## Sexuality

# **STROKE ENGINE**

Author, Year PEDro Score, Country	Sample size	Intervention	Outcome and significance: (+) significant (-) not significant
Ng et al., 2017 PEDro: 8/10 Country: Australia	N=68 patients with acute stroke	Structured sexual rehabilitation programme + written information (n=35) Vs. Written information alone (n=33) <u>Treatment details:</u> 1 x 30 minute session Sexual rehabilitation programme: single individualised session by a rehabilitation physician, with the offer of intensive intervention for counselling or training (occupational therapy, physiotherapy or psychology as required); sexual partners or participants were offered participation in the session when possible; programmes were based on the PLISSIT model (Permission, Limited information, Specific Suggestions, Intensive Therapy); content included information regarding common changes in sexuality following stroke, counselling on fears regarding sexuality after stroke, challenging stereotypical views on sexuality and sexual satisfaction, tips/strategies to minimise sexual dysfunction <i>Written information</i> : factsheet produced by the National Stroke Foundation on "sexuality after stroke" was provided on recruitment.	<ul> <li>At 6 weeks:</li> <li>(-) Changes in Sexual Functioning Questionnaire – Short Form (CSFQ-14) – Total</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Pleasure</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Frequency</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Interest</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Arousal</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Orgasm</li> <li>(-) Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale (DASS) – Total</li> <li>(-) DASS – Depression</li> <li>(-) DASS – Depression</li> <li>(-) DASS – Anxiety</li> <li>(-) DASS – Stress</li> <li>(-) Functional Independence Measure (FIM) – Motor total</li> <li>(-) FIM – Self-care</li> <li>(-) FIM – Sphincter</li> <li>(-) FIM – Mobility</li> <li>(-) FIM – Cognition total</li> <li>(-) FIM – Cognition total</li> <li>(-) FIM – Cognition</li> <li>(-) FIM – Cognition</li> <li>(-) Stroke and Aphasia Quality of Life Scale – 39 Generic (SAQQL-39g) – Total</li> <li>(-) SAQQL-39g – Physical</li> <li>(-) SAQQL-39g – Physical</li> <li>(-) SAQQL-39g – Psychosocial</li> </ul>

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			At 6 months: (-) CSFQ-14 – Total (-) CSFQ-14 – Pleasure (-) CSFQ-14 – Frequency (-) CSFQ-14 – Interest (-) CSFQ-14 – Arousal* (-) CSFQ-14 – Orgasm (-) DASS – Total (-) DASS – Total (-) DASS – Depression (-) DASS – Depression (-) DASS – Stress (-) FIM – Motor total (-) FIM – Self-care (-) FIM – Self-care (-) FIM – Sphincter (-) FIM – Sphincter (-) FIM – Cognition total (-) FIM – Cognition total (-) FIM – Cognition total (-) FIM – Cognition total (-) FIM – Cognition (-) FIM – Cognition (-) SAQOL-39g – Total (-) SAQOL-39g – Physical (-) SAQOL-39g – Physical (-) SAQOL-39g – Psychosocial * Significant between-group difference in favour of written material alone vs. sexual rehabilitation programme + written material

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Author, Year PEDro Score, Country	Sample size	Intervention	Outcome and significance: (+) significant (-) not significant
Sansom et al., 2015 PEDro: 7/10 (pilot study of Ng et al., 2017) Country: Australia	N=10 patients with acute stroke (+ 2 partners) Note: participants' results were included in the study by Ng et al. (2017) above.	Structured sexual rehabilitation programme + written information (n=35) Vs. Written information alone (n=33) <u>Treatment details:</u> 1 x 30 minute session Sexual rehabilitation programme: single individualised session by a rehabilitation physician, with the offer of intensive intervention for counselling or training (occupational therapy, physiotherapy or psychology as required); sexual partners or participants were offered participation in the session when possible; programmes were based on the PLISSIT model (Permission, Limited information, Specific Suggestions, Intensive Therapy); content included information regarding common changes in sexuality following stroke, counselling on fears regarding sexuality after stroke, challenging stereotypical views on sexuality and sexual satisfaction, tips/strategies to minimise sexual dysfunction Written information: factsheet produced by the National Stroke Foundation on "sexuality after stroke" was provided on recruitment.	<ul> <li>At 6 weeks:</li> <li>(-) Changes in Sexual Functioning Questionnaire – Short Form (CSFQ-14) – Total</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Pleasure</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Frequency</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Interest</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Arousal</li> <li>(-) CSFQ-14 – Orgasm</li> <li>(-) Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale (DASS) – Total</li> <li>(-) DASS – Depression</li> <li>(-) DASS – Depression</li> <li>(-) DASS – Stress</li> <li>(-) Functional Independence Measure (FIM) – Total</li> <li>(-) FIM – Self-care</li> <li>(-) FIM – Self-care</li> <li>(-) FIM – Sphincter</li> <li>(-) FIM – Communication</li> <li>(-) FIM – Cognition</li> <li>(-) FIM – Cognition</li> <li>(-) Stroke and Aphasia Quality of Life Scale – 39 Generic (SAQQL-39g) – Total</li> <li>(-) SAQQL-39g – Physical</li> <li>(-) SAQQL-39g – Psychosocial</li> <li>(-) SAQQL-39g – Communication</li> </ul>

