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Tele-Rehabilitation:

Demystifying the Use of Technology to Deliver
Physical Therapy

Learning Outcomes

After this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe at least three ways to identify appropriate patients for tele-rehabilitation.
- List at least three functional outcome measures for tele-rehabilitation.
- Outline an effective plan for patient treatment using tele-rehabilitation.
- Identify at least three current barriers to tele-rehabilitation.

continued

Tele-rehabilitation: What are your initial thoughts?

- Have you used tele-rehabilitation? Yes/no
- Do you think tele-rehabilitation is not as effective as face to face visits? Yes/no
- Do patients like tele-rehabilitation? Yes/no
- Do therapists view tele-rehabilitation positively? Yes/no

continued

Case Study

- 71 year old male s/p right upper lobectomy
- PMHx: chronic pain, HTN, coronary arteriosclerosis, COPD
- PLOF: Lives in house with son who is unable to drive due to medical issues, gait without device in community, mowed lawn, 12 stairs to basement used daily, drove self
- Current: Walks with rollator, SOB with walking 5 feet, difficulty speaking, lightheadedness with standing, retropulsion upon initial standing

continued

Case Study

- Lives in area where 2 home agencies would not accept patient (lack of staffing and 1 mile out of coverage area)
- How would you address this patient's needs?

continued

Why Tele-rehab?

- According 2010 Census 19.3% population in rural areas in US
- Population density
 - US cities comprise 62.7% population but comprise 3.5% land area-2013 Census Bureau
- Improve dosing of physical therapy
 - Sherrington meta-analysis (2011)
 - At least 50 hours of balance training starting at 2 hours/wk

What is tele-rehabilitation?

- No two states are the same in how telehealth is defined or regulated.
- Telehealth is often used as a broader term
 - Telepractice is frequently used as it relates to PT, OT, SLP, and behavioral therapy
- APTA definition- “Telehealth, the use of electronic communication to remotely provide health care information and services”

Terms

- Telemedicine-used for physician visits
- Tele-rehabilitation- can be for mental health or physical rehab
- Exer-gaming- patient playing games where system detects movements
- VR-virtual reality-sometimes used for videoconferencing, sometimes for creating an artificial environment

The Expansion of Telehealth

- Illinois added PT to state telehealth act starting 2019
- Iowa and Kentucky adopted laws for private insurance plans to cover telehealth
 - PT in Motion, October 2018

PT Compact

- “Agreement between member states to improve access to physical therapy services for the public by increasing the mobility of eligible physical therapy providers to work in multiple states”
 - www.PTcompact.org
- Member states OR, ND, UT, IA, MO, TX, MS, TN, NH
- Enacted legislation WA, MT, NE, CO, AZ, OK, LA, KY, WV, NC, SC, NJ
- Legislation introduced MI, GA, VA

Reimbursement

- 37 states have laws for private insurance to reimburse. Two more Rhode Island and Utah have laws pending
 - All for synchronous video visits
 - Few for asynchronous
- States vary with Medicaid coverage for PT
- Parity laws vary state to state
 - Laws stating reimbursement same for tele-rehab as face to face
 - Center for Connected Health Policy

CONNECT Health Bill

- Creating Opportunities Now for Necessary and Effective Care Technologies (CONNECT)
 - H.R. 2556/S. 1016
 - Ease restrictions on telehealth coverage with Medicare
 - Introduced 2017

<http://www.apta.org/PolicyResources/PositionPapers/ConnectForHealth/> accessed February 20, 2019

History

- Teleconsultations and telehomecare were common by 1940's
- 1960's telemedicine or telehealth transmit vital signs with NASA for astronauts
- 1970's progressed into real medical applications
- 1980's military started using store and forward and videoconferencing-increase access to specialists
- 1990's Federal agencies started telemedicine programs

<http://eng.mu.edu/wintersj/rehab/rehab167/mod3/history.htm>. Accessed Oct 17, 2016.

More History

- 1996-Institute of Medicine publishes "Telemedicine: A Guide to Assessing Telecommunications in Health Care"
- 2000-APTA creates document stating telehealth is appropriate model for delivery of PT when provided in manner consistent with standard of care
- 2009-PT & Society Summit-"Patients should receive care whenever they need it"
- 2014-Position statement adopted by APTA HOD
- 2015-FSBPT recommendations

FSBPT Recommendations

- Recognize changing patient and provider expectations
- Untether telehealth from traditional reimbursement expectations
- Deconstruct the traditional physical therapy encounter
- Be open to discovery
- Be mindful of the importance of human and ethical factors
- Redesign care with focus on value
- Be bold and visionary

Principles for Delivering Telerehabilitation

- American Telemedicine Association (Richmond et al., 2017)
- Administrative
- Clinical
- Technical
- Ethical

