

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Motor Re-Learning with Task-oriented Approach versus Traditional Methods in Upper Extremity Rehabilitation for Post-Stroke Patients

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Stroke accounts for the second leading cause of death in the western world. Upper limb disability is common & severely affects everyday activities. Muscle weakness, spasticity, decreased motor function as well as reduction in quality of life which highlights the need for effective rehabilitation to restore function.

Aim: The aim of the study is to analyse the effectiveness of motor re-learning with task-oriented approach in upper extremity rehabilitation for post-stroke patients.

Materials and Methods: A systematic search was performed across several electronic databases, including Google Scholar, Research-Gate, PubMed, and Scopus, using relevant scientific terms. Articles published between 2013 to 2024 assessing the effects of a task-oriented approach, motor re-learning on stroke patients were included in the review. Initially 81 articles were identified, after removing 10 duplicates, excluding 28 for non-eligibility, 13 for inaccessibility, 4 for inconsistent results, and 6 during data extraction,

20 relevant articles were included in this review. Selected studies were extracted, including study design, sample size, intervention methods (task-oriented approach, and motor re-learning), outcome measures (Box and Block Test, Fugl-Meyer Assessment, FIM, Nine-Hole Peg Test) and key findings.

Results: The results depicted that there has been marked increase in gross motor and fine motor skills, hand dexterity whereas decrease in tone when compared pre and post-test results. The combination of motor relearning with the task-oriented approach demonstrated superior outcomes compared to conventional therapy.

Conclusions: The study indicates that combining the motor relearning program with a task-oriented approach in stroke patients has been more effective than traditional training. For future physiotherapy applications, it can be explored as a standard practice to enhance functional recovery in stroke patients.

Keywords: Motor function, Upper limb disability

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