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The content validity of the Structured Observational Test of Function (SOTOF) 2nd edition from the perspective of a stroke rehabilitation multi-disciplinary team.



Background

- SOTOF (Laver and Powell, 1995) was developed for use with older people with neurological diagnoses.
- It is a standardised, valid and reliable test.
- Provides a detailed description of occupational performance in four personal activities of daily living.
- SOTOF identifies underlying cognitive, perceptual, sensory and motor deficits.
- Improvements to the 2nd edition (Laver-Fawcett and Marrison, 2016) enhanced the dynamic assessment element and added a scored graduated mediation protocol to be applied to the standardised test items the person is unable to complete.
- National stroke guidelines (ISWP, 2016) recommend occupational therapists should assess a person's safety and independence in personal activities of daily living using a standardised assessment tool
- An MDT approach should be used to assess and manage people with neurological diagnosis, due the the possibilities of complex difficulties (Grand, Caspar and MacDonald, 2011).

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This study aimed to contribute to the content validity of the SOTOF (2nd edition) by evaluating the impact of SOTOF assessment results on the clinical practice of a multi-disciplinary team in a stroke rehabilitation unit.

Research aims

To explore...

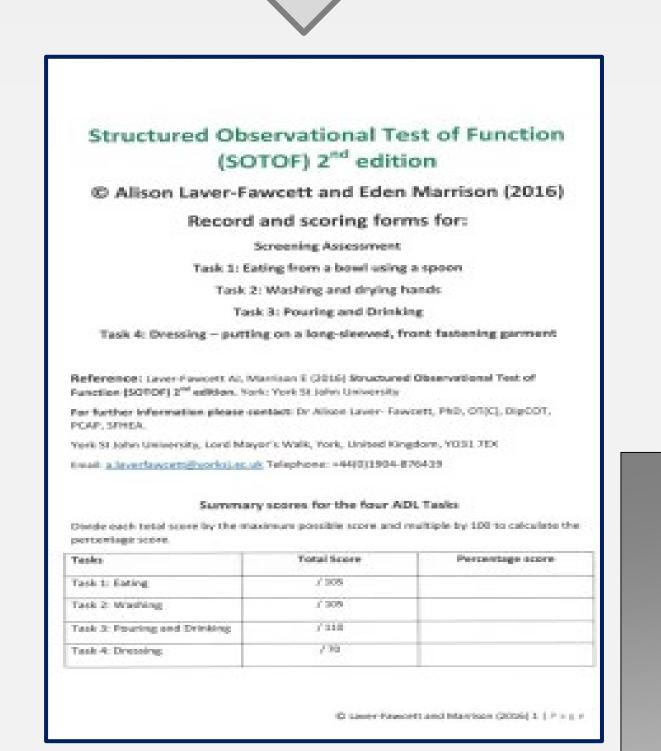
- 1. The perceptions of staff working in a stroke rehabilitation multi-disciplinary team on the content of SOTOF.
- 2. If staff working in the stroke MDT consider the SOTOF scoring form and summary of results useful for their practice.
- 3. If staff of the stroke MDT consider the SOTOF useful for informing goal setting in rehabilitation and treatment plans.