Therapist Perceptions

- PT/OT/NP students (Randall et al., 2016)
 - Mainly positive attitudes about telehealth
 - Thought it less useful in simulated and clinical settings
 - Perceived interpersonal barriers
 - Speyer et al., (2018) Systematic review looked at allied health care including PT, found telehealth as effective as face-face
- Lawford et al., (2017) found similar results
 - PTs agree offers time savings and privacy advantages
 - Most do not like the lack of physical contact

Therapist Perceptions

- 6 main themes from Australian study (Cottrell, et al., 2017)
 - Barriers to some patients access to therapy are complex and multifaceted
 - TR can improve access to management for musculoskeletal conditions
 - Limitations versus face to face
 - Delivery needs to be flexible
 - Perceived barriers (work space, tech support)
 - Need facilitators for successful implementation

Patient Perceptions

- Patient Preference
 - Studies have shown majority of patients like telemedicine (Gustke et al., 2004)
- Patient Perspective (Kairy et al., 2013)
 - Study for patients post TKA found 6 main themes
 - Improving access/reduce need transportation
 - Developing strong therapeutic relationship while having personal space
 - Complementing with in-person
 - Tailored HEP
 - Perceived ease of use of equipment
 - Feeling sense of support

Patient Perceptions

- Hip or knee OA (Rini et al., 2015)
 - Pain COACH App for Pain education
 - 109 participants completed study
 - Showed clinical promise to strengthen the effects and adherence was very high
 - 23% of potential participants declined due to not wanting to use a computer but in the end preference for completing on a computer increased from 50% to 62% among participants
- Patient Perceptions TR (Lawford et al., 2016)
 - 330 people with hip/knee OA completed survey
 - Mostly positive perceptions except concern about lack of physical contact with therapist-recommended education and mixed approach

Patient Perceptions

- Telemedicine using patient-centered communication with physician (Agha et al., 2009)
 - Able to develop rapport as with in-person visit
 - Patient-centered communication with shared decision making
 - Higher satisfaction with telemedicine due to convenience
- Diabetes clinic in Australia (Fatehi et al., 2015)
 - Developed a questionnaire for patient satisfaction
 - No issues building rapport
 - 21% concerned about lack physical contact

Patient Perceptions and chronic pain (Cranen et al., 2011)

- Interviews of patients who had not gone through TR
- Performance expectancy
 - Negative view of quality of feedback, fellow suffer contact and rapport
 - Positive view transition knowledge
- Effort expectancy
 - Positive view equipment use
- Social influence
 - Some associated clinic with professionalism
- Facilitation conditions
 - Negative view of motivation for patient, opportunity out of house
 - Positive view of sensor/tracking for motivation, flexibility

continued

Ways to address perceptions with chronic pain

- Bridge to patient homes to create a group where patients can see and interact with each other while still in their own homes
- Bridge to group sites with therapist is with one group and other groups are linked in
- Patient motivation-digital rewards
- Environment- home v. clinical look

continued

Ways to use tele-rehabilitation

- Synchronous-Videoconferencing
 - Peripherals that can be used
 - Stethoscope
 - Blood Pressure monitor
 - Pulse ox
 - Goniometer
 - Tape measure
- Asynchronous-Store and forward
 - Can be still pictures or video

Ways to use tele-rehab

- Evaluation to discharge
 - Challenging
 - Mental health dx such as agoraphobia, anxiety
- Mix of in person and telehealth visits
 - Most common
- Home safety/wheelchair evaluation
- Supervisory visits for assistants
 - Washington due shortage of PTs (Lee and Billings, 2016)
- Case series on booster visits for chronic LBP (Peterson, 2017)

Ways to use tele-rehabilitation

- Meta-analysis with 23 studies
- Post surgical patients (van Egmond et al., 2018)
 - Orthopedic
 - Cardiac
 - Oncological
- Improved quality of life

continued

Supervisory visits for PTA

- Large contract company in Washington state with many facilities
- Shortage of PTs
- Telehealth for supervisory visits with PTA with patient
- Lee and Billings, 2016

continued

Advantages for Tele-rehab

- Address staffing shortages
- Expand coverage area for home agencies
- Greater access for specialty care/niche care
- Improve dosing of therapy
 - Patients post TKR returning home instead of SNF

continued

continued

Specialty care access

- Case studies from rural Minnesota and American Samoa (2 cases out of 117 TR encounters)
- Ages of all encounters ranged from 9 months-86 yo
- 38 had neurologic dx
- Used to access specialists for patients with local PT present
 - Diamond et al., 2003

continued

Advantages Tele-rehab

- Systematic Review (Kairy, 2009)
- Clinical outcomes similar/better than alternative
- Compliance with home programs high
- Consultation time longer
- Satisfaction higher for patients compared to therapists

