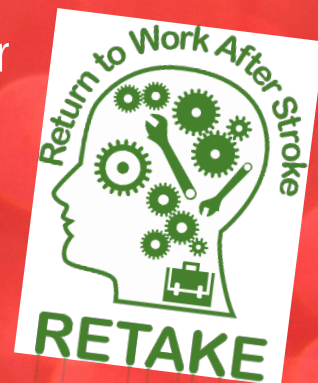


REturn to work After stroKE (RETAKE) study newsletter

December 2020



What is RETAKE?

A randomised controlled trial testing whether an early, stroke-specific vocational rehabilitation (ESSVR) intervention is more effective than usual care alone for getting people back to work after a stroke.

Study Update

462 participants have been recruited, and 54 therapists trained to deliver the ESSVR intervention.

Study progress since March 2020

All sites had to pause recruitment in March 2020 to focus on care for people with Covid-19, but East Kent, Derby, South Tees, Guy's and St Thomas', Lewisham, Hounslow and Richmond, and Swansea have re-opened in recent months. Other sites continue to explore the possibility of re-opening.

Despite challenges brought on by the pandemic, 83% of participants randomised to receive the ESSVR intervention completed their initial session within the target timeline (i.e., 2 weeks after randomisation).

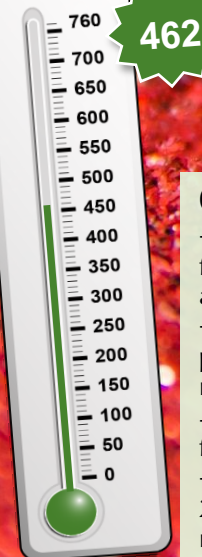
Future plans

Due to the required pause in recruitment this year, RETAKE will not be able to complete recruitment and follow-up by the originally planned end date. Therefore, we are making a request for additional funds from the funder for an extension. This extension would provide more time for recruitment; and enable us to show whether the ESSVR intervention is more effective than usual NHS rehabilitation for supporting return to work after stroke.

We have been evaluating how the ESSVR intervention works, and how its structure and content compares with usual NHS rehabilitation provided. We are aiming to complete this process evaluation in November 2021.

Other news

- Ruth Tyerman, one of the RETAKE mentors, was recently awarded a highly prestigious fellowship award from the Royal College of Occupational Therapists for her contribution to the field of acquired brain injury and vocational rehabilitation. Congratulations Ruth!!
- Dr Jain Holmes (RETAKE senior research fellow and mentor), has recently had a systematic review published in the Systematic Reviews journal, investigating factors affecting delivery of complex rehabilitation interventions in neurologically impaired adults. Well done Jain!!
- The RETAKE protocol paper has been accepted for publication in the Trials journal, with publication to follow shortly.
- One of RETAKE's research assistants, Kristelle Craven, will be commencing a PhD programme in February 2021. The PhD will focus on development of an interactive toolkit to help employers support employees to return to work after a stroke.



**Thank you for your continued support for the RETAKE study.
We wish you and your families Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!**



@RetakeStroke

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