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## INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR)

Article DOI:10.21474/IJAR01/16696  
DOI URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21474/IJAR01/16696>



### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### EVALUATION OF STROKE REHABILITATION SERVICES IN THE IN-HOSPITAL PHASE: FINDINGS FROM A TERTIARY CARE CENTRE IN INDIA

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#### Manuscript Info

##### Manuscript History

Received: 15 February 2023

Final Accepted: 19 March 2023

Published: April 2023

#### Abstract

**Background-** Stroke rehabilitation involves a multidisciplinary team providing comprehensive care to the patient.<sup>(1)</sup> The functioning of Stroke Units (SU), the highest evidence available for stroke care, is guided by the World Stroke Organisation's (WSO) roadmap of core recommendations and key quality indicators.<sup>(2)</sup>

**Objectives-** To evaluate the quality of stroke rehabilitation in comparison to the WSO core recommendations at a tertiary care centre in India

**Methodology-** A mixed method design with an exploratory research model was used. The study was conducted in 2 phases including retrospective data extraction from medical records and telephonic follow-up on the patient's functional status and adherence to physiotherapy post-discharge. 84 patient records (those admitted between Jan –June 2021) were screened. Data was extracted from 49 patient files that fulfilled inclusion criteria. 35 patients were excluded due to unavailability of patient files, non-stroke related hospital admissions. In Phase 2, qualitative data was gathered using telephonic interviews, from 7 patients who consented for the same.

**Results-** The mean age of the sample was 56.9 ±13 years with approximately two third being males and a predominance towards ischaemic strokes (62%). Those with severe impairment on Fugl Meyer assessment were 28% of the sample. It was observed that there was inconsistent documentation of various core recommendations provided by WSO (<20%) while 16% of the services provided were not documented at all. Only two of the five key quality indicators of stroke rehab were documented.

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#### Introduction:-

Neurological disorders affect an average of 13 million people globally and is ranked the second most common cause of mortality.<sup>(1), (2)</sup> Amongst various causes of disability, neurological disorders rank the highest causing 11.6% of global disability-adjusted life years (DALYs).<sup>(3)</sup> Among neurological disorders, stroke represents the highest need for rehabilitation (86 million people and 18 million YLDs) across the world.<sup>(4)</sup> This need is further emphasized by the World Health Organization (WHO) agenda of development and delivery of accessible, effective, and economical rehabilitation services across the globe in 2017 (WHO rehabilitation 2030 agenda).<sup>(5)</sup>

It is a known fact that stroke has long-term, debilitating effects on an individual's functional life and participation in the community. Stroke Units (SUs) and Multidisciplinary teams (MDT) are two approaches with high evidence for effective stroke care delivery in improving clinical, functional and quality of life (QOL) outcomes.<sup>(5,6)</sup> Thus it is essential for various tiers of health care system to follow recommended guidelines and recommendations in delivering stroke care and evaluate themselves periodically with standardized Key Quality Indicators (KQI).

One such standard of measurement is provided by the World Stroke Organization (WSO). In 2014, WSO provided a roadmap to deliver good quality stroke care, with core recommendations and KQI as a measure of quality of service at health centres. This includes recommendations and KQI for long-term stroke rehabilitation which are based on current evidence.<sup>(7,8)</sup> While they provide a framework for standardized care globally, there exists a question of adherence to these recommendations at health care facilities.

In addition, patients' perspective about the rehabilitation services provided to them aid in measuring the quality of services provided, by highlighting barriers in care, missing components and insights into the factors responsible for poor compliance to rehabilitation amongst patients.<sup>(9,10)</sup> The present study aimed to

- a) evaluate the quality of stroke rehabilitation in accordance with the WSO core recommendations at a tertiary care centre in India (essential and advances levels of health service)
- b) follow up on patients' long term functional status, perspectives and access to stroke rehabilitation.

### **Methodology:-**

A mixed method design was used with an exploratory research model used. The study was conducted in 2 phases at the Department of Neurology of a tertiary care centre:

#### **Phase 1:**

Included retrospective data extraction from medical records admitted in the Stroke Unit from January to June 2021. The inclusion criteria for the present study was

1. Patients diagnosed with any type of Stroke
2. Patients admitted to the Stroke Unit (SU), Department of Neurology between Jan 2021- June 2021
3. Those with a first-ever or recurrent stroke,
4. Patients who received at least one session of Physiotherapy intervention during their in-hospital stay.

Ethics approval was received from the Institutional Ethics Committee prior to commencement of the study (Ref. No- IECCMCL/BMHR-08-431-21/Approvl-/Neuro). Relevant medical and rehabilitation related data was extracted on the Case Record Form (CRF-1, supplementary material/appendix) which was designed to include demographic data, stroke details, in-patient treatment details, physiotherapy assessment and treatment session details. The CRF was developed using the core recommendations and KQI given by WSO as a guideline.<sup>(6)</sup>

The ward admissions register and patient discharge summaries from January-June 2021 were retrieved and screened as per the selection criteria (Figure 1). The hospital files were retrieved from the medical records department and data entry was done by MM and NS. From the initial screening, 84 patients were found of which, 35 patients were excluded due to various reasons- unavailability of medical files (n= 15), admission for neurological disorders other than stroke (n=14), patients leaving against medical advice (n=1), duplicate files (n= 2), incorrect hospital identification numbers (n=3).Data extraction was done for 49 patients and entered in an Excel Sheet.

