

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55458

Title: "Effects of Repeated Task Training on Strength, ROM, and Functions of Hand in Individuals after Stroke"

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- ✓ Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality			✓	
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr S. K. Nath

Date: 26.12.25

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths of the Study

- The research addresses an important and relevant issue in stroke rehabilitation, focusing on hand function improvement through a structured intervention.
- The study design appears to be a randomized controlled trial, which strengthens the validity of the findings.
- The intervention, Repeated Task Training (RTT), is well-defined and grounded on principles of neuroplasticity.
- Multiple outcome measures (hand grip strength, ROM, Fugl-Meyer Assessment) provide comprehensive assessment of functional and motor improvements.
- The results demonstrate statistically significant improvements in the experimental group, indicating effective intervention.
- The paper contributes valuable evidence to the ongoing debate about the efficacy of task-specific repetitive training post-stroke.

Weaknesses of the Study

- The sample size of 50 participants (25 per group) may limit the generalizability of the findings.
- The duration and follow-up period of the intervention are not explicitly mentioned, which are important for understanding lasting effects.
- The methodology for participant randomization and allocation concealment is not described in detail.
- The study lacks detailed information on ethical approvals, consent procedures, or registration specifics.
- The control intervention is described as conventional therapy but lacks specifics, making comparison difficult.
- The statistical analysis, while appropriate, does not provide effect size or confidence intervals for all outcomes.
- Presentation of results is primarily table-based with limited discussion of clinical significance.
- Minor grammatical and typographical errors are present throughout the manuscript.
- Figures and visual aids are absent, which could help in understanding and illustrating key findings.
- The references are comprehensive but could adhere more closely to journal-specific formatting guidelines.

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Reviewer Comments

- The title clearly reflects the study focus. The abstract effectively summarizes purpose, methodology, and key findings but could improve clarity by explicitly stating the study design.
- The introduction provides a good overview of stroke-related hand impairments and rationale for RTT but could be more concise and focused on the research gap.
- Objectives are implied but should be explicitly stated at the end of the introduction.
- The methodology generally appears sound; however, details on randomization, blinding, and ethical approval are missing. Clarify whether ethical clearance was obtained and from which authority.
- The statistical methods are appropriate, but inclusion of effect sizes and confidence intervals would strengthen interpretation.
- Results are comprehensive but need more interpretation of the clinical relevance of the observed improvements.
- The discussion appropriately relates findings to existing literature but should critically address limitations and potential bias.
- The conclusion appropriately summarizes the findings. It would benefit from a discussion of limitations and implications for practice.
- Ethical considerations, including approval and informed consent, should be explicitly documented.
- The manuscript contains minor language issues and typographical errors that should be corrected.
- The tables are clear but could be complemented with figures for better visualization.
- The references are thorough and relevant but should follow consistent citation style as per journal requirements.