Results

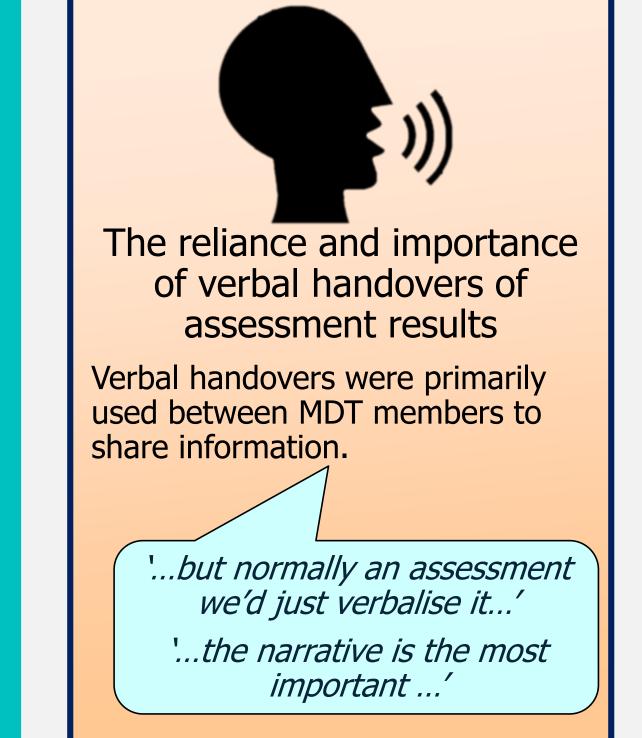
Methodology

- Mixed methods, pragmatic paradigm
- Participants chose to attend a focus group or complete an online survey comprised of closed and open questions, with some rating scales.
- Focus group of 11 participants (1 consultant, 1 occupational therapist, 2 stroke rehab assistants, 2 physiotherapists, 1 nurse, 1 speech and language therapist, 2 therapy assistants)
- Online survey with 8 participants (3 speech and language therapists, 1 nurse, 1 physiotherapist, 2 occupational therapist and 1 occupational therapy assistant)
- Quantitative data was analysed using descriptive statistics.
- Thematic analysis of the focus group and the survey qualitative data [following Braun and Clarke's (2006) 6 stages].
- Member checking of preliminary thematic analysis undertaken with focus group participants.
- Ethics approval was obtained via the Health Research Authority (HRA), Research Ethics Committee (REC) and from York St. John University's Cross Schools Ethics Committee

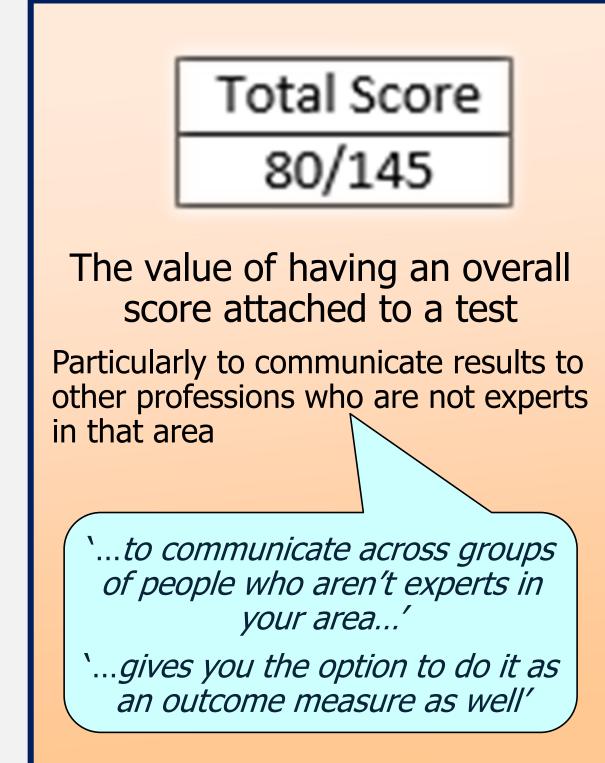
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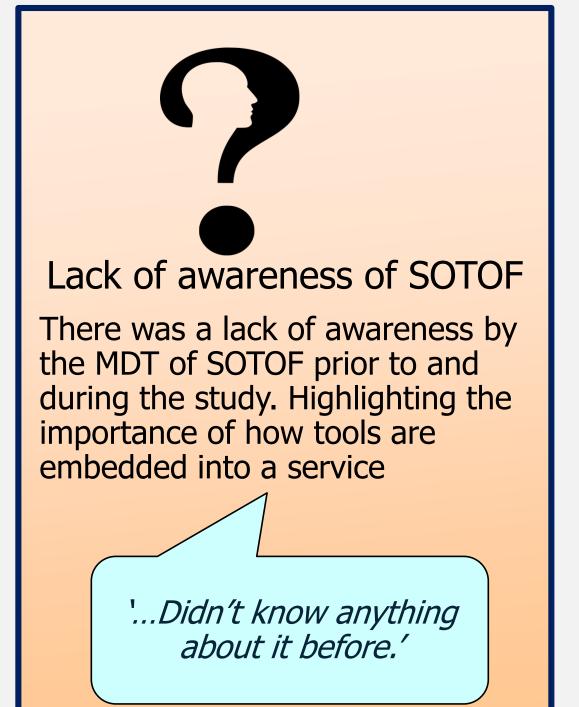
Theme 1



Theme 2



Theme 3



Theme 4



Usefulness of SOTOF assessment results to inform practice

Information generated from SOTOF can inform and be useful for other professionals' practice.

'...To inform treatment techniques or treatment interventions...we could get together a better programme

'Little bits of advice we got given...able to incorporate that into treatments



Conclusion

- The findings indicate that the insertion of the graduated mediation protocol, scoring and the identification of strategies and recommendations from the occupational therapists could benefit other members of the MDT by informing their goal setting and treatment plans. Ultimately improving patient care and, therefore, suggests the tool to have content validity.
- It has been concluded that the content and information the SOTOF (2nd edition) generates, is relevant to other members of the MDT, not only occupational therapists.

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