format



ABOUT DR KLOWN



NGO founded in Malta in 2011

Provides **emotional** and **psychological support** through clown therapy

Focuses on **communication, interaction, and patient wellbeing**



40 clown doctors & **20** support volunteers

- Volunteers are not **medical doctors**

1 year of **artistic & psychological training:**

- Communication skills
- Empathy & emotional preparation
- Improvisation
- Healthcare awareness



- based in Materdei Hospital
- Part of an international network of healthcare clowning organisations

Inspired by the wider concept of emotional support in healthcare

- developed through figures such as:



Patch Adams

- Founded in **Gesundheit! Institute** in 1971, **West Virginia**
- **Advocated for humor and communication to boost patient wellbeing.**
- Organized clown visits to **hospitals** and **at-risk communities globally.**
- **70 countries**
- **On the road for 200-300 days of the year.**



Michael Christensen

- founded the **Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit** in 1986 **New-York**
- the very first official clown organisation in a hospital.
- collaborated with **patch adams**



WHY I CHOSE THIS TOPIC

- Interested in human stories
- Emotional support in healthcare is often overlooked
- Wanted to explore healthcare beyond medical treatment
- Wanted a topic with both **emotional** and **journalistic depth**



**COMMUNICATION
&
BODY LANGUAGE**

- Formal but friendly conversational tone
- hand movements shows that we are comfortable in the interview
- Maintained **eye contact** throughout
- Used active listening to comment on what corinne what saying
- Open posture helped create a comfortable atmosphere
- Interview conducted in English because Corinne felt more comfortable
- Respectful but curious interview approach



**STRENGTHS
&
DIFFICULTIES**

STRENGTHS

- Strong research before filming, **meeting** with Corinne beforehand.
- **Multiple camera angles** improved visual quality and editing flexibility.
- Questions were **well prepared** and helped expand the discussion naturally.
- Corinne Wood had **previous interview experience**, creating a more relaxed atmosphere during filming.

DIFFICULTIES

- My fluency in English was **not always** fully smooth
- **Balancing serious and lighter topics** throughout the discussion.
- **Managing timing** within an **8-minute** interview.
- Discussing **emotional healthcare topics** in a respectful and professional manner.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR FUTURE INTERVIEWS

- Prepare more **spontaneous linking questions** and **stronger follow-up questions**.
- filming locations by choosing **cleaner backgrounds** and **spaces with less reverberation**.
- Better attention to attire, as my striped sweater appeared **distracting on camera** and the **different coloured pants** looked visually inconsistent.

CONCLUSION

- Successfully interviewed **covered the 5 Ws and H** throughout the discussion
- **Showed communication and empathy can affect patient experiences within healthcare environments**
- Identified several problems then improvements for future interviews

Overall: informative, visually engaging, and enjoyable to conduct.

REFERNCE

Clown Sense Europe (n.d) Michael Christensen Masterclass. Available at: <https://www.clownsense.eu/masterclassmichaelchristensen?lang=en> (Accessed: 20 May 2026).

Gesundheit! Institute (n.d) Patch Adams. Available at: <https://www.patchadams.org/patch-adams/> (Accessed: 20 May 2026).