

Registrering af forskningsprojekt

Dansk Selskab for Apopleksi

Projektets titel	"Stroke survivor's experiences with rehabilitation – a qualitative evidence synthesis"
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Projektets (forventede) start- og slutdato	September 2008 - November 2009
Baggrund	Stroke is a significant health issue worldwide with great impact on the daily lives of those affected. This makes stroke rehabilitation a field of great importance to occupational therapy practice. For occupational therapists it can be desirable to address questions about how stroke survivors experience stroke rehabilitation, and how occupational therapists can integrate the client experiences in the rehabilitation process; what aspects of the intervention they value (or not) and the reasons for this. Qualitative research is increasingly gaining more exposure and credibility as a way to investigate the perspective of the client. However, even though qualitative research has shown a substantive body of knowledge, it still has limited impact on clinical practice. Qualitative research therefore calls for systematic ways to make this knowledge more accessible; a meta-summary can provide this and can add this type of knowledge to the evidence-base and be used by policy makers and practitioners to give direction to best practice. A

	significant number of studies on stroke survivor's experiences with rehabilitation exist to warrant a qualitative evidence synthesis.
Formål	<p>The objective of this study is to identify, aggregate and synthesise findings of published qualitative research studies on stroke survivor's experiences with stroke rehabilitation.</p> <p>A qualitative evidence synthesis on stroke survivors experiences with rehabilitation will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an overview of current knowledge about how stroke survivors experience rehabilitation. • Be an important contribution to client-centred and evidence-based practice, since this can provide information on how health care professionals can incorporate stroke survivors experiences with rehabilitation, e.g. what aspects of the intervention they value (or not) and why this is so. • Make qualitative findings on stroke survivor's experiences with rehabilitation more assessable for practitioners and policy makers.
Metode	<p>A meta-summary of qualitative findings was chosen to investigate stroke survivor's experience with rehabilitation. A meta-summary is a research synthesis of qualitative findings and refers to a process and product of scientific inquiry aimed at systematically reviewing and formally integrating the findings in reports of completed qualitative studies.</p> <p>DATA COLLECTION</p> <p>A search strategy was developed and performed in two steps to ensure a comprehensive search:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Electronic databases; PubMed, CINAHL, EMBASE and PsycINFO. Search terms used in databases were: "Qualitative", "Stroke", "Rehabilitation", "intervention", "Clinical settings", "Experience". 2) Browsing and berry-picking involving; foot-note-, author- and citation searching, and journal run. <p>Included in the sample were published qualitative research studies written in English, Norwegian, Swedish or Danish from 1990 to 2008, covering the client's experience with stroke rehabilitation in a clinical setting. Excluded were mixed methods studies where the qualitative findings could not be separated from the quantitative, mixed sample studies where findings about stroke survivors could not be separated from the rest of the sample and longitudinal studies where it was not possible to separate the part of the rehabilitation that took place in a clinical setting.</p> <p>A pilot test of three appraisal tools showed The Primary Research Appraisal Tool to be the best and most dynamic tool to work with, and was found to provide a good foundation for the further analysis. The appraisal of the literature was done in a similar manner for all the primary research studies.</p> <p>DATA ANALYSIS:</p> <p>The techniques used for creating a meta-summary entails extraction-, grouping-, abstraction of the findings. In some cases a meta-summary also entails calculating the effect sizes of the findings, but effect size will not be included in the present study</p> <p><u>Extraction and editing findings:</u></p> <p>From the results of the initial search using selected key terms, titles and abstract were used to determine suitability for inclusion based on the selected criteria. After the initial reading of all the primary research reports, the findings from each report were extracted and edited.</p>

	<p>This phase therefore entailed distinguishing and separating the specific findings relevant to stroke survivors experiences with rehabilitation from all other elements of the primary research studies; a) Presentation of data (e.g. quotations, incidents, stories), b) References to findings from other studies, c) Descriptions of the analytic procedures (e.g. coding schemes) and d) Researchers discussions of the significance of their findings. To preserve the researcher's intentions and in order to enhance the quality of the analysis I stayed as close to the words of the researcher as possible. This phase produced 372 findings.</p> <p><u>Grouping findings:</u> After extraction and editing, the findings were grouped according to what appeared to be about the same topic. In this phase I began to combine the text from the twelve studies. I started by developing groups in relation to the first study, and then added new groups when proceeding with the second study and so forth. The names of the groups were developed from the key findings of the text. This provided a preliminary picture of how the findings were related. This phase produced 72 initial groups.</p> <p><u>Abstracting findings:</u> In the abstraction process, the initial groups were condensed even further. This was done by a back-and-forth process looking at findings and groups, searching for overlap and relationships among the groups. This process was repeated several times. The abstracted findings were eventually separated into categories representing the spectrum of stroke survivor's experiences with rehabilitation</p>
<p>Status: juni 2009</p>	<p>The initial search using selected key terms identified 630 titles. From the results of the initial search, titles and abstracts were used to determine suitability for inclusion based on the selected criteria. Forty-nine studies were selected for initial reading, from which nineteen studies were selected for critical appraisal. Seven studies were excluded after critical appraisal, due to rigour and quality. Twelve studies were included in the meta-synthesis for further quality assessment and data extraction.</p> <p>The sample size for the individual studies ranged from 5 to 40, with a collective sample of 269 participants. The extracted findings showed that there was a substantial agreement among the collective sample, even though the experiences the stroke survivors had voiced about rehabilitation was shared across a thirteen year time span (from 1995 to 2008) covering different clinical settings (hospital, stroke units, rehabilitation wards, nursing homes) and multiple nationalities (China, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, The Netherlands and UK). Der arbejdes aktuelt på analysedelen.</p>
<p>Øvrige bemærkninger</p>	<p>Studiet er specialet i forbindelse med en international masteruddannelse ved European Master of Science in Occupational Therapy.</p>