#### **Figure 1:-** Process flow for the Phase-1 of the study

**Phase 2** involved telephonic follow-ups to collect information on the patient's functional status, adherence to physiotherapy post-discharge and perspectives on stroke rehabilitation. (CRF 2, appendix). The data extracted in phase-1 also instructed the telephonic follow up (CRF-2, supplementary material/appendix) of the patients which was the Phase 2 of the study.

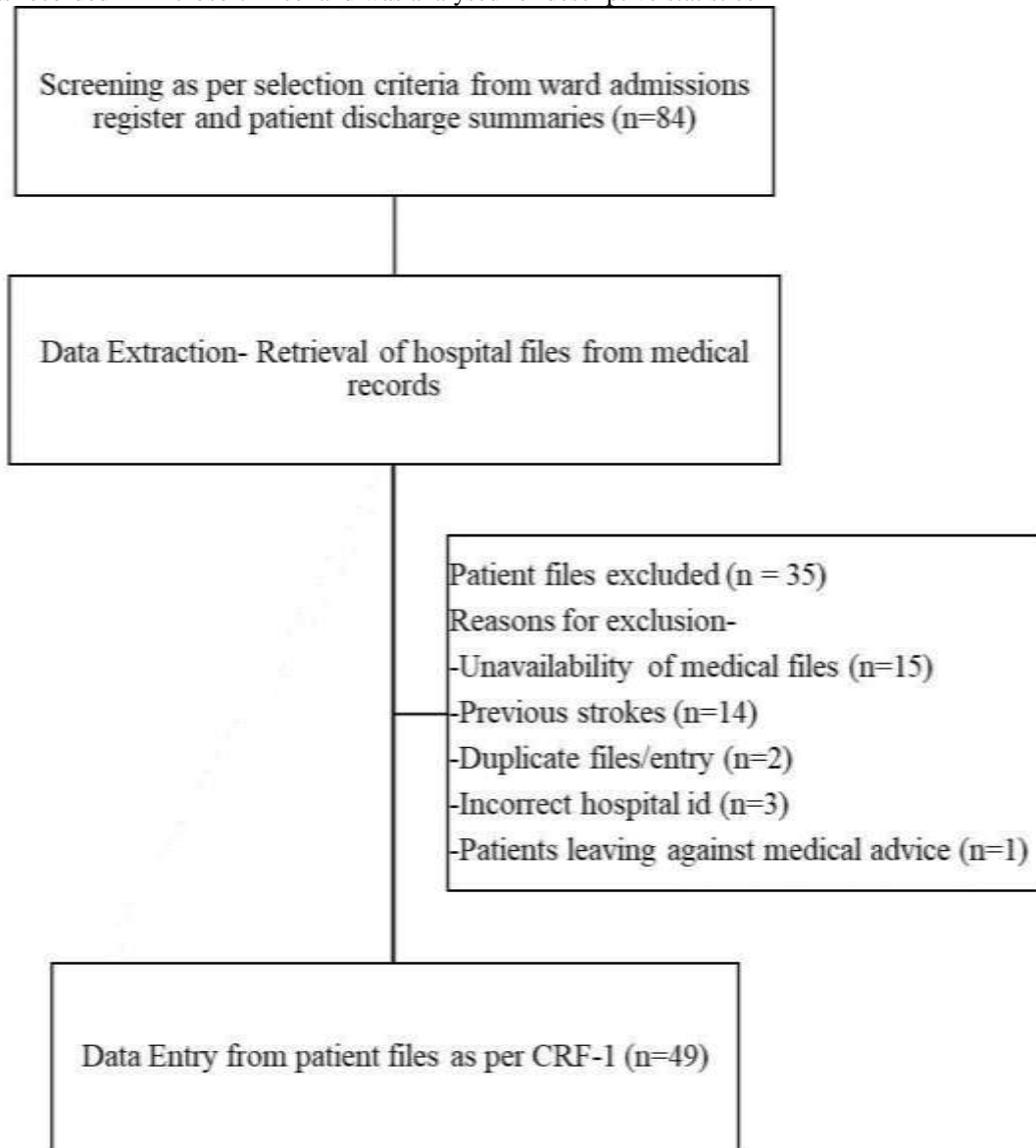
18 patients who received physiotherapy during their hospital stay as documented in the medical files and who were advised to continue exercises after discharge were chosen for phase 2. Out of these, 4 mortalities were recorded during the hospital stay.

Phone calls were made to 14 patients seven of whom were able to participate in the interview as per CRF-2. 7

patients were excluded- patients expired (n= 1), patients didn't pick up the call/ incorrect phone number (n= 6).

Verbal Informed consent was taken before beginning the telephonic interview. The telephonic conversation was audio recorded and CRF-2 was administered as per the predefined interview guide.