Advantages TR

- Emmerson, Harding, and Taylor (2018)
- Systematic review and meta-analysis
- Multimedia improved adherence with home programs
- No difference with patient outcomes
 - Looked at studies with standardized exercises-no individualization for exercises or dosing

Challenges with Tele-rehab

- Ease of use with equipment for patients and therapists
- Connectivity
 - Sound and/or video quality
- Identifying appropriate patients
 - Hearing
 - Vision
 - Cognition

continued

Summary of advantages and challenges

- Scholten et al., 2019 provided a good summary for TR with polytrauma
- “Telehealth does not eliminate the need for face-to-face clinical care but can enhance delivery, coordination, and access to care”

continued

Patient rapport

- According to Muller (2015), strong patient rapport can be developed using the telephone
- Used patients with chronic dizziness
 - Person-centered communication
 - Encouragement
 - Approval
 - Reassurance of safety
 - Responsiveness to participant cues
- Flaming (2010)-similar findings tele-mental care
 - Positive outcomes correlated with empathy and respect
 - Talking about clinicians own experience
 - Collaborative problem-solving style

continued

Eliciting Patient Agenda

- Most clinicians do not work to learn patient's perspective (Singh Ospina et al., 2018)
- Specialty care less likely to elicit patient agenda versus primary care
 - 36% of encounters elicited patient agenda
 - When elicited-patient interrupted 70% of encounters with median time of 11 seconds to first interruption
 - Left uninterrupted patient took median time 6 seconds to state concern

Medical Errors and Doctor-Patient Relationship (Kondro, 2010)

- 23% of patients post-discharge adverse event
 - Increasing medical complexity
 - View health care as strictly analytic/mechanistic
 - Greater stress/burnout
- Link between medical errors and doctor-patient relationship

Patient Interview

- 80% of the information needed to clarify symptoms is provided by the patient during the interview. (Goodman and Snyder, 2013)
- Effective communication
 - Caring
 - Compassion
 - Cultural differences
 - Personal differences

Patient-centered interview (Martin, 2003)

- Created for medical students due to gap between asking students questions coming from list and patient perspective
- Medicine lacks a framework for taking a patient-centered approach for history taking
- Framework embeds medical and social history to better conceptualize what, when, where, and how questions should be asked

continued

Part 1-Agenda

- Beginning of interview is to establish agenda-why is the patient being seen-verbal
 - More direct questioning from PT comes after patient explains in own words
 - Information about history present illness, illness experience, why patient seeking treatment, feelings, expectations
 - Summarize
 - Transitional statement to start next section

continued

Part 2-History

- Middle part is continue gathering information both verbally and with physical examination
 - Physical exam-red flags, lifestyle risk factors, review of systems
 - Identification of resources-family/caregivers, work, living situation
 - Put in context of functional life for patient
 - Transitional statement before next part

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Part 3-closing

- Final part is patient education-diagnosis, rationale, treatment and management plan
 - Address one issue at a time before moving to next
 - For each issue discuss why an issue, differential diagnosis, exam findings, and treatment with rationale
 - Patient education
 - Referrals
 - Common ground
 - Summarize

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Types of Patients Seen

- Musculoskeletal
- Neurological i.e. Parkinson's disease, CVA, ALS, MS
- Amputee
- Spinal cord injuries
- Cardiopulmonary
- TBI
- Chronic Pain
- Pediatrics through Geriatrics

Before First Visit

- Have emergency plan in place
 - Emergency contacts
 - Local police and fire
- Make a test call
 - Ensures able to connect
 - May need to have patient move camera due to lighting
 - Ensures patient able to use equipment
- Make sure have private space to conduct session

Examinations

- Best done in-person to have all tests available
- Identification of tests that are indicated versus those able to perform
- Ability to modify standard tests
- Patient safety
- Patient able to follow instruction for test
- Vital signs do with peripherals
 - Can get EKG

continued

Musculoskeletal Examination

- Use of pen and paper tests
- Measurements
- Palpation
- Goniometry
- Strength
- Special tests

continued

Measurements and Palpation

- Some applications have tape measures for edema, wall-to-occiput distance
- Educating patients to self palpation
 - Describing sensation felt

continued

Goniometry

- Synchronous visit with computer program, (Good, 2012)
 - Picture taken during visit and loaded into program that had goniometer for shoulder
 - Compared against clinical measurement-differences found not clinically significant
- Smartphone app (Jenny, 2016)
 - Camera base application-found to be precise and possibly more accurate at knee.
- Photo with markers at bony landmarks for knee (Naylor, 2011)
 - Reliable and valid

