

THE END OF CARING

Understanding the Dynamic of Failure in Rehab

HIGHLIGHTS

- Conceptualize TBI as an event causing loss of functions and sense of self
- The feelings of family members/loved ones as observer participants in the injury rehabilitation process
- The loss of control of one's life can lead to blame
- Individuals who "fail in rehabilitation" become the locus of strong negative emotion
- The dynamics of failure are experienced by all involved in the process
- Hate is used by all involved to justify failure
- Anger and blame for the lack of success and positive outcome is shared across all participants; the individual, the loved ones, & the rehab organization.
- The inability to produce positive change causes feelings of powerlessness in all involved
- A vicious circle evolves in which the individual, the loved one, staff, and the organization blame each other
- Each party has a different perception of who is to blame
- Compassion wanes for all involved
- Staff and organization are central to ending or sustaining conflict, based on the awareness of those involved
- Role of helper can be compromised by dynamics that emerge in the failure process
- Compassion and help can be withdrawn as the issues of failure emerge
- As rehabilitationists, we want success for our own patients and ourselves.
- The maintenance of positive experiences in rehab requires much from all people at all levels

Suggested Resources

- Hate in the Rehab Setting*, Gans, J. Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, April 1983
- Introduction to the Work of Bion*, Grinberg, Sor, Bianchedi, Jason Aronson, Inc. NY 1977
- Group Relations Readers 1&2* Washington, DC: A. K. Rice Institute, 1973, 1983
- Workplace with Psychodynamics of Organizational Life*, Hirschorn. MIT Press, 1980
- Semrad: The Heart of a Therapist*, Rako, Mazer, Semrad. NY, 1980
- Analysis & Transference, vol 1&2*, Gill, Hoffman, Inter. Univ. Press, 1983
- Neurotic Style*, Shapiro. Harper, NY, 1965
- The Structure of Dynamics of Groups & Organizations*, Berne, Lippincott, 1967
- Rashômon*, Kurosawa, A., 1950



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