

The carry-over effects of aquatic physiotherapy for people with Multiple Sclerosis

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Introduction: Since 2009, Burrswood Hospital has been offering a new service of aquatic physiotherapy for people with Multiple Sclerosis. Clinicians at the hospital and people with MS have indicated the need for understanding the carry-over effects of this service, however there is no available evidence in this area.

Purpose: To explore the carry-over effects and improve the knowledge in this area. The results of this research will help us to understand the carry-over effects and determine the need for continuation of the service. The conclusions could help therapists and patients in making evidence based decisions and will also help in developing the future research questions.

Methodology: Using the Classic Grounded Theory methodology, 130 people with MS completed a course of six sessions of aquatic physiotherapy at Burrswood Hospital are being invited to participate. Two qualitative data collection methods are being used to collect data. The first method of data collection is a 'letter to a friend'. The second method of data collection is face-to-face semi-structured interview. The subsequent questions are being developed from the constant comparison data analysis.

Results and Conclusion: This research is currently an ongoing professional doctorate research. To date, the researcher received the data from two participants and is in the process of analysing. Hence the results and conclusions are not available at the time of this abstract submission. The intention of this presentation is to share and discuss the ongoing doctoral research data collection and analysis procedures with researchers and gain valuable feedback.

Ethics approval: Faculty of Health, Social care and Education Research Ethics Panel, Anglia Ruskin University.

Key words: Multiple Sclerosis, Aquatic Physiotherapy, Grounded Theory.

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