Data was recorded in Microsoft Excel and was analysed for descriptive statistics



### Results:-

The study aimed to evaluate the in-hospital stroke rehabilitation services during acute and early subacute stroke. 49 patient records were analysed as per the data extraction done from the hospital files. About two-thirds of the sample were males, with a mean age of 56.9 years ( $\pm 13$ ). (Figure 2) Half of the patients had a moderate stroke (NIHSS score of 7-16) which was predominantly an ischemic attack (62%). About 29% of the Fugl Meyer scores were documented of which close to half of the patients had very severe upper limb impairment (FMA score of 0-35) following stroke. (See Figure 3)

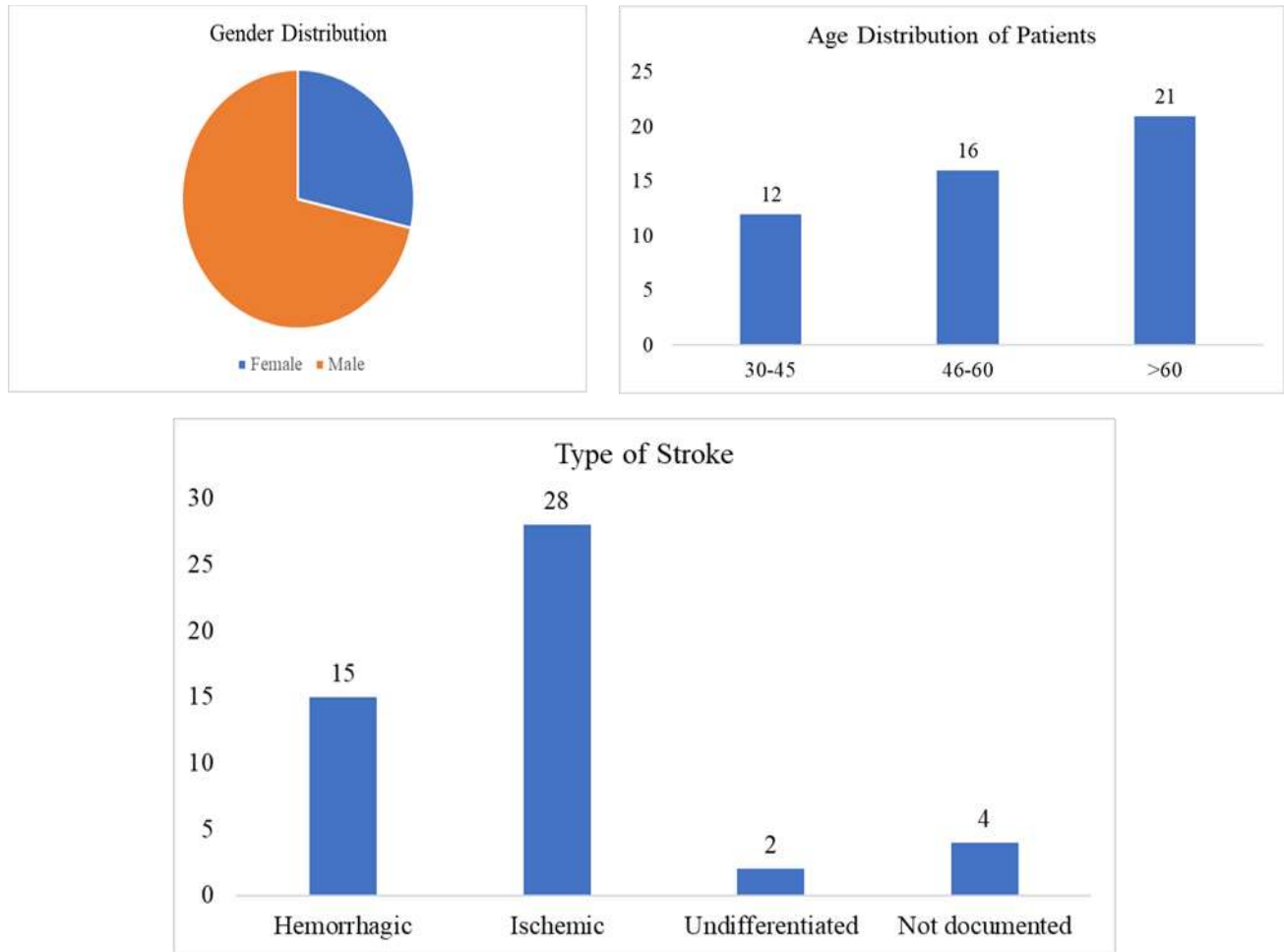


Figure 2:- Patient Demographics (n = 49).

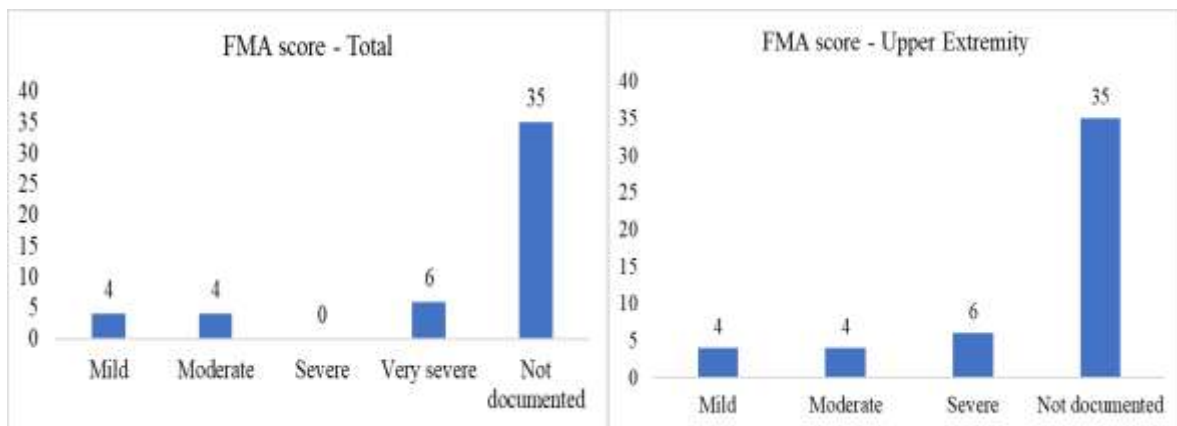


Figure 3:- Documented Patient Characteristics (n = 49).

