

Stroke survivors' experiences of Daily Functioning, one month after receiving Occupational Therapy Intervention as inpatients at one of the hospitals, Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

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Introduction: The study explored stroke survivors' experiences at their home environments. The focus is about subjective experiences of stroke survivors on occupational therapy intervention after being discharged from in-patient rehabilitation. South Africa is confronted with various challenges and exploring the experiences of stroke survivors after discharge from hospitals, can be better focused according to their needs in the transition period.

Objective: The objective of the study was to describe stroke survivors' experiences of their daily functioning up to three months after receiving occupational therapy intervention as in-patients at the hospital.

Methods: A qualitative research method and phenomenological approach was used to study the primary subjective experiences of the participants. Convenience sampling was used in identifying eligible participants. The main method of data collection was semi-structured interviews. Inductive thematic analysis was used with the International Classification of Functioning Framework to give structure to the findings.

Results: Three themes emerged: Theme one: Activities and Participation - "*Participants struggle with activities they were previously able to do*". Theme two: Personal Factors - "*Moving forward involves making a conscious decision and receiving emotional support*". Theme three: Environmental Factors - "*Participants perceive community clinics as a place where they can receive their medication and help*."

Conclusions: Participants had the opportunity to share their experience of functioning after discharged from hospital. Findings will provide relevant healthcare services with insight into the specific needs of stroke survivors in their return to home. This will allow for possible improvements regards to in-patient stroke rehabilitation intervention.