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Neurorehabilitation and Neuropsychiatry

Current Awareness Bulletin October 2025



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Guidance, Reports and Resources

Rehabilitation for chronic neurological disorders including acquired brain injury

NICE Guidance NG252, 15 October 2025. [Open access](#).

This guideline covers rehabilitation in all settings for children, young people and adults with a chronic neurological disorder, neurological impairment or disabling neurological symptoms due to acquired brain injury, acquired spinal cord injury, acquired peripheral nerve disorder, functional neurological disorder or progressive neurological disease.

Recently Published Research

Brain Injuries

What traditional neuropsychological assessment got wrong about mild traumatic brain injury. III: the added value of advanced neuroimaging

Brain Injury, Aug 2025. [Access with your OpenAthens account](#).

Advanced neuroimaging methods have the ability to demonstrate neurobiological factors and detect potential underlying neuropathology associated with mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), even in the absence of standard, conventional clinical computed tomography (CT) and/or magnetic resonance (MR) imaging (MRI) results.

Alexithymia predicts face emotion perception after acquired brain injury

Brain Injury, Jul 2025. [Access with your OpenAthens account](#).

This study investigated the presence and level of alexithymia and examined the relationship between alexithymia and affect recognition abilities after acquired brain injury (ABI), accounting separately for etiology due to stroke or traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Existing evidence of self-management interventions in acquired brain injuries and traumatic injuries: a scoping review

Disability and Rehabilitation, Jul 2025. [Request a copy from the library](#).

Patients with acquired brain injuries (ABI) and severe traumatic injuries face many persisting and overlapping injury-related consequences. Despite a growing number of self-management (SM) interventions targeting these conditions, no comprehensive reviews exist. This scoping review aims to map the existing SM interventions across these injury populations.

Treatments for social cognitive difficulties following moderate-to-severe traumatic brain injury: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Neuropsychological Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

Interventions targeting social cognition following moderate-to-severe Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) have shown some benefit, however, there remains a need to systematically review, statistically synthesize, and evaluate these interventions to inform the development of Clinical Practice Guidelines.

Music listening for fatigue after acquired brain injury: A scoping review project with patient, carer and public involvement (PCPI) data

Neuropsychological Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

Fifty percent of Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) survivors experience fatigue. Symptom management in post-acute rehabilitation, where rehabilitation adherence is essential, is lacking. Research suggests that music listening interventions could help by addressing related symptoms including pain, mood and arousal. Our objective was to explore how music listening has been used for post-ABI fatigue and whether findings, together with interview data from a post-acute ward, could inform on its use for this purpose.

Prevalence and moderators of apathy after traumatic brain injury: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Neuropsychological Rehabilitation, Sept 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

Apathy is a recognized neuropsychiatric syndrome in individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI) with far-reaching consequences, including reduced independence, meaningful activities and quality of life. However, previous studies have reported variable prevalence rates and no meta-analysis has synthesized prevalence findings and identified moderators of apathy in clinical populations.

Multiple Sclerosis

Exploring Rest Advice in Fatigue Interventions in Rehabilitation Among Adults With Long-Term Conditions: A Systematic Scoping Review of the Reporting of Rest in Randomized Controlled Trials

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sept 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

To explore how rest is described or included as part of rest advice in fatigue interventions within rehabilitation for adults with long-term conditions (LTC).

Technology-Based Physical Rehabilitation for Balance in Patients With Multiple Sclerosis: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Sept 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

To synthesize the current evidence on technology-based physical rehabilitation for balance in people with **multiple sclerosis** and to compare its effectiveness with that of conventional physical therapy.

Dyadic psychosocial interventions in couples facing multiple sclerosis: a systematic review

Disability and Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

People with multiple sclerosis (MS) and their partners face numerous disease-related challenges, affecting both their mental health and partnership quality. However, limited research has examined dyadic interventions aimed at addressing these issues in couples living with MS. This systematic review aimed to identify clinical studies involving couples affected by MS that focused

on the effects of dyadic interventions, such as partnership quality, sexual rehabilitation/satisfaction, quality of life (QoL), and psychological well-being.