Rehabilitation services at this SU were customized for patients based on the severity of the stroke (NIHSS) and their residual impairment (FMA). Only 2 out of the 5 KQI for Essential and Advanced level SU were documented by this centre. However, lack of documentation does not clarify whether these measures were being followed without documentation or were not followed at all. For KQI-2 documentation was found in 70% of the patients, however, we can state that 100% of the patients were rehabilitated in the SU as this centre consists of a dedicated space for rehabilitation within its SU. For KQI-3, an average of 30 mins of Physiotherapy was recorded which included both

ICU and ward-based physiotherapy sessions. Sessions provided by Occupational Therapists and Speech Language Pathologists were not documented. The fall risk assessment was documented for 6% of the patients. The centre reported no falls during the in-hospital phase of the included sample.

**Table 3:-** Documentation of WSO Rehabilitation Recommendations for Essential Stroke Unit (n = 49).

| <b>WSO Rehabilitation Recommendations for Essential &amp; advanced Level SU</b>  | <b>Data Recorded</b>       |
|--|----------------------------|
| <b>All patients with acute stroke should have an initial functional assessment to determine rehabilitation needs and receive an individualized rehabilitation plan.</b>                              |                            |
| Record of trunk evaluation   | 27 (55.1%)                 |
| Outcome measurement for impairment as per ICDH-2   | 18 (36.7%)                 |
| Outcome measurement for functional limitation as per ICIHD-2   | 16 (32.7%)                 |
| FMA score UL   | 14 (28.6%)                 |
| FMA score LL   | 14 (28.6%)                 |
| FMA score total  | 14 (28.6%)                 |
| Modified Barthel Index score   | 7 (14.3%)                  |
| Berg Balance Scale   | 3 (6.1%)                   |
| <b>All patients who are admitted to inpatient rehabilitation following stroke should be treated in a specialized stroke rehabilitation unit.</b>   |                            |
| PT referral by Physician   | 23 (47%)                   |
| Therapy should include repetitive and intense use of tasks that challenge the patient to acquire the necessary skills needed to perform functional tasks and activities.                             | <b>Data not documented</b> |
| Patients should receive adaptive training (such as the use of specialized devices) to improve performance of specific functional tasks.  | <b>Data not documented</b> |
| Spasticity and contractures can be prevented or treated by antispastic pattern positioning, range-of-motion exercises, and/or stretching. Routine use of splints is not recommended                  | <b>Data not documented</b> |
| <b>Healthcare workers and families should be taught to protect and support the paretic arm during movement, and to protect during wheelchair use by using a hemi-tray or arm trough.</b>             |                            |
| Caregiver training on therapy  | 1 (2%)                     |
| <b>Patients should be made aware of their increased risk for falls and given a list of precautions to reduce their risk of falling.</b>  |                            |
| Patients should be assessed for post stroke pain, including persistent central pain and shoulder pain on the affected side.  | Data not documented        |
| Patients should be assessed for communication deficits.  | Data not documented        |
| Interventions to improve functional communication for patients with aphasia should be implemented (such as teaching families about the need for ongoing conversation, use of non-verbal strategies). | Data not documented        |
| Patients with aphasia should be referred to a speech-language pathologist for individualized therapy to improve communication ability.   | Data not documented        |

For the second phase of the study, patients (n=7) were contacted for a telephonic interview. All the patients that were contacted stated that they received physiotherapy services during hospitalization, were trained (along with their caregivers/relatives) to continue with home rehabilitation and were facilitated by making appropriate arrangements to continue with rehabilitation post-discharge. The most common method used to train the patients and the caregivers was verbal instruction (57%); other methods used included videos and verbal instruction, printed material, and a combination of all the prior mentioned methods (14.3% each). On discharge, about half of the patients were referred to a local physiotherapist to continue with rehabilitation. More than half of the patients opted for a physiotherapist to visit their home to continue with their treatment, while the remaining preferred to do physiotherapy on their own (30%) or went to a physiotherapy clinic (14%). Conventional rehabilitative methods (72%) by themselves or in combination with either Constrained-Induced Movement Therapy (CIMT) (14.3%) or mirror therapy (14.3%) were used for home rehabilitation. Of the 7 patients with documented rehabilitation sessions, 57% had over 100 sessions of rehabilitation with each session ranging from 10-30 min (43%), 30-45 min (14%) or 45-60 min (29%). The intensity of the exercises was increased for 86% of these patients and 57% of patients

reported a change in their exercise. About 57% reported between 10-20 repetitions for each exercise. Resultantly 85% are now independent and have returned to their daily routine. (See Table 4)