continued

Strength testing

- Only MMT test-plantar flexors
- Chair rise tests (30 second, 5x, 10x)
- Hand held muscle testers if in clinic or have tech
 - Data can be stored in software
- Self-applied isometrics

continued

Special Tests

- Not all special tests are appropriate
- Slump and Yocum are easy to adapt
- Modification of tests
 - Hawkins Kennedy-place arm on shelf at 90 degrees and with elbow flexed at 90 degrees, have patient apply self overpressure into IR

continued

Evidence for examination by TR

- Cottrell et al. (2018)-high level of agreement between in-person and tele-rehab for patients with chronic musculoskeletal conditions
 - Shoulders
 - Low back
 - Knees
- Evaluation of knee (Richardson et al. 2017)
 - Face to Face versus telerehab
 - self-palpation, self-applied modified special tests, AROM, functional tasks
 - High level of agreement
 - Areas to improve for telerehab were more through questions about mechanism injury and palpation

continued

continued

Shoulder examination

- Assessment and diagnosis of MSK shoulder disorders
 - Steele et al., 2012
- Compared TR and face-to-face
- Educated patients with modified special tests(e.g. Hawkins-Kennedy and Speeds)
- Dx agreement and individual findings was consistent conventional methods

continued

Ankle examination by TR

- Russell, Blumke, Richardson, and Truter (2010)
- Compared face to face with telerehab 15 patients with current ankle pain
 - TR exam consisted of functional movements, tasks, and self applied orthopedic/neuro tests
 - Software allowed to send video for patient education with tests
 - Found agreement with face to face 14/15 patients

continued

Examination Evidence

- Diagnostic accuracy TR for lower limb musculoskeletal disorders (Russell et al., 2010)
- Compared face to face with TR examination
- $\geq 79\%$ agreement with primary dx and exact system dx
- Physicians with the same clinical information have shown 22-28% disagreement

continued

Low Back Examination

- Validity of low back assessment with TR compared with face to face
 - Truter, Russell, and Fary, 2014
- Substantial agreement for pain with specific movements, eliciting sxs, and sensitizing SLR (used family or nonclinical to assist)
- Moderate agreement with identifying the worst lumbar spine movement direction, SLR ROM, AROM L-spine
- Poor agreement with postural analysis and reasons limitation L-spine mvmt

continued

Low back with TBC

- Face to face and TR assessments with LBP <90 days
- Modified treatment-based classification into manipulation/mobilization, specific exercise, or stabilization
- Agreement was 68.1%
 - SLR part was only component significantly lower
 - Peterson, Kuntz, Roush, 2018

continued

More exam evidence

- 3 case studies by Turner, 2018
 - Hands-off eval for low back pain, cervical pain, and elbow pain
 - Used McKenzie approach
 - All three returned full function without pain within 3 months
- Not all patients appropriate
 - Patient unable to use technology
 - Connectivity
 - Hands-on needed
 - Neuro assessment-DTRs
 - Strength test limitations

Musculoskeletal Treatment

- Have equipment in place for patient
 - Restorator
 - Ankle weights
 - Elastic bands
 - TENS/biofeedback
 - Blood pressure cuff can be used for feedback with posterior pelvic tilts/vmo quad sets
- Adjusting home programs via email, videos, private site access

Musculoskeletal Evidence

- Musculoskeletal Conditions (Cottrell et al 2016)
 - Systematic review (13 studies were included)
 - Telerehabilitation appeared to be superior when compared to standard practice for improving physical function
 - Viable option for the clinical management of musculoskeletal conditions
 - Comparable but not inferior to standard face to face physiotherapy treatment following total knee arthroplasty

More Evidence

- Musculoskeletal Disorders (Mani et al., 2016)
 - Systematic review with 11 studies included
 - Good validity for pain, edema, ROM, strength, balance, gait and functional outcomes
 - Low validity for lumbar spine posture
 - Moderate validity for special orthopedic tests, neurodynamic test and scar assessment
- Systematic review musculoskeletal conditions (Grona et al., 2017)
 - Moderate quality with positive effect on health outcomes and satisfaction

Knee TR

- RTC for treatment knee OA-both groups log book with exercises and 20 minutes hot pack before session (Azma et al., 2018)
- TR group (3x/week for 6 weeks)
 - Strengthening
 - Endurance
 - Flexibility
 - AROM
- Control received face to face-same freq/duration
 - US, TENS
- TR as effective as face to face

After Orthopedic Surgery

- Systematic review (Pastora-Bernal et al., 2017)
- Strong evidence in favor after total knee and hip arthroplasty
- Limited evidence with upper limb interventions (fewer studies)
- Clinical implications
 - Outcomes comparable not inferior to face-to-face

