

## Occupational gaps after stroke in a sample from Iran

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**Background:** Stroke is one of the most common causes of disability with consequences that can lead to participation restrictions and dependency in clients, which in turn can directly affect on their life satisfaction. One important form of restriction has been described as an occupational gap that takes place between what individuals want to do and what they actually do in terms of everyday life activities.

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to explore and describe occupational gaps, and to identify different aspects of functioning, contextual factors and health conditions associated with occupational gaps after stroke.

**Methods:** A sample of 102 persons with stroke with the age range 27 to 75 years admitted in 4 neurological clinics in Teheran gave their informed consent to participate in the study. The participants were assessed in different aspects of functioning, contextual factors, and health conditions. Occupational gaps were assessed using the Persian version of Occupational Gaps Questionnaire (OGQ-P). Rasch model, descriptive statistics and multivariate regression analysis were used for the analysis.

**Results:** The analysis will mainly focus on describing the perceived level of occupational gaps among a sample of people with stroke in Iran and identifying those variables influencing their occupational gaps. The analysis is in progress now.

**Implications for occupational therapy practice:** Findings of this study document how persons with stroke perceive their gaps in occupational participation after stroke. This information will be helpful in predicting their specific needs for adaptation after their stroke and also to plan appropriate OT interventions to help them improve participation in their occupations.