

EDITORIAL

The birth of International Journal of Integrative Psychotherapy

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With great pleasure we announce the first issue of the new journal dedicated to theory, practice and research in Integrative Psychotherapy. The International Journal of Integrative Psychotherapy (IJIP) is a free online journal launched by the International Integrative Psychotherapy Association (IIPA) (<http://www.integrativeassociation.com/>).

Usually an editorial is published at the beginning of the journal, however the online journal permits a different structure of publishing articles. IJIP publishes a new article each month and now we have completed the first issue of the journal. With the first issue completed, we are publishing the editorial comments at the end.

Let's begin with the focus and scope of IJIP. The IJIP publishes original peer-reviewed papers concerning theory, practice and research in Integrative Psychotherapy (IP). The Journal accepts papers presenting new developments in theory and practice, case studies, research articles and papers that review existing work in the area. Specially valued are the articles that integrate therapists' phenomenological experience, clinical thinking, theories and research. The Journal is also open to new ideas in the wider field of psychotherapy, psychology, psychiatry and other sciences that may potentially be useful for the development of Integrative Psychotherapy.

The first issue of the Journal symbolically begins with Richard Erskine's keynote address presented at the 4th Annual IIPA Conference in Slovenia about relational group psychotherapy. Richard Erskine is one of the founders and also current president of IIPA. From the seventies he has dedicated himself to psychotherapy integration and has developed the core concepts of Integrative Psychotherapy which are now practiced in different countries around the world. His work eventually led toward the establishing IIPA as non-profit organization that facilitates international communication among professional psychotherapists who use the concepts of Integrative Psychotherapy.

In the first issues we have another two keynote addresses from IIPA conferences. Landy Gobes (USA) presents her personal journey toward wholeness and integration in moving article The Search for Clues. John Hallet

from Canada explores the theme of importance of developing positive resources in psychotherapy and integrating insights from EMDR and positive psychology in integrative psychotherapy.

The first issue of the journal also includes two case studies of integrative psychotherapy. Maruša's Zaletel (Slovenia) article 'Journey towards Integration: The Case of Lara' is a written case study about journey toward integration. In the introduction Marusa writes: 'This journey is enriching for both travellers (the client and the therapist) and is making permanent changes in both.' (Zaletel, 2010, p. 11).

Brigitte Rota (France) in her article 'Regarding Developmental Perspectives' is giving readers the opportunity to look at her therapy practice through dialogues with her client. She describes the client's impact on her personal experience and the use of Inquiry, Attunement and Involvement in the process of client's search for inner truth and more coherent narrative.

The article of Lindsay Stewart (Canada) is an important contribution to the theory of relational needs in Integrative Psychotherapy. His article 'Relational Needs of the Therapist: Countertransference, Clinical Work and Supervision. Benefits and Disruptions in Psychotherapy' describes the influence of the therapist's own relational needs in the psychotherapy process. Many psychotherapy articles focus on clients and their transferences, but few articles explore therapist's needs in psychotherapy. Lindsay in his article explores exactly this - possible benefits and disruptions of therapists' relational needs concerning the client's emotional growth.

The concept of relational needs is also the article of Christopher K. Bitten 'Thinking About Referrals to Alcoholics Anonymous in Relational Ways'. In the article Christopher describes 'synergistic benefit in combining integrative psychotherapy with the client's involvement in AA' (Bitten, 2010, p. 25).

We hope that you will enjoy reading these articles as much as we did. And we invite you to publish in the International Journal of Integrative Psychotherapy!