**Table 4:-** Physiotherapy services offered (n = 7).

|   | Frequency |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Referred to local PT</b>                           |           |
| Yes   | 3 (42.9%) |
| No  | 4 (57.1%) |
| <b>Dependency Status based on mRS</b>                 |           |
| 0   | 3 (42.9%) |
| 1   | 3 (42.9%) |
| 2   | 1 (14.2%) |
| <b>Current work status</b>                            |           |
| Yes   | 6 (85.7%) |
| No  | 1 (14.3%) |
| <b>Use of upper limb orthosis</b>                     |           |
| Yes   | 1 (14.3%) |
| No  | 6 (85.7%) |
| <b>Adaptive training given</b>                        |           |
| Yes   | 4 (57.1%) |
| No  | 3 (42.9%) |
| <b>Functional independence</b>                        |           |
| Partially independent                                 | 1 (14.3%) |
| Independent   | 6 (85.7%) |
| <b>Training for home rehabilitation</b>               |           |
| Verbal instruction only                               | 4 (57.1%) |
| Videos and verbal instructions                        | 1 (14.3%) |
| Printed material                                      | 1 (14.3%) |
| All   | 1 (14.3%) |
| <b>Number of PT sessions post discharge</b>           |           |
| <100 sessions   | 3 (42.9%) |
| >100 sessions   | 4 (57.1%) |
| <b>Duration of each session</b>                       |           |
| 10-30 min   | 3 (42.9%) |
| 30-45 min   | 1 (14.3%) |
| 45-60 min   | 2 (28.6%) |
| <b>Mode of home-based rehab</b>                       |           |
| Conventional  | 5 (71.5%) |
| Conventional, CIMT                                    | 1 (14.3%) |
| Conventional, mirror therapy                          | 1 (14.3%) |
| <b>Progression in therapy plan</b>                    |           |
| Yes   | 6 (85.7%) |
| No  | 1 (14.3%) |
| <b>Change in exercises</b>                            |           |
| Yes   | 4 (57.1%) |
| No  | 3 (42.9%) |
| <b>Number of repetitions per exercise</b>             |           |
| <10   | 2 (28.6%) |
| 10-20   | 4 (57.1%) |
| Can't remember  | 1 (14.3%) |
| <b>Duration since stroke at the time of follow-up</b> |           |
| <1 year   | 1 (14.3%) |
| 1 year  | 5 (71.4%) |
| >1 year   | 1 (14.3%) |

| <b>Location of physiotherapy sessions</b> |           |
|---|-----------|
| Home physio                               | 4 (57.1%) |
| Self                                      | 2 (28.6%) |
| Private physio clinic                     | 1 (14.3%) |

### Challenges with continuing physiotherapy

71% of the patients did not continue Physiotherapy post-discharge either due to lack of interest or financial reasons. Those who continued with Physiotherapy reported functional recovery. Some patients were also able to continue physiotherapy despite the COVID-19 pandemic and none of them had to depend on telerehabilitation services. (See Table 5)

**Table 5:-** Challenges in the continuum of rehabilitation post-discharge (n = 7).

|   | <b>Frequency</b> |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Continued physiotherapy sessions</b>       |                  |
| Yes   | 2 (28.6%)        |
| No  | 5 (71.4%)        |
| <b>Reasons to discontinue PT</b>              |                  |
| Financial                                     | 1 (14.3%)        |
| Disinterested                                 | 2 (28.6%)        |
| Advised by doctor                             | 3 (42.9%)        |
| Patient was doing well                        | 1 (14.3%)        |
| <b>Ability to continue PT during COVID</b>    |                  |
| Yes   | 7 (100%)         |
| No  | 0 (0%)           |
| <b>Availed Telerehabilitation services</b>    |                  |
| Yes   | 0 (0%)           |
| No  | 7 (100%)         |
| <b>Cost-effective physiotherapy treatment</b> |                  |
| Yes   | 2 (28.6%)        |
| No  | 1 (14.3%)        |
| Did not take sessions                         | 4 (57.1%)        |

### Physiotherapy awareness

The pre-stroke awareness of physiotherapy among the stroke survivors and their families was found to be low (42.9%), but following stroke, all the patients were sensitized and recognized the importance of rehabilitation. Most patients were able to discern the difference between physiotherapy and yoga (85%) or massage (100%).

**Table 6:-** Public Awareness of Physiotherapy (n = 7).

|   | <b>Frequency</b> |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Knowledge of physiotherapy before stroke</b>                   |                  |
| Yes   | 3 (42.9%)        |
| No  | 4 (57.1%)        |
| <b>Awareness of the role of exercise in recovery after stroke</b> |                  |
| Yes   | 7 (100%)         |
| No  | 0 (0%)           |
| <b>Yoga and physiotherapy considered same</b>                     |                  |
| Yes   | 1 (14.3%)        |
| No  | 1 (14.3%)        |
| Somewhat  | 5 (71.4%)        |
| <b>Massage and physiotherapy considered same</b>                  |                  |
| Yes   | 0 (0%)           |
| No  | 6 (85.7%)        |
| Don't know  | 1 (14.3%)        |

**Discussion:-**

The evidence-based 26 KQIs in the WSO stroke clinical practice guidelines for stroke care form the foundation and a benchmark for quality improvement of stroke services to ensure high-quality comprehensive stroke care locally, regionally, and globally. This is measured by decreased risk of mortality and also the residual disability following stroke; thus mandating regular monitoring supported by good evidence. The 5 rehabilitation-specific quality indicators cover the entire gamut of stroke care from stroke recognition and response to longer-term stroke recovery.<sup>(11)</sup>

The comprehensive SU where this study was conducted is one of the pioneer centres across North India and is one of the first few comprehensive stroke care centres in India that provides stroke care by anMDT. ThisMDTconsists of stroke physicians/neurologists, neuro-intensivists, nursing staff trained in stroke care, neuro-physiotherapists, neuro-occupational therapists, speech and language pathologists, and nutritionist.<sup>(12)</sup>The other specialities include neurosurgery, palliative medicine, and psychiatry. These services are backed by the telestroke and telerehab services and the referral network that the centre shares with other healthcare facilities and service providers. These cost-effective services are vital to early detection and the continuum of stroke care for improved clinical outcomes.<sup>(13)</sup>

Monitoring effective treatment approaches in routine clinical practice results in a positive impact on clinical outcomes.It is often the case that there are challenges with adequate documentation of services provided or the lack of familiarity with the stroke guidelines and protocols due to disparity in the therapist:patient ratio where the focus is on rehabilitation services.in addition to the unavailability of written referrals. However, these referrals are often provided verbally or on the team's Whatsapp group which often overlooks the need for written communication in patient files.

