

Qualitative Study



Life After Stroke: Experiences and Recovery

August 2013 update

Dear Participant,

We wanted to give you update on how this study is getting on, and to thank you for staying involved. We really value your on-going and important contribution, thank you!

Study team

Your Research Interviewers

Many of you would have been interviewed by **Sandy Rutherford**. Sandy is doing her PhD as part of this study and has worked with stroke survivors for many years. Sandy is an Occupational Therapist and also works part time in the department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at AUT. Sandy is passionate about research and committed to improving services and rehabilitation for people after stroke. Kay also conducted some interviews during the study and has now been successful in obtaining a new teaching position at AUT.



Kay Shannon

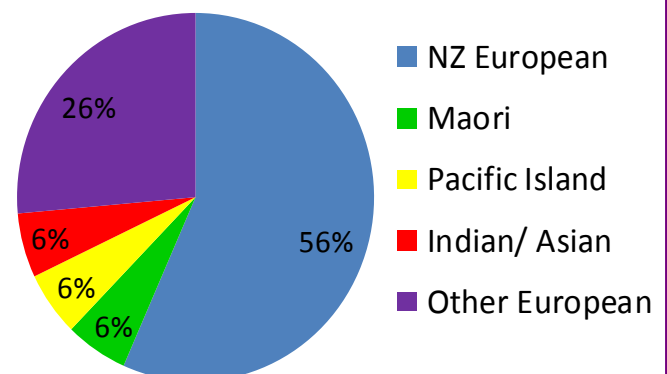


Sandy Rutherford

Update on recruitment for the study

There are 53 participants in the study, and 24 family members/significant others. Ages range from 40 to 94 years old with 47% being male and 53% female. We also have a mix of ethnicities with the highest participation from NZ Pakeha and other Europeans.

The study involves 4 interviews over 3 years: 6 months, 12m, 24m and 36m after your stroke. We have had 3 meetings with people from the community, which help inform the analysis and style of the interviews. This group involves a member from a rehabilitation provider, a stroke survivor, and a representative from the Stroke Foundation along with the main research team. We have started the 24 month interviews and are aiming to finish all of the interviews by March 2015.



Publicising the Study Results to Date

- ♦ Sandy gave a presentation “Capturing the stories behind the numbers” at the Rehabilitation Conference in Nelson, March 2013 and this was well received.
- ♦ Sandy has also presented some preliminary results, titled “Care, competence and rehabilitation” to the Laura Ferguson Trust, June 2013.
- ♦ A journal article outlining the methods used in this study will be published in the International Journal of Stroke this year.
- ♦ Sandy spoke about the study at the Person Centred Research Centre (PCRC) open meeting at AUT in May.
- ♦ An abstract has been submitted for a conference in Japan in 2014, titled “There is no such thing as a small stroke”, which Sandy hopes to present.
- ♦ Throughout her teaching at AUT, Sandy has included quotes (without names) emphasising what’s important for stroke recovery.



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IKURA RORO AKO O TE ROHE O TAMAKI MAKAUURAU WHANUI
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Sandy Rutherford

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