

The relationship between the usage of community transportation on stroke clients and health related QOL score.

Hideki TANAKA^{1,2}

¹*Kanagawa University of Human Services, Kanagawa, Japan,* ²*Hiratsuka City Hospital, Kanagawa, Japan*

Objective: Occupational Therapists facilitate clients participation into the community activities. In Japan, stroke clients in urban area use community transportation for social participation. In this research, we will investigate the relationship between the situation of usage of community transportation on stroke clients and health related QOL score.

Method: Informants of this study were 50 clients who lives in community after stroke. Informants were classified by the Japanese Version of Elderly Disabled Independent Living Scale, and clients classified in scale J and A were chosen for informants. Research data was constructed by the interview with sub-structured questioner asking usage of community transportation and the frequency of outing, health related QOL scores of the SF-8(the Mos 8-Item Short-Form Health Survey). The data was statistically analyzed by Chi-square test and Spearman's rank correlation coefficient.

Results: There is statistically significant correlation between the independency of the informant and the frequency of outing, and highly independent informant shows more requests for the usage of community transportation. The distance between the residence and terminal of transportation does not effect on the usage frequency. Both the frequency of outing and the independency of daily living do not show statistically significant correlation between health related QOL score. Narrative data of the sub-structured interview shows "higher health related QOL scored group" has a tendency of having voluntarily activities with pleasure, and making affirmative comments on community transportation.

Conclusion: Though the frequency of the clients' outing and the independency of clients' daily living were assumed to have correlation between health related QOL score, this research showed non-correlation between these factors. Clients' attitude of having voluntarily activities with pleasure or positive stance for their life has a possibility that having an effect on health related QOL score. The usage of community transportation on stroke clients will improve their health related QOL score with their participation in voluntarily activities with pleasure.