

**ABSTRACT:**

A folk narrative can be defined as a verbal story in which something concerning is recounted; this paper uses this format to construct a story about a therapist's response to the transition of a charity therapy service in which he volunteered to an IAPT service. Such a narrative raises important questions concerning congruence between values and actions, and the capacity for practitioners to challenge dominant discourses. Further issues are raised in terms of the 'role' of therapists in contemporary society, for instance whether they are merely nodes in the production flow of a service or something different.

The folk narrative, here, represents an expression of a recent piece of research that investigated therapists' views concerning practice as research. Through the narrative; which attempts a phenomenological account of the 'teller's' experience, research participants' views re-emerge as well as a critical perspective upon narrative, resistance, ethical practice and the manufacture of consent through seductive discourses. The paper engages with the conference themes by posing the question as to whether psychotherapy as a therapeutic and socially and politically engaged practice can exist within current and dominant structures.