Example post Orthopedic Surgery

- Shoulder decompression (Pastora-Bernal et al., 2018)
 - 12-week program (5x/wk) for both TR and face-to-face
 - Patients received individualized home program through web-based program
 - Pictures, videos, patient manual with exercise tracking form
 - Non significant trend towards greater improvement in most functional outcomes with TR

continued

TR with Lower Extremity Injury

- Control and TR groups treated for 3-months after injury
- TR strapped smartphone with gyroscope, G-sensor, magnetometer, barometer to injured limb
 - ROM
 - Does load injured limb with and without crutches
- Tsvyakh and Hospodarskyy, 2017

continued

Manual Therapy

- Use of devices/tools as needed
 - Baseball/Lacrosse ball
 - Rolling pin
 - Self trigger point release tools
 - Belts/bands
- Reiman et al. (2013)-hip self mobilization
 - Integration of self mobs included 5-8 minutes warmup on bike, static stretches, hip mobs, exercise into new ROM with isometric/isotonic

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Self-mobilizations

- **Sciatic nerve**
 - Patients either in lumbar segmental stabilization group (LSS) or LSS + self sciatic mobilization
 - Sciatic nerve tensioner from slump position basically
 - Both groups improved with physical function and general health
 - LSS + mobilization had greater improvements
 - Jeong et al. (2016)
- **Wrist**
 - Case series using strap while gradually increasing extension and weight bearing with wrist on table
 - 5 TX for 1 week
 - Incr PROM/AROM extension, force before onset pain and decr pain intensity
 - Choung et al. 2013

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Manual Therapy Tools



continued

Thoracic self-mobilization (Johnson and Grindstaff (2012))

- Two tennis balls taped together and then fully enclosed with athletic tape, a final strip applied perpendicular to the other tape/between the two balls
- Exercises include: mini crunches and supine arm circles

continued



Thoracic mob pictures

continued

AAOMPT

- “manual physical therapy should be applied by a physical therapist and the effects observed clinically before prescribing a similar treatment for home use.”

continued

Acupressure

- Systematic review of self-acupressure (Song et al, 2015).
 - 10 studies-all with positive results for symptom management
- Self-acupressure for knee OA and older adults (Li et al., 2017)
 - RTC with no acupressure, sham acupressure, verum
 - Sham and verum improved WOMAC scores and pain scale

continued

Neurologic Examination

continued

Neurologic Evidence

- Systematic review by Block et al., 2016
 - Telemonitoring physical activity
 - MS
 - Parkinson's
 - Stroke
 - Dementia
 - TBI
 - In Stroke remote measures improved UE function and ambulation
 - Helped predict falls in PD
 - Dementia activity correlated with disease severity

Stroke Evidence

- Systematic review and meta-analysis (Rintala et al., 2019)
 - ADL-similar outcome compared with control/other treatment/usual care
 - UE/LE function- distance PT similar effect to usual care
 - Balance- similar effect
 - Walking-better or similar effect
 - Physical activity- similar effect
 - Participation-similar effect

Stroke Evidence

- Sarfo et al. (2018)- Systematic review
 - Tele-rehab interventions have equal or better effects on motor, higher cortical, and mood disorders
 - BBS, DGI, 10-meter walk test, Caregiver Strain Index
- Post-stroke (Bernocchi et al., 2016)
 - Mixed method approach with 1-2 home visits, 1-2 phone calls, and 2-8 videoconference sessions
 - Improved in global functional capacity-especially static and dynamic postural balance, UE dexterity paretic side, and physical performance
 - Decreased depression and caregiver strain

More Stroke

- Scoping review outcomes measures post CVA (Veras et al 2016)
 - 28 studies included
 - 58 different outcome measures used with telerehabilitation/virtual reality
- Study for access and willingness to use post CVA (Sakakibara et al 2016)
 - Technologies used were TV, landline phone, computers
 - Most patients interested to receive assessments (58.4%)
 - Education/HEP (64%)
 - 71% believed quality of care would be less than in-person

Stroke treatments

- Respiratory muscle training after stroke meta-analysis (Menezes et al., 2016)
 - 5x/week for 5 weeks
 - Increased strength in very weak
 - Reduced risk of respiratory complications

Parkinson's disease

- Chen et al., 2018 Systematic review
 - Telehealth effective to improve motor impairment
- Gandolfi et al., 2017
 - Exergames compared with sensory integration balance training
 - 3x/week for 7 weeks
 - Both improved DGI, gait confidence, fall frequency, QOL
 - Cost for exergames was less