Improving the quality of stroke care requires adherence to the evidence-based key quality indicators through multi-level changes in the reporting system, sensitization and training of personnel, periodic MDT reviews, and quality control reviews.<sup>(2)</sup> The multidisciplinary referrals and the reporting require a systematic process for accountability and patient-specific care.<sup>15</sup> The adoption of specific guidelines and protocols for ensuring complete documentation using a stroke-specific proforma would ensure adequate referral processes, as well as documentation of services provided to stroke patients.<sup>(14,15)</sup> Continuing professional development, facilitates the increased use of evidence-based protocols and interventions thus improving the quality of services provided.<sup>(16)</sup>

The limitations identified in the study were the challenges with the use of adjunct referral methods such as verbal instructions, the use of Whatsapp groups which were not adequately reflected in the patient documentation. Access to some patient files was restricted since some of the files are private admissions and some staff and patients keep their files after discharge.Despite adhering to the KQIs, the lack of adequate documentation of services provided reflected poorly on the quality of the stroke unit. Additionally, the lack of a stroke-specific patient proforma failed to ensure referrals and a comprehensive record of the services provided by the rehabilitation team in the patient documentation.

**Conclusion:-**

This project started as an audit of the rehabilitation services provided at the comprehensive stroke care centre based on the evidence-based WSO KQIs. During the audit, inadequacies in documentation were recognized, although patients received evidence-based rehabilitation. These lacunae contributed to a poor reflection of the quality of services provided at the centre. The importance of a comprehensive stroke-specific patient proforma has been recognized to ensure adherence to the WSO KQIs. The results of this study have shown there is a need to improve the documentation of services, additionally, there is a need for education and sensitization of healthcare staff on stroke care guidelines and protocols. Further benefits of this audit will improve patient outcomes through better-documented referrals and comprehensive documentation of stroke care services through the adoption of a stroke-specific patient proforma. The quality of services would be improved through periodic quality assessments and MDT reviews and evaluations. With most of the mechanisms put into place at the time of writing the manuscript, the comprehensive stroke centrehas made significant developments in the quality of services provided and has been the first comprehensive stroke care centre in India to be assessed for the WSO NABH (World Stroke Organisation and National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) Certification of Stroke Centers in India.



**Annexure****Case Record Form 1:-** Hospitalization record.

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>1. Demographics</b> |  |
| Name of Patient        |  |
| Hospital Number        |  |
| Age                    |  |
| Gender                 |  |
| Phone Number           |  |
| Address                |  |

| Category  | Details                                     |     |    | Comments/Details |
|---|---|-----|----|------------------|
| <b>2. Medical History and Admission Details</b>     |   |     |    |                  |
| Primary Treating Physician                          |   |     |    |                  |
| Diagnosis   |   |     |    |                  |
| Other Comorbid Conditions                           | HTN   | Yes | No |                  |
|   | DM  | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Dyslipidemia                                | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Cardiac issues                              | Yes | No |                  |
|   | TB  | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Bronchial Asthma                            | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Others                                      | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Not Documented                              | Yes | No |                  |
| Type of Stroke                                      | Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA)            | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Ischaemic                                   | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Haemorrhagic                                | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Venous                                      | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Undifferentiated                            | Yes | No |                  |
| Anatomical Area Affected                            |   |     |    |                  |
| Size of Lesion                                      |   |     |    |                  |
| Any Mass Effect                                     |   |     |    |                  |
| Treatment Regime followed                           | Conservative (Medical)/ Surgical/ DSA or MT |     |    |                  |
| Details of Conservative/Medical Treatment           |   |     |    |                  |
| Details of Surgical Treatment                       |   |     |    |                  |
| Details of DSA/MT                                   |   |     |    |                  |
| Ejection Fraction during Hospital Stay (in Percent) |   |     |    |                  |
| Mention the day Post Stroke when EF was recorded    |   |     |    |                  |
| Date of Admission                                   |   |     |    |                  |
| Date of Discharge                                   |   |     |    |                  |
| Duration of Hospital Stay (in days)                 |   |     |    |                  |
| Number of Days in the ICU                           |   |     |    |                  |
| Mode of Respiratory Care in ICU                     | Ventilator                                  | Yes | No |                  |
|   | Oxygen Support                              | Yes | No |                  |
|   | No External Support                         | Yes | No |                  |
| Duration of ventilator support (days)               |   |     |    |                  |
| Mode of Ventilation                                 |   |     |    |                  |
| Duration of oxygen support (days)                   |   |     |    |                  |
| Percentage of Oxygen Support                        |   |     |    |                  |
| Any Previous Hospital Admissions                    | Yes/No/ Not documented                      |     |    |                  |
| Any Secondary Complications during                  | Pressure Sores                              | Yes | No |                  |

