

Stroke rehabilitation should be offered only in a rehabilitation facility (for in- or out-patients)

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The stroke survivors may present many types of impairment: motor, sensory, cognitive, behavioral, communication and also activity limitations and participation restrictions. Rehabilitation is a medical process that assists stroke patients to achieve and maintain optimal functioning in interaction with their environment. Rehabilitation identify a patient's problems and needs, relating them to relevant personal or environmental factors, defining goals, planning and implementing treatments and assessing the effects. Rehabilitation is offered in hospital, institutional and community settings for in- or out-patient and as a home-base process. Advantages following rehabilitation offered in a facility: In a rehabilitation facility the doctors, therapists, nurses and other staff think and work as a team communicating a common understanding of what rehabilitation is. Team meetings for assessment and reposition to new goals are regular as the process goes on and the patient needs change. There is familiarization with protocols. -Team members feel certainty from the presence of the specialized physiatrist-coordinator.-There are limited interventions of the home helpers.-The stroke patient obtains motivation and gets familiarized to the new conditions through the contact with other patients with disabilities. His participation is better, as the staff can deal with the fact that his wishes and goals may differ from the assessment of the health professionals. -Financial compensation usually is offered by the patient's insurance.