Parkinson's treatment ideas

- Active assisted cycling (Ridgel et al., 2012)
 - 5 minute warm-up and cool-down at 40-50 rpm
 - 30 minutes with speed set at 75 rpm, patients asked to pedal at 80-85
- Group adapted tango instruction (Seidler et al., 2017)
 - 10 minute warm-up
 - 20 minute rhythm and partner work
 - 25 minute practice with new step and integration prior steps
 - 2-3 minute cool-down
 - Practice both lead and follow roles

SCI Evidence

- 23 participants for high dose scapular stabilizer and rotator cuff strengthening using telerehabilitation (Van Straaten et al., 2014)
 - Improvements in Wheelchair User's Shoulder Pain Index, DASH, and Shoulder Rating Questionnaire
 - Improved strength with serratus anterior and scapular retractors

continued

More SCI

- RTC (Coulter, 2017)
- 8 weeks 2x/week
- Control: self care Tx: web based PT
- Intervention group increased 6MWT beyond minimal detectable change
- Improved compliance with exercise frequency
- Patients showed satisfaction with telerehab
- After d/c from rehabilitation unit
- Especially for long term health wellness

continued

Multiple Sclerosis

- RCT with store and forward approach
- 2x/week strength 1x/week endurance
- 6 month program, control waited 3 months
- Improvements in strength, lung function, and physical activity (Tallner et al., 2016)

Multiple Sclerosis

- Paul et al., (2018), Subjects used web-based program for individualized home program of exercises and education
 - Videos
 - Text
 - Audio
- Completed online diary-reviewed every 2 weeks
 - Control was given sheet of exercises and paper diary
- 6 month f/u-no significant differences with outcome measures
 - Authors noted dosing was issue-few patients commented in diaries leading to few adjustments

Telerehabilitation Outpatient Neurorehabilitation (Tenforde et al., 2017)

- Can provide access to care team over longer time period after discharge from inpatient
 - Better able to address dynamic aspects of rehab such as community reintegration
 - Able to adjust home programs for disease progression for neurodegenerative diseases
 - Can address specific physiologic parameters to adjust program (e.g. ventilation program for ALS)

continued

TR with Acquired Brain Injury

- Used hybrid synchronous and asynchronous over 2 years for patients with ABI
- 2x/week for 1-2 months 30 minute sessions; 1-2x/week
- VR gaming for UE and cognition
- Improved with UE AROM weak side, shoulder flexion, and Trail Making Test
 - Kizony et al., 2017

continued

BPPV Diagnosis

- Dix-Hallpike has sensitivity estimated at 48-88% (Nguyen-Huynh, 2008)
- Patient Interview with 4 questions has sensitivity of 81% (Imai et al., 2016)
 - Is rotary vertigo a characteristic of your dizziness/vertigo?
 - When you roll over in a supine position, do you experience d/v?
 - Does your d/v last for less than 5 minutes?
 - Have you previously experienced hearing loss in one ear or have experienced hearing loss, tinnitus, or ear fullness with this d/v?
 - 1 point to yes for 1 and 2, 2 points for yes on 3, subtract 1 point for yes on 4
 - Score >2 BPPV

Treatment of BPPV with subjective only

- 91% of patients objective BPPV improved after 1.59 average Semont liberatory maneuvers, 86% of subjective BPPV patients improved after 1.13 average maneuvers
 - Had vertigo with Dix-Hallpike
 - Need to see nystagmus to document positive Dix-Hallpike
 - Haynes et al., 2002
- Non-systematic review 9 studies (including Haynes)
 - Treatment based on history and signs with physical exam
 - 50-97.1% without nystagmus had remission compared to 76-100% with nystagmus
 - Alvarenga, Barbosa, Porto 2011

BPPV Treatment consideration

- Maranhao, Whitney, and Maranhao-Filho (2018)
- 33/221 patients had “Tumarkin-like phenomenon”
 - Sensation of being thrown to the ground
 - Patients remained symptom free 72 hours post Epley and Semont

continued

PC BPPV treatment

- Putting pillow under back with head over the edge
 - Talk patient through the modified Epley maneuver
 - Have caregiver present, if possible, to prevent fall backwards after sitting up
- Half somersault could be used for home program instead (Foster et al., 2012)
- Gans maneuver (Saber et al., 2017)
 - Less cervical pain
 - Long term efficacy similar with Epley

continued

More PC BPPV treatments

- DizzyFIX
 - Device attaches to bill of hat
 - Efficacy 88% at 1 week (Bromwich et al., 2010)
 - Commercially available
- Semont home exercise

continued

Horizontal canal BPPV treatment

- BBQ roll
- Appiani maneuver

continued

Vestibular Exam and Treatment

- Viirre, 1996-Vestibular telemedicine and rehabilitation: Applications for virtual reality
 - Able to observe nystagmus with video-oculography
 - Needed tech to perform full neuro exam
 - Promise for VOR adaptation due to able to control amount of scene movement with VR