Prolonged Disorder of Consciousness

Association of Patient Characteristics With Recovery in Adults With Disorders of Consciousness

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

To describe the characteristics of patients enrolled in **disorders of consciousness** (DoC) rehabilitation programs and to examine factors associated with improvement beyond measurement error on neurobehavioral function. Outcomes for adults with DoC after severe brain **injury** are highly variable and difficult to predict. Applying a **minimal detectable change** (MDC) threshold to change measures can identify help to distinguish true improvement or decline from random fluctuation. We also evaluated whether change in neurobehavioral function during the first 2 weeks of rehabilitation was associated with change between 2 and 4 weeks.

Stroke

Virtual reality for stroke rehabilitation

Cochrane Library, 20 June 2025. *Open access.*

Virtual reality applications have emerged as a treatment approach in stroke rehabilitation, with the first randomised trial published in 2004. A wide range of applications have been tested in research studies and adopted in clinical practice, from non-immersive, non-customised, interactive game-based applications to immersive applications specifically designed for rehabilitation settings. This is an update of a Cochrane review first published in 2011 and then again in 2015 and 2017.

Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Strategies for Poststroke Dysphagia: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Aug 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) is a promising approach in improving swallowing function after stroke. However, comparative efficacy of different rTMS protocols for poststroke dysphagia (PSD) remains unclear.

Peripheral Electrical Stimulation on Motor Function and Activities of Daily Living After Stroke: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Aug 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account*

To compare the effects of different peripheral electrical stimulation protocols and current frequencies for poststroke motor function and activities of daily living.

Effectiveness of interventions in increasing physical activity of inpatients after stroke: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Clinical Rehabilitation, Aug 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

To synthesise the evidence of the effectiveness of interventions to increase levels of physical activity or reduce levels of sedentary activity of inpatients after a new stroke.

Intensity of task-specific training for functional ability post-stroke: Systematic review and meta-analysis

Clinical Rehabilitation, June 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

To evaluate the effectiveness of intensities of task-specific training on upper and lower limbs functions, balance, and quality of life post-stroke.

The effectiveness of interventions to support informal stroke carers: a systematic review

Disability and Rehabilitation, Sept 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

Stroke affects one in four adults in the UK, with over a third relying on informal carers. The burden of care can have detrimental effects on the mental and physical health of carers, which may impact the rehabilitative process. Despite this, interventions have focused on the physical demands of caregiving, prioritising the stroke survivor. This review aimed to identify effective psychosocial interventions that reduce burden, strain, depression, or anxiety in informal stroke carers.

Resistance training for gait rehabilitation in people with stroke. A systematic review and meta-analysis

Disability and Rehabilitation, Aug 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

Stroke is a leading cause of long-term disability, significantly impacts gait and mobility. Resistance training (RT) has shown promise in improving gait parameters, but the evidence remains mixed. Our aim was to assess the effectiveness of RT on walking function in people with stroke (PwS).

Posttraumatic growth after stroke: a systematic review and meta-regression

Disability and Rehabilitation, Aug 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

To examine posttraumatic growth (PTG) in stroke survivors, including how PTG evolves over time and factors associated with PTG in this population.

Body weight supported gait training on walking, quality of life and harm in adults with stroke: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Disability and Rehabilitation, Jul 2025. *Request a copy from the [library](#).*

To investigate the effects and harms associated with body weight supported (BWS) gait training in adults with stroke according to measures of walking, health-related quality of life (HRQoL), and adverse events.

Non-invasive brain stimulation to improve visual perception after stroke: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Access with your [OpenAthens account](#).*

To assess the efficacy of non-invasive brain stimulation (NIBS) in improving visual perception in stroke patients.