|  |                           |              |  |  |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| hospital stay  | Seizures                  | Yes          | No   |  |
|  | Postural Hypotension      | Yes          | No   |  |
|  | Tightness/Contractures    | Yes          | No   |  |
|  | DVT                       | Yes          | No   |  |
|  | Pneumonia                 | Yes          | No   |  |
|  | Pulmonary Embolism        | Yes          | No   |  |
|  | Other (details)           |              |  |  |
| Whether it was a recurrent stroke?<br>(Any Previous history of TIA/Stroke)               | Yes                       | No           |  |  |
| NIHSS Score on Admission   |                           |              |  |  |
| NIHSS Score on Discharge   |                           |              |  |  |
| mRS at Admission   |                           |              |  |  |
| mRS at Discharge   |                           |              |  |  |
| Was Swallowing Assessment done   | Yes                       | No           | Details:<br>IMPROVISE Stroke Swallow Screening Tool                |  |
| Total Swallow Score (1 for Pass, 0 for Fail, Max. Score=9)                               |                           |              |  |  |
| Was Pain Assessment done   | Yes                       | No           | Details:   |  |
| <b>3. Physiotherapy Details</b>  |                           |              |  |  |
| Documentation of PT referral by Treating Physician                                       | Yes                       | No           |  |  |
| Physiotherapy during Hospital Stay   | Yes                       | No           | Denied Physiotherapy/<br>Uncooperative for one or more PT Sessions |  |
| If Patient denied Physiotherapy, what was the reason (if available)?                     |                           |              |  |  |
| Duration from onset to first PT Session (in days)  |                           |              |  |  |
| Number of Physiotherapy Sessions during Hospital Stay                                    |                           |              |  |  |
| Frequency of Physiotherapy Sessions in ICU   | Once a day                |              |  |  |
|  | Twice a day               |              |  |  |
|  | Thrice a day              |              |  |  |
| Frequency of Physiotherapy Sessions in Ward  | Once a day                |              |  |  |
|  | Twice a day               |              |  |  |
|  | Thrice a day              |              |  |  |
| Who gave Physiotherapy Sessions during Hospital Stay                                     | Physiotherapists          |              |  |  |
|  | Caregiver                 |              |  |  |
|  | Nursing Staff             |              |  |  |
| Whether Aerobic Training was initiated by Physiotherapist during hospital stay           | Yes                       | No           | Details  |  |
| Documentation of PT provided by caregiver during hospital stay                           | Yes                       | No           |  |  |
| PT Assessment (Impairment, Activity Limitation, Participation restriction) documentation | Yes                       | No           |  |  |
| Which scale for each of these categories of ICIDH-2                                      | <b>Category</b>           | <b>Scale</b> |  |  |
|  | Impairment                |              |  |  |
|  | Participation restriction |              |  |  |

|  |                       |    |                            |
|--|-----------------------|----|----------------------------|
|  | Functional limitation |    |                            |
| Record of Trunk Evaluation   | Yes                   | No | Details:                   |
| Record of High fall risk patients  | Yes                   | No | Details:                   |
| FMA Score U/L  |                       |    |                            |
| FMA Score L/L  |                       |    |                            |
| FMA Score Total  |                       |    |                            |
| BBS Score  |                       |    |                            |
| Modified Barthel Index Score   |                       |    |                            |
| Documentation of Home PT advice  | Yes                   | No |                            |
| Were any materials provided to the patient for home care at discharge?   | Yes                   | No |                            |
| If yes, details: print outs of exercises with dosage, only print-outs, WhatsApp videos, verbal instructions alone, coordinated with local/home physiotherapist etc |                       |    |                            |
| Documentation of PT training to caregiver  | Yes                   | No |                            |
| Was Patient part of any research trial?  | Yes                   | No | Details:                   |
| Was Patient referred to Occupational Therapy during hospital stay  | Yes                   | No | If Yes, Number of Sessions |
| Details of OT sessions   |                       |    |                            |
| Documentation of Home OT Advice at discharge   | Yes                   | No |                            |
| Was Patient referred to Speech Therapy during hospital stay  | Yes                   | No | If Yes, Number of Sessions |
| Documentation of Speech Therapy Advice at discharge  | Yes                   | No |                            |

**Case Record Form 2:- Interview Guide.**

Please tick (✓) the correct option where required.

| Question                  | Details                           | Probing Questions  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Name of Patient           |                                   |  |
| Informant                 | Self                              |  |
|                           | Spouse                            |  |
|                           | Relative                          |  |
| Number of Family Members  |                                   | How many of the family members are active caregivers?  |
| Duration since Stroke     |                                   |  |
| Present dependency Status | Modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score | mRS Score Description<br>0 No symptoms at all<br>1 No significant disability despite symptoms; able to carry out all usual duties and activities<br>2 Slight disability; unable to carry out all previous activities, but able to look after own affairs without assistance<br>3 Moderate disability; requiring some help, but able to walk without assistance<br>4 Moderately severe disability; unable to walk without assistance and unable to attend to own bodily needs without assistance<br>5 Severe disability; bedridden, incontinent and requiring constant nursing care and attention<br>6 Dead |
| Goes to Work              | Yes                               |  |

