

Community dwelling person's perspective on functioning after stroke

-Applying Comprehensive International Classification of Functioning Disability and Health (ICF) Core Set for stroke

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av

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This thesis is based on the following studies, referred to in the text by their Roman numerals.

- I. Markku Paanalahti, Åsa Lundgren-Nilsson, Anton Arndt and Katharina S Sunnerhagen. Applying the Comprehensive International Classification of functioning, disability and health Core Sets for Stroke framework to Stroke survivors living in the community. *J Rehabil Med.* 2013 Apr; 45(4):331-40.
- II. Markku Paanalahti, Margit Alt Murphy, Åsa Lundgren-Nilsson and Katharina S Sunnerhagen. Validation of the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke by exploring the patient's perspective on functioning in everyday life: a qualitative study. *Int J Rehabil Res.* 2014 Jul 17, [Epub ahead of print], PMID 25035909.
- III. Markku Paanalahti, Åsa Lundgren-Nilsson, Guna Berzina, Toni Arndt and Katharina S Sunnerhagen. Association of item scores in patient-reported Stroke Impact Scale (SIS) with respect to scores in health professionals assessed Comprehensive International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) Core Set for stroke. *Manuscript.*
- IV. Guna Berzina, Markku Paanalahti, Åsa Lundgren-Nilsson, Katharina S Sunnerhagen. Exploration of some personal factors with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health Core set for stroke. *J Rehabil Med* 2013; 45: 609-615.

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UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

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Abstract

Stroke is the second most common cause of death worldwide and the most common cause of long-term disability in adults. Disability following stroke results from the interaction between persons with impairments and environmental barriers that hinder full participation in society. The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) is intended to standardize the assessment of functioning of individuals in everyday life. To facilitate the use of the ICF in clinical practice purpose specific category-lists as Comprehensive ICF Core Sets for stroke were developed. The overall aim of this research project was to explore if the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for Stroke could serve as a basis for understanding the person with previous stroke perspective on functioning problems in daily activities. The face validity of the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke was explored in study I and II by individual interviews in two different environments (in Sweden and in Finland). In study III the construct validity of the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke was explored by the distribution of patient-reported item scores from the Stroke Impact Scale with respect to the ICF category scores linked to SIS items assessed by health-professionals. In study IV the influence of personal factors (PF) age, gender, place of residence and time since onset of stroke on self-perceived functioning was explored using the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke as a framework. A total of 357 community-dwelling persons (45 % women) with previous stroke participated in studies I to IV. The face validity of the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke was largely confirmed in study I and II. The construct validity of most of the ICF categories linked to SIS items was supported by the findings. The health professionals did not capture the magnitude of patient-reported emotional or social participation problems among the participants in study III. The selected personal factors had statistically significant predictive values for almost all the categories, domains and components of functioning and environmental factors examined. Conclusion: The results support the assumption that the categories included in the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke represent the typical spectrum of functioning problems among people with previous stroke.

In conclusion, the use of the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for stroke can provide a wider perspective of and a systematic coding system for understanding the needs of persons with previous stroke and has the potential to be used in the development of measures used in the assessment of stroke related functioning problems and stroke rehabilitation ultimately leading to better person centred care and outcomes.

Keywords: Stroke, ICF, Core Set, person perspective, validation.