

**WANDERING BEHAVIOR AMONG HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS WITH
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND ITS TREATMENT THROUGH
APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS; CASE STUDIES**

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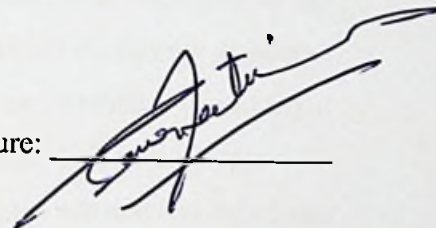
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A handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'Sawyer'.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Formerly, I am remarkably grateful to Almighty Allah for enabling me to develop the thirst for knowledge and utilizing it in the process of my own growth as a human being and spreading it to his beloved creatures. Nothing can be done if He does not will to. Accomplishing my goal would not be this easier without the strength provided by Him at each step of my journey.

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DEDICATION

To my mother, Parveen Siddqui & my soul mother Dr. Zainab F. Zadeh

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ABSTRACT

The current study was designed to investigate the effectiveness of Applied Behavioral Analysis procedures for reducing the wandering behavior in hospitalized patients with mental health issues. It was hypothesized that there would be significant decrease in wandering behavior of hospitalized patients after application of Differential Reinforcement for Alternate Behavior (DRA). A functional analysis was conducted together with the observation in order to select the participants according to the sample requirement. Total of 5 participants were selected through purposive sampling procedure. The entire study was divided into three phases: pre-intervention phase, intervention phase and post-intervention phase along with follow-up observations. The whole procedure was designed for one-month treatment plan with 4 days pre-intervention, 10 days intervention phase and 4 days post-intervention phase. Data was recorded for each phase and later statistically computed through sample mean method by using SPSS. The results of the study showed a significant decline in pinpoint behavior "Wandering" which was replaced by the target behavior "Sitting with the therapist". Factors like education level, family dynamics, rapport building, time selection and mood of the participant were found to be contributing factors in the process.