|   |                                     |  |                    |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
|   | No                                  |  |                    |
|   | Retired                             |  |                    |
| Type of walking aid used (If mRS is 3 or below)   | Cane                                |  |                    |
|   | Walker                              |  |                    |
|   | Lower Limb Orthosis                 |  |                    |
| Use of any Upper Limb Orthosis  | Yes                                 |  | If Yes, Which one? |
|   | No                                  |  |                    |
| Whether any adaptive training (such as the use of specialized devices) was given to you by Physiotherapy (PT) staff at Christian Medical College Ludhiana (CMCL)? | Yes                                 |  |                    |
|   | No                                  |  |                    |
| Functionally Independent (Ability to do Activities of daily living and Self Care)   | Independent                         |  |                    |
|   | Partially Dependent                 |  |                    |
|   | Fully Dependent                     |  |                    |
| Whether any Physiotherapy Advice was given at Discharge   | Yes                                 |  |                    |
|   | No                                  |  |                    |
| If yes, mode of training for home rehabilitation?   | Printed material                    |  |                    |
|   | Whatsapp videos                     |  |                    |
|   | Verbal instruction only             |  |                    |
|   | CMCL PT arranged with local/home PT |  |                    |
|   | Others                              |  |                    |
| Whether Physiotherapy exercises were explained/taught to your caregiver?  | Yes                                 |  |                    |
|   | No                                  |  |                    |
| Did You continue Physiotherapy Post Discharge   | Yes                                 |  |                    |
|   | No                                  |  |                    |
| Where were Physiotherapy Sessions Taken post discharge  | AT CMC                              |  |                    |
|   | Outside PT Clinic                   |  |                    |
|   | Home Physiotherapy Services         |  |                    |
|   | Self-Exercise                       |  |                    |
|   | Tele-Physiotherapy                  |  |                    |
| Whether Physiotherapy is  | Yes                                 |  |                    |
|   | No                                  |  |                    |

|   |   |     |    |   |
|---|---|-----|----|---|
| continued at present  |   |     |    |   |
| Total Number of PT sessions taken since discharge                               |   |     |    |   |
| What was the duration of each Session   | 10-30 minutes   |     |    |   |
|   | 30-45 minutes   |     |    |   |
|   | 45-60 minutes   |     |    |   |
| What is the mode of PT at home-based rehab/OPD rehab outside CMCL               | Traditional/Conventional<br>CIMT<br>Mirror Therapy<br>Gait & Balance Training<br>Virtual reality<br>Game based therapy<br>Postural control, fall prevention<br>Endurance training<br>Fatigue management |     |    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Whether there was use of any electronic machines?</li> <li>· Only exercises?</li> <li>· Did your therapist use mirror for some exercises?</li> <li>· Did your therapist tie your normal hand and encouraged exercise with other (affected) side?</li> <li>· Were you taught any exercises for walking and balance?</li> <li>· Were you taught any exercises to improve your stamina and fatigue?</li> <li>· Did you do any game based exercises?</li> </ul>                        |
| What is the intensity of PT?  | Did the amount of exercise increase?  | Yes | No |   |
|   | Did the exercises change?   | Yes | No |   |
|   | Number of repetitions of each exercise?   |     |    |   |
| What are the present PT related complaints?                                     |   |     |    |   |
| If No, What was the reason for discontinuing                                    |   |     |    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Did you recover well and was advised by doctor to discontinue.</li> <li>· Did not feel the need to continue/ Disinterested to continue.</li> <li>· You were not satisfied with treatment/recovery.</li> <li>· Due to financial reasons.</li> <li>· Did you find PT Sessions boring</li> <li>· Did you use alternative approaches like Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Yoga etc</li> <li>· Due to lack of access to rehab center or home PT in your area.</li> <li>· Other Reasons</li> </ul> |
| Any Falls/Fractures Post Stroke?  | Yes   |     |    | If Yes, Specify the number and treatment taken  |
|   | No  |     |    |   |
| Did you receive any follow up Calls from CMCL Physiotherapists, post discharge? | Yes   |     |    |   |
|   | No  |     |    |   |
| Were you referred to any local (in your hometown)                               | Yes   |     |    |   |
|   | No  |     |    |   |

|  |                            |  |  |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|
| Physiotherapist by CMC Staff?  |                            |  |  |
| Which is the closest Physiotherapy center/Clinic for you?  |                            |  |  |
| Were you able to continue PT during COVID  | Yes                        |  | If Yes, describe the precautions you took                            |
|  | No                         |  | If No, what alternatives/options would you have preferred?           |
| Have you tried Tele rehab PT Sessions?   | Yes                        |  | If Yes, did you like the experience? How can it be improved further? |
|  | No                         |  | If No, why not?  |
| What challenges did you face with Telerehab?   |                            |  |  |
| If given a choice between Home Physiotherapy sessions and Telerehab sessions, what would you prefer? |                            |  |  |
| <b>Awareness about Physiotherapy</b>   |                            |  |  |
| Did you know about Physiotherapy before you had Stroke?  | Yes                        |  |  |
|  | No                         |  |  |
| Do you think exercise plays a role in recovery after Stroke?   | Yes                        |  |  |
|  | No                         |  |  |
| Is Yoga and Physiotherapy same in your opinion?  | Yes                        |  |  |
|  | No                         |  |  |
|  | Somewhat the same          |  |  |
|  | I don't know               |  |  |
| Is Massage and Physiotherapy same in your opinion?   | Yes                        |  |  |
|  | No                         |  |  |
|  | Somewhat the same          |  |  |
|  | I don't know               |  |  |
| Was PT cost effective for you?/ Do you think your Physiotherapist was expensive?                     | Yes                        |  |  |
|  | No                         |  |  |
|  | I didn't take the sessions |  |  |

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