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## ADHERENCIA AL USO DE FERULAS DE MIEMBRO SUPERIOR EN PACIENTES QUE HAN SUFRIDO ACV

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Introduction: Upper extremity orthoses are devices applied externally to prevent deformities and to control the variations in the muscular tone in patients' hand with stroke's sequels.

Objective: To analyze the adhesiveness, as the degree of the implementation of therapeutic indication's, in regard to the use of the splint in after-stroke patients.

Subject and Method: observational approach (cases series) about 21 patients in neuro-rehabilitation, who were equipped with the upper extremity splint.

Inclusion criteria: Stroke diagnosis, chronic, splint's indication, clinically stable (30 days). They have been evaluated on: functionality, Functional Independence Measure (FIM); upper limb dress, dress item of FIM; upper extremity damage, FUGL-MEYER (FM); level of satisfaction in the use of the splint, Visual Analog Scale (VAS); cognitive level, Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE).

Statistics: chi2, a:0.05.

Results: 12 women, 52,4% hemorrhage stroke, age average 52,5 years (FROM 19.5), development years average 4,5 (FROM 5.8), MMSE 28,5 (FROM 3,4). 52,3% of them already used functional position splints.

Functional State: VAS 4,5 (FROM 5,8); FIM 95,7 (FROM 25.4); dress FIM 4,9 (1,9); FM 19,28 (FROM 20.7). 50% of the patients are not using splint currently, 40% of them do not uses the device because of changes in the line of treatment and 60% because of an unfit design of the splint. The 50% of the patients who continue the treatment do not use the device  $_{(p=5E-21)}$ .

Conclusion: Poor adhesiveness in the use of the splint. Obtained data do not allow ruling out that this fact is itself directly related to the treatment and characteristics of the indications. The continuity in the treatment do not imply a bigger adhesiveness to the device.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRACTICE/ EVIDENCIAL BASE OF THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY: based on results obtained, it shows the importance of developing standardized evaluation that allow to determine and justify in an objective way the need of use or not of splints in upper limbs in patients that had suffered a stroke