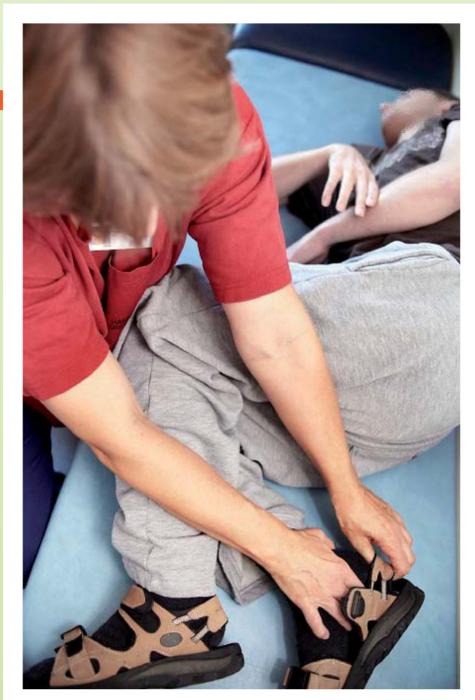


EARLY REHABILITATION OF PATIENTS WITH SEVERE ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY

- STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION

Hanne Pallesen, Physiotherapist, PhD & Inge Buhl, Occupational Therapist, *Research Assistant*
Hammel Neurorehabilitation Centre and University Research Clinic, Aarhus University



Purpose

The aim of this study was to explore specialised interdisciplinary teamwork in early rehabilitation and the challenging pedagogical dimensions in early rehabilitation of patients with severe Acquired Brain Injury.

Professional Experts	Experience in Early Rehabilitation	Individual Interview	Focus group Interview
Chief Physician	3 years	X	
Lead Therapist	6 years	X	
Lead Nurse	2 years	X	
Speech Therapist	6 years	X	
Social Worker	6 years	X	
Specialist Nurse	6 years		X
Specialist Physiotherapist	6 years		X
Specialist Occupational Therapist	6 years		X

Methods

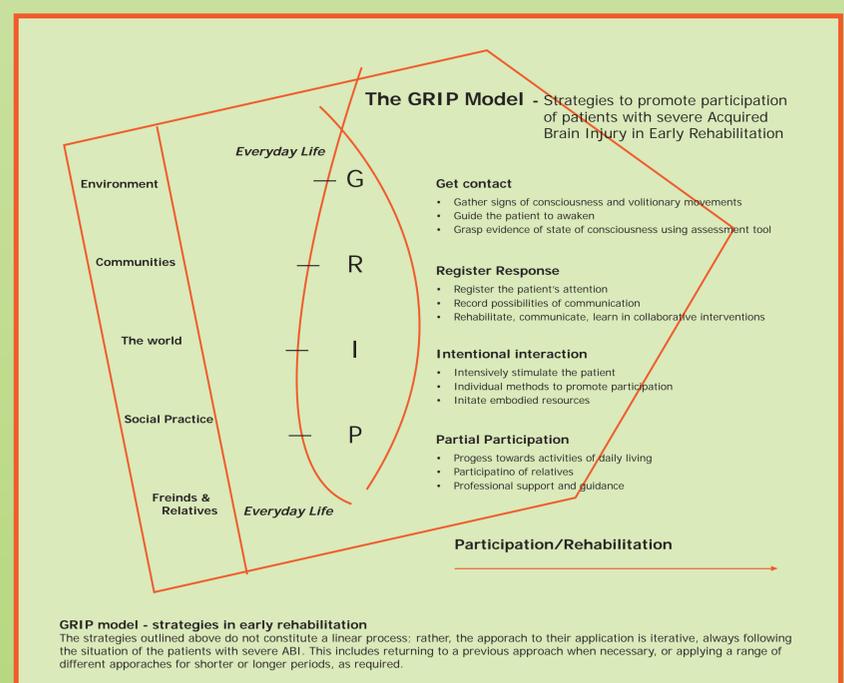
In a qualitative study, using phenomenological philosophy and thinking, the experience of the interdisciplinary teams was investigated. Data were generated in five individual interviews and one focus-group interview with the interdisciplinary rehabilitative experts. The interview questions were grounded in a primary field study. In a four-step phenomenological analysis, empirical themes were identified and, using the computer programme N-Vivo10 they were structured and organized and finally, theoretically stated and supported.

Declaration of Interest

The study was funded by Hammel Neurorehabilitation and Research Centre and was supported by the Danish Physiotherapists' Research Fund and the Danish Association of Occupational Therapists.

Results

Important practice knowledge emerged in this study that led to the proposal for determined, client-centered approaches when facilitating the promotion of the severe ABI patients' participation in early rehabilitation. Four factors are important in this approach: 1) Get contact, 2) Register Responses, 3) Intentional interaction, 4) Partial Participation - the GRIP model.



Conclusion

The use of the GRIP model in early rehabilitation enables professional expert to support and facilitate the improvement of the function, life quality and participation in rehabilitation of the severe ABI patient.