

The acceptability and fidelity of prism adaptation training for spatial inattention/neglect early after stroke: findings from SPATIAL

@SPATIALstroke v.longley@mmu.ac.uk SPATIALstroke@manchester.ac.uk

Longley V, Woodward-Nutt K, Turton A, Douglass E, Taylor J, Woodley J, Moule P, Stocking K, Checketts M, Bamford A, Hulme S, Vail A, Bowen A.

Background

- 1/3 of stroke survivors initially affected by spatial neglect/ inattention
- Prism adaptation training (PAT) is a brief intervention but lacks robust clinical evaluation
- Patients wear prism glasses and repeatedly point at a target whilst their arm is obscured
- SPATIAL (study of prisms and therapy in attention loss after stroke) was a feasibility randomised controlled trial of PAT for in-patients early after stroke across eight services
- **Aim:** to report nested process evaluation exploring acceptability and fidelity of intervention delivery

Methods

- In-patients recruited 1+ weeks post-stroke
- Randomised 3:1 to intervention
- Intervention arm offered up to 5 minutes of PAT once a day for up to 3 weeks at the start of usual Occupational Therapy (OT)
- OTs recorded intervention and therapy each session
- Participants followed up at 3 and 12 weeks with structured questions about their experience of PAT.

Results



- 54 participants randomised (1 excluded)
- 38 allocated to intervention
- Intervention group median 14 days (min: max: 7-77) post stroke
- Participants included those with severe stroke and impaired sitting balance

- Received median 7 PAT sessions (IQR: 5, 10) of 4.7 minutes (4.1, 5.0)
- Most PAT sessions received at bedside
- OT sessions lasted mean (SD) of 40.2 (11.9) mins in intervention and 40.1 (9.8) mins in control group
- Data for usual care OT was often missing/incomplete
- Retention was good (89% and 74% at 3 and 12 weeks)
- Most participants (27/38) said that they would recommend PAT to others, although one found PAT boring
- Seven participants found PAT tiring

"I loved being part of the research, I thought it was brilliant ...and we're all very keen to be involved" (OT)

"It was enjoyable because you got into it then and like you say, you wanted to beat the previous day's score" (Participant)



Conclusions

- NHS OTs delivered PAT as intended early after stroke across secondary care settings
- PAT was largely acceptable to patients