VOR and games

- Wiimote attached to hat, played games to address VOR hypofunction
 - Chen, Hsieh, Wei, Kao (2012)
- Motion sensing mouse attached to head by Velcro
 - Played computer games
 - Progressed from seated, standing, decrease BOS, compliant surface
 - Szturm, Reimer, Hochman (2015)
- aVOR app for iPhone for patient education
- iPod for gaze-stabilization (Huang et al., 2014)
 - iPod in pocket front of hat
 - Able to get objective information on velocity

Vestibular video

continued

Balance and Falls video

continued

Tele-Assessment BBS

- Venkataraman et al. (2017)
- Feasible and reliable to rate BBS via video in clinical setting
- Optimal to have frontal and lateral camera views
- Some loss of information-minimal with slow motion and high-def used

continued

Balance Assessment for TR

- Matjacic, Bohinc, and Cikajlo (2010)
- Patients from NF able stand 1 minute
- Stand in computer-controlled machine with perturbations at waist
- BBS correlated with peak amplitude ML perturbations
- Could be used in homes with modification described in study

continued

Balance treatment ideas

- Foam pad/couch cushion
- Shelf paper with colored tape for BOS
- Reaching in a corner
- Book with half swimming noodle attached for rocker board

continued

Balance and Exer-gaming

- Hall et al., 2012 found WiiFit ski slalom correlated with
 - Gait speed
 - TUG
 - DGI

continued

Exer-gaming video

More balance

- Post stroke program for balance (Llorens et al., 2015)
 - 20 sessions 45-minutes at 3x/week either in clinic or home TR (other 2 days in clinic both groups)
 - Looking at screen placed foot where indicated keeping other foot in center circle
- No difference between groups with BBS, Tinetti POMA, Brunel Balance Assessment
- Decreased cost with TR
- Similar to Clock yourself app

App review

- Standardized review smartphone balance training apps
 - Reyes, Qin, Brown (2018)
 - 5 apps met criteria for inclusion
 - None developed by PT
 - Companies and physicians
 - One company founded by PT
- Standardized review smartphone balance assessment (Moral-Munoz et al., 2018)
 - 5 apps met criteria
 - 3/5 had scientific support
 - Safety concern

Gait

- Portable kits for gait training (Giansanti et al., 2013)
 - Step counter
 - Photo emitter detector
 - Central unit for data
- Rope with distance marked off for gait speed (same used for TUG)
- Study in Japan (Iwatsuki et al., 2004)
 - Hospital recorded gait and was reviewed at university for recommendations for gait training
 - Found no difference between in-person and reviewed recommendations

Cardiopulmonary

Cardiopulmonary Evidence

- Cardiopulmonary Disease (Hwang et al 2015)
 - A systemic review (11 studies)
 - Results: telerehabilitation was no different than other delivery models
 - Appears to have higher adherence rates
- COPD study (Tsai et al., 2017)
 - Low drop out rate and higher compliance with pulmonary rehab
 - Mirrored center-based programs

COPD

- RTC by Vasilopoulou et al., 2017
- Maintenance pulmonary rehab- usual care, hospital-based, or tele-rehab
 - Hospital-based and TR reduced risk of acute exacerbations
 - Only TR reduced risk of emergency visits

Cardiopulmonary Treatment ideas for TR

- Inspiratory muscle training for COPD, heart failure
 - Neto et al., 2018
 - Thomas et al., 2010
- Restorator
- Strength training
- Stretches

Case study

- Evaluation done in-person
 - Dorsiflexion lacked 5 degrees from neutral with knee extension on right and 3 on left
 - MMT plantar flexors 0/5 bilateral
 - Knee extension in sitting right 17#, left 20#
 - Unable to perform single limb stance
 - Deferred 2-minute step test due to SOB with single limb stance
 - Gait with rollator, no heel strike, unable to get swing foot past stance

Case study

- Seen via telerehab 2x/week for 6 weeks with in-person visit every other week
- Issued restorator, elastic bands, inspiratory respiratory muscle trainer
- Mailed/delivered adjustments to home program

Wound care

- Case study by Visco et al., 2001
 - Able to communicate better and more efficiently with health care team
- Le Goff-Pronost et al., 2018
 - Healing time shorter with telemedicine versus traditional follow-up visits.

continued

Chronic Pain

- Cranen et al., 2017
- Patients preferred intermediate telerehabilitation visits for feedback and monitoring along with face to face and exercising outside of the home.

