## ABSTRACT

Clinical Instructor is a professional nurse who selected experts in nursing clinical practice. A Clinical Instructor has a job that one of them is guiding and directing learners. Learners are referred to in this case are the college students who are doing the Job Training at the hospital. In accordance with the job description, a Clinical Instructor must have a deeper knowledge of the field, which is health, especially in the field of nursing. Based on the pre-study conducted by researchers, researchers surveyed firsthand that there is a difference between understanding theory to practice therapeutic communication at the Mental Hospital of West Java Province. Given these misconceptions, the theory of therapeutic communication and therapeutic relationship will continually misunderstanding in the future. The research is a qualitative research with case study approach. The data obtained in this study are from interviews, observation and documentation. Informants in this study was obtained by snowball sampling. Researchers met with a clinical instructor to serve as informants. The next informant obtained from the recommendation given by the first informant. Based on the results of this study concluded that the understanding and application of therapeutic communication by a clinical instructor at the Mental Hospital of West Java province it is still lacking. Some of clinical instructor, still lacking in understanding about non-therapeutic communication techniques, communication paraverbal and also about the therapeutic relationship. In addition to the application of non-therapeutic communication techniques and verbal communication is still not optimal. Communication is described as non-therapeutic communication as usual or for the hospital's often referred to as social communication.

*Keywords : Therapeutic Communication, Clinical Instructor, Mental Hospital in West Java Province.*