

Introduction

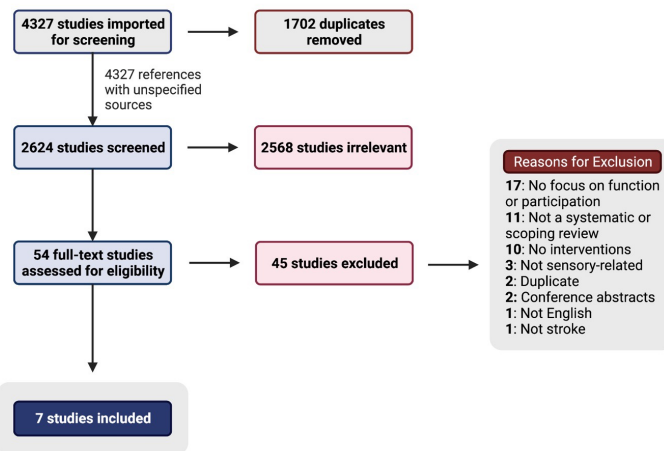
Strokes affect over 795,000 Americans annually and 80% of those affected survive. It is necessary to develop interventions that aid the recovery of stroke survivors to regain their function and improve their quality of life. This project's long-term goals are to create interventions and resources that support the sensory health and participation in meaningful activities of adult stroke survivors. To achieve this long-term goal, we engaged in collaborative participatory methods with stakeholders to achieve the following objectives and aims:

1. Identify the sensory health needs of stroke survivors including specific knowledge gaps in the literature
 - a. Umbrella review of literature
2. Develop research questions and study protocols that look into the impact of sensory health needs on recovery and participation in daily activities
 - a. Focus groups to gain insight into the sensory health of adults post stroke.

Team 1: Umbrella Review

Methods

Fig 2. Article Screening Process



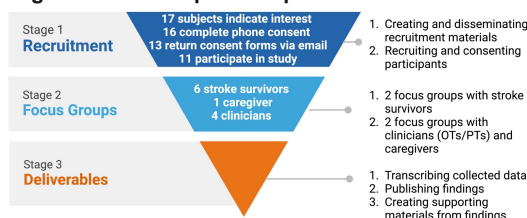
Preliminary Results and Conclusions:

- 7 articles summarized: 4 somatosensory dysfunction, 2 visual impairment, 1 multi-sensory (e.g., tactile, olfactory, auditory).
- Vision and somatosensory impairments were prevalent post-stroke; impacting functional performance, participation in valued activities and motor ability.
- More research is needed about the sensory health of adults post-stroke

Team 2: Focus Groups with Stakeholders

Methods

Fig 3. Focus Group Development

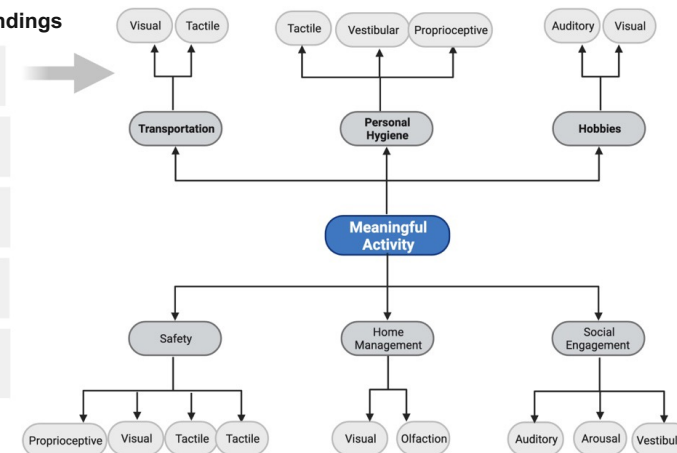


- **Inclusion Criteria:** Able to participate in a virtual focus group, no severe aphasia, experience with stroke as survivor, therapist or caregiver.
- **Method:** Four 90-minute focus groups on zoom
- **Analysis:** Focused coding using N-Vivo software
- Four independent coders completed 6 hours of transcription. Iterative discussions for consensus

Preliminary Results:

Fig 4. Preliminary Findings

- Theme 1** "The Invisible Impairment"
- Theme 2** Sensory changes had a negative impact on social participation
- Theme 3** Sensory changes were overstimulating
- Theme 4** Disembodiment interferes with activities of daily living
- Theme 5** More resources to support sensory health post-stroke are needed



Implications:

- Clinicians should screen for sensory health in adults post-stroke
- Research is needed to develop protocols for assessment and intervention to address the sensory health in stroke



Fig 1. Timeline of Umbrella Review