continued

Neuropathy

- Pain-TENS applied to myotome (Dubinsky and Miyasaki, 2010)
- Balance- (Richardson, Sandman, and Vela, 2001)
 - Ankle warm-up in sitting
 - Standing toe/heel raises
 - Standing inversion/eversion
 - Wall slides

continued

Pediatrics

- Clinic used TR for OT for patient education with short video clips
 - Seating and mobility clinic
 - Transition inpatient to outpatient

continued

Cancer

- Remote guided exercise for patients with stable gliomas (Gehring et al., 2018)
- 6-months at 3x/week at 60-85% max heart rate
- Improved cardiorespiratory fitness

Frail

- Timonen et al., 2002
 - Exercise program 10 weeks
 - Knee extension, hip abduction, dynamic balance
- Remotely controlled biking (Jeong and Finkelstein, 2015)
 - 5 speeds for 2 minutes each was target
 - Motor turned on/off at times for passive/active
 - Improved pedaling speed after passive time
 - Benefit for frail elderly, cardiovascular conditions, possibly for pts with dementia

Frail

- Bruns et al., 2018
- Frail elderly planned for colorectal surgery
 - Computer supported strength training/protein recipes
 - Warm-up (dancing/walking)
 - Squats (all exercises 40 seconds, rest 20 seconds)
 - Lunges
 - Arm circles
 - Arm lifting
 - Adapted plank
 - Crunches
 - Digital rewards as motivation
 - Improved SPPB, gait speed, Fried score, QOL improved

Sarcopenia elderly adults

- Videoconferencing 12 week at 3x/week
- 20-40 minute sessions
 - 5 minute warm-up stretch walk in place
 - 20-30 minutes resisted exercise with Borg scale somewhat hard-hard biceps/triceps, front raises, leg raises, leg curls, leg extensions, squats, calf raises
 - Bodyweight weeks 1-4, 1kg d/b 5-8, 2 kg d/b 9-12
- Control group maintain lifestyle
- Increased leg muscle mass, total muscle mass, and chair sit-and-reach length
- Hong, Kim, Kim, and Kong; 2017

Chronic kidney disease (Watson et al., 2018)

- 3x/week for 12 weeks
- 30 minutes at “somewhat hard” intensity
- 20 minutes aerobic
- 10 minutes resisted exercise with leg press and knee extension with weight machine
- Increased strength and walking distance

Incontinence

- Stress incontinence (Sjostrom et al., 2015)
- RCT n=250
- Treatment-pelvic floor strengthening (8 levels), lifestyle adjustments, CBT done asynchronous with email support
- Control-used given same info and trained on own
- Improved QOL greater 2 years post with internet group

Home Safety Evaluations

- Romero et al., (2018)
 - Developed a home safety protocol with asynchronous approach
 - Able to perform home safety assessment before patient leaves hospital/SNF
 - Improve access to home safety assessments
- Renda and Lape, (2018)
 - Home safety assessment and home modifications via TR feasible
 - 2-6 visits performed
 - Looked at self-care, mobility, household, leisure
 - Used tech assist during initial eval to move camera/smartphone around home

continued

Case Study

- 70 year old male Veteran “Bob”
- Primary Diagnosis: Cerebellar ataxia
- Other diagnoses: OA, HLP, HTN, gout, oropharyngeal dysphagia, hypokinetic dysphonia, hypokinetic dysarthria
- Lives on a farm an hour and a half away from the hospital
- Spouse is not in good health and daughter has to bring both of her parents to the hospital every time her dad has an appointment
- Last fell 6 weeks ago before starting Physical Therapy

continued

Case Study continued

- Gait progressively worsening, feels unsteady and has a fear of falling, and has limited his activity
- Ambulates daily outside, but uses cane inconsistently
- Able to transfer independently from chair or bed

continued

Initial Examination

- Activity tolerance: 2-minute step test: 38 steps (norm 95 for age)
- Strength: 30 second chair rise: 9 times (<15 increased risk for falls)
- Vestibular: slow head turns caused diplopia
- Balance: tandem stance 14 seconds
- Gait: 0.6 m/s with cane with inconsistent use, poor quad control

continued

Treatments

- Patient given pedal exerciser, ankle weights, and elastic bands
- Activity tolerance: restorator used as warm-up each session angled 45 degrees
- Therapeutic exercise: strengthening trunk, quads, hip abduction and extensors, stretching plantar flexors/hamstrings, hip abduction/external rotation
- Gait: Cues using single point cane and mechanics

continued

Treatment continued

- Neuro re-education: 4-square, retro gait, braiding, writing ABCs with foot with ankle weight on
- Vestibular: vestibular-ocular reflex x1 and dynamic visual acuity
- Gaze stabilization: 2 targets for saccadