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Factors associated with need for community reintegration service in patients with stroke

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Background
recently, Ministry of Health and Welfare encourage rehabilitation hospitals to provide patients customized and intensive community reintegration services during convalescent periods to support them to return to daily life and work in the early stage after stroke. For this, last year our research team developed a community reintegration model V1.0 & V2.0 for convalescent patients using the Knowledge-To-Action framework through pilot study, and current report is a part of the study.

Objectives
The purpose of this study is to explore the factors affecting perceived need for community reintegration service in convalescent patients with stroke.

Methods
An exploratory qualitative study design was used in this study. Ten convalescent patients with stroke (female: 2, mean age 53 ± 14.61) in the rehabilitation hospital were participated. In-depth individual interviews were conducted to explore the factors affecting patients' perceived need for community reintegration service in the hospital.

Results
Two themes were identified as factors affecting perceived need for community reintegration service: personal factors and social factors. For personal factors, the following four subthemes were identified: (1) personal goals during hospitalization; (2) physical limitations as primary effects of stroke; (3) whether or not to return to a job after discharge from hospital; (4) personal taste. Social factors relate to the patients' interaction with other people and community environment. The following two subthemes were identified: (1) practical and emotional support from family; (2) a lack of community resources and information.

Conclusion

This result suggests that when designing a community reintegration model, currently identified personal and social factors need to be considered to provide individually customized services.