

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN CAREGIVER DEPRESSION, FATIGUE AND FAMILY SUPPORT DURING STROKE RECOVERY

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Key Words: gender, caregiving, stroke

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to examine the differences in family relationships, depression, fatigue and assistance from family/community between male and female caregivers of stroke survivors enrolled in a multi-site caregiving study that is complementary to the “Extremity Constraint Induced Therapy Evaluation (EXCITE)” clinical trial.

Method: The caregiving study uses a prospective longitudinal design to describe the caregiver outcomes at specific times in the stroke recovery process while enrolled in the clinical trial. Data will be analyzed at 3-9 months post-stroke (Time 1), at 4-months and 8-months from baseline (Time 2), and again at 4 months (Time 3).

The sample is 34 male caregivers and 98 female caregivers. On average male caregivers were age 58.24 ± 15.32 years, White (79%) and spouses or significant other (91%). Female caregivers were average age 56.14 ± 13.16 years, White (68%) and spouses or significant other (88%).

Findings: Data analysis in progress.

Discussion: Discussion of findings will be presented.