Balance and Strength Interventions for an Individual Post Left Sided MCA CVA: A Case Report



Background

- Cerebrovascular accident (CVA), or stroke, is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States (US) with more than 140,000 deaths each year¹
- It is the leading cause of long-term disability in the US, reducing functional mobility in more than half of all stroke survivors ages 65 or older¹
- This condition costs the US approximately 34 billion dollars a year and it is estimated to increase to 108 billion per year by 2025²
- Strokes are caused by the interruption of the blood supply to the brain, which occurs when a blood vessel ruptures (hemorrhagic stroke) or is blocked by a clot (ischemic stroke)³



Fig. 1: MRI Image of MCA CVA https://www.sciencephoto.com/media/876309/view/stroke-mri-brain-scan

Purpose

• The purpose of this case report is to describe the multifactorial management of care for a patient affected by chronic stroke in the outpatient physical therapy setting.

Case Description

- 71-year-old male with right sided hemiparesis, homonymous hemianopsia, Broca's aphagia and dysphagia
- PMH: atrial fibrillation, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, pancreatitis, and right knee osteoarthritis.
- Participated in 10 physical therapy (PT) visits over the course of 7 weeks
- Primary PT goal was to increase his level of independence with ADL performance and functional mobility
- Community ambulator with use of front wheeled walker (FWW)

Annie McKenzie, BS, SPT Doctor of Physical Therapy, University of New England, Portland, Maine

Tests & Measures

| Tests & Measures | Initial Evaluation Results | | | | Re-evalu | Re-evaluation Results | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----|----|-----|------------|---------------------------------|-----|--------------|--|
| Lower Extremity Function Scale (LEFS) | 74% perceived disability rating | | | | 41% perc | 41% perceived disability rating | | | |
| 4 Stage Balance Test (4 SBT) | FT | ST | Т | ULS | FT | ST | Τ | ULS | |
| | 10s | 10s | 3s | Os | 10s | 10s | 10s | R:3s L:5s | |
| Timed Up & Go (TUG) | 27s | | | | 23s | 23s | | | |
| Six-minute walk test (6MWT) | 132 meters | | | | 140 mete | 140 meters | | | |
| 30 second chair stand (30 CST) | 0 repetitions | | | | 8 repetiti | 8 repetitions | | | |

4 Months prior

- Sustained two MCA CVAs
- Received hospitalbased PT

3 Months Prior

- 30 day stay at skilled nursing
- facility Received
- OT, PT, SLP
- Discharged to home

1 Month

Prior • Received

Home Health Services: PT,OT, SLP



Cardiovascular Exercise



Resistance Training

Timeline



Interventions



Balance Training

Dan Wyand, P.T. & Associates Putting bodies back in motion

Outcomes Measures



Lower Extremity Functional Scale





Re-evaluation

Manual Muscle Testing



Re-evaluation

Discussion & Conclusion

Initial Evalution

- The patient demonstrated significant subjective and functional improvements
- Improvements seen in global strength grades, AROM, 4 SBT, 30 CST, TUG, 6MWT
- Patient-reported lower extremity functional scale (LEFS) scores improved significantly
- These outcome scores suggested that combined global strengthening, cardiovascular exercise, balance training and caregiver education may improve functional mobility in this patient population.

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