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Author, Year PEDro Score, Country	Sample size	Intervention	Outcome and significance: (+) significant (-) not significant
Song et al., 2011 PEDro: n/a (non-randomised controlled trial) Country: South Korea	N=23 patients with stroke and their partners (time since stroke not specified)	<ul> <li>Sexual rehabilitation program + written information (n=12 + partners)</li> <li>Vs.</li> <li>No treatment (n=11 + partners)</li> <li><u>Treatment details:</u> <ol> <li>x 40-50 minute session</li> </ol> </li> <li>Sexual rehabilitation program: single individual session prior to discharge; discussion regarding information on 1) common sexual problems and causes of changes in sexual life after stroke, 2) information regarding a healthy sexual life, 3) counseling on fears regarding sex after stroke, 4) tips and strategies for sexual dysfunction, 5) frequently asked questions; an information booklet derived from these discussion points was provided on discharge from hospital.</li> <li>Participants in the control group received the sexual rehabilitation program on completion of the study.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>At post-treatment (1 session):</li> <li>(-) Sexual Beliefs and Information Questionnaire (Korean version)</li> <li>(+) Derogatis Sexual Functioning Inventory (Korean version)</li> <li>(+) Sexual frequency scale – Sexual activity</li> <li>(+) Sexual frequency scale – Sexual intercourse</li> </ul>
Tibaek et al., 2015 PEDro: 7/10 Country: Denmark	N= 31 male patients with subacute stroke	Pelvic floor muscle training (n=16) Vs. No intervention (n=15)	<ul> <li>At post-treatment (12 weeks):</li> <li>(-) International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF-5) questionnaire</li> <li>(-) Bother question</li> </ul>

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		Treatment details:60 minutes/session, 1 session/week for 12 weeks + homeexercisesPelvic floor muscle training: group treatment (3-6participants/group) provided information regarding lowerurinary tract symptoms of erectile dysfunction; homeexercises for pelvic floor muscle strengthening performedin supine, standing and sitting positions 1-2 times/day;digital anal palpation of pelvic floor muscles 2-3 times tocontrol correct contraction, give feedback, and evaluatemuscle strength.Both groups received conventional rehabilitation.	At follow-up (6 months): • (-) IIEF-5 questionnaire • (-) Bother question
Vajrala et al., 2019 PEDro: 4/10 Country: India	N=40 patients with subacute/chronic stroke	Sexual rehabilitation + counselling (n=20) Vs. Conventional physical therapy + counselling (n=20) <u>Treatment details:</u> 60 minutes/session, daily for 2 weeks. Sexual rehabilitation + counselling: individualized program provided by a physical therapist addressing bed mobility, active/passive movement, sexual positioning and transfers; sexual health counselling used the PLISSIT model.	<ul> <li>At follow-up (6 months):</li> <li>(+) Changes in Sexual Functioning Questionnaire – Short Form (CSFQ-14) – Total</li> <li>(+) Depression, Anxiety and Stress Scale (DASS-21) – Depression</li> <li>(+) DASS-21 – Anxiety</li> <li>(+) DASS-21 - Stress</li> </ul>

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Author, Year PEDro Score, Country	Sample size	Intervention	Outcome and significance: (+) significant (-) not significant
		<i>Conventional physical therapy</i> : time-matched active/passive physical therapy and counselling for functional independence, with no focus on sexual health.	