

Challenging rehabilitation environment

Introduction

A challenging rehabilitation environment involves the comprehensive organisation of care, support and environment on a rehabilitation ward.

The aim of this study is to explore the opinion of rehabilitants, informal caregivers and professionals regarding this concept.

Method

- Focus groups
- Telephone interviews informal caregivers
- Thematic analysis in 2 groups
 - Professionals
 - Rehabilitants and informal caregivers

Results - Participants

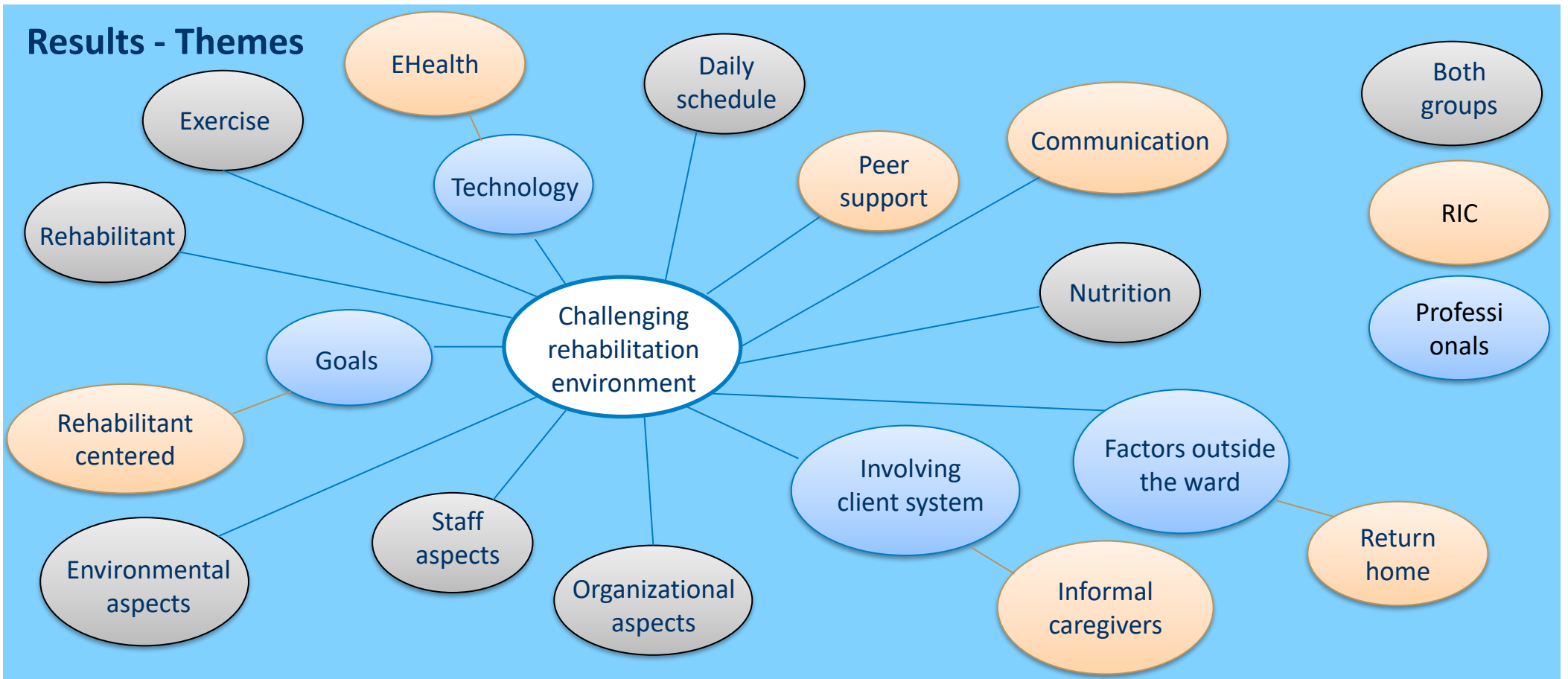
Professionals (n = 85)

Nationality	Occupation
Netherlands: 75	Elderly care physician: 8 Lecturer: 2
Greece: 1	Rehabilitation physician: 4 Researcher: 11
Germany: 2	Physical therapist: 19 Manager: 9
Australia: 2	Occupational therapist: 5 Nurse: 33
Poland: 1	Speech and language therapist: 3 Psychologist: 1

Rehabilitants and informal caregivers (n = 21) (RIC)

	Age	Diagnoses	Relationship
Rehabilitants (n = 15)	43- 90 (median 75)	Lower limb amputation: 2 Trauma: 6 COPD 1 Acquired brain injury: 6	
Informal caregivers (n = 6)	49 -77 (median 72)	Trauma: 1 Acquired brain injury: 5	Spouse: 5 Daughter: 1

Results - Themes



Discussion and conclusion

There was agreement between professionals, informal caregivers and rehabilitants on relevant topics for a challenging rehabilitation environment. Nuance differences resulted in a division into different themes.

The results from this study and a prior literature study can be used for further conceptualization of a challenging rehabilitation environment. Further research into this concept and its effectivity is necessary.

References

1. Tijssen, LM, Derksen, EW, Achterberg, WP, et al. Challenging rehabilitation environment for older patients. Clin Interv Aging 2019;14:1451-1460.