Use of myoelectric orthosis after stroke or traumatic brain injury: a systematic review

Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation, Sept 2025. *Access with your [OpenAthens account](#).*

Upper extremity (UE) paralysis and weakness due to stroke or traumatic brain injury (TBI) can limit independent functioning. Myoelectrically controlled orthoses can be used for compensatory support for activities of daily living (ADL), and for restorative rehabilitation to reduce disability.

The effect of mobilization on blood pressure for stroke survivors with moderate or severe injury: a rapid review

Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation, Jul 2025. *Access with your [OpenAthens account](#).*

Severe stroke survivors respond to mobilization rehabilitation interventions with more varied outcomes than those with less severe stroke. They may face additional risks for impaired blood pressure regulation and extended vulnerability to blood pressure changes, potentially contributing to poor recovery outcomes.

The primary aim of this rapid review was to identify and synthesize current evidence investigating the effects of mobilization on blood pressure, for stroke survivors in the acute and early stage of rehabilitation. The secondary aim was to identify potential risks associated with acute mobilization interventions, to inform clinical decisions and guide future research directions.

Other Neurological Diseases and Disorders

Pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments for impulsive-compulsive behaviors in Parkinson's disease.

Cochrane Library, 15 Oct 2025. *Open access.*

Impulsive-compulsive behaviors (ICBs) in Parkinson's disease are associated with psychiatric comorbidities, reduced quality of life, caregiver burden and serious psychosocial consequences. These behaviors greatly impact patients and their families, and pose a challenge for clinicians. To assess and compare the effects of pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments for ICBs in people with Parkinson's disease, and to assess whether the effects differ according to ICB subtype.

Attention/Working Memory and Executive Function in Parkinson's Disease: Review, Critique, and Recommendations

Movement Disorders, July 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

Cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease (PD) is a well-established non-motor complication that significantly affects the quality of life and well-being of both patients and care partners. To optimally detect mild cognitive impairment or dementia, extensive neuropsychological assessment is essential. A wide range of cognitive tests and clinical outcome assessments have been used in clinical settings, often without regard to their clinimetric quality.

Neurorehabilitation

Relationships Between Wheelchair-Provision Time for Hospital Inpatients and Their Lengths of Stay and Costs of Hospitalization: A Cohort Study

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

To test the hypotheses that wheelchair-provision time (WPT) (from when a loaner wheelchair was ordered to when the wheelchair arrived at the hospital site) has a significant relationship with length of stay (LOS) and total cost of hospitalization (COH).

Effects of Noninvasive or Minimally Invasive Neuromodulation Techniques on Neurogenic Lower Urinary Tract Dysfunction After Spinal Cord Injury: A Network Meta-analysis

Archives of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, June 2025. *Access with your OpenAthens account.*

To assess the available evidence of noninvasive or minimally invasive **neuromodulation** therapies in improving urodynamic outcomes, voiding diaries, and quality of life in patients with neurogenic lower urinary tract dysfunction (NLUTD) after spinal cord injury (SCI).

Challenges and supports for ageing well with spinal cord injury: a scoping review

Disability and Rehabilitation, Oct 2025. *Open Access.*

To identify the scope of current knowledge concerning challenges and supports for people ageing with spinal cord injury (SCI) and determine evidence gaps that must be addressed to guide policy development, education, and clinical practice to help people to age well.

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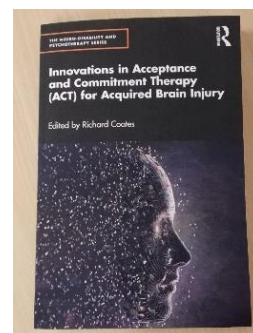
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[Innovations in acceptance and commitment therapy \(ACT\) for acquired brain injury](#)

Brings together contributions from highly experienced clinicians, using innovative approaches in ACT for acquired brain injury, in the context of individuals, working with relatives, groups and multidisciplinary teams. This book will be a valuable resource for clinical psychologists, clinical neuropsychologists, counselling psychologists, cognitive behaviour therapists, psychiatrists and counsellors working therapeutically with clients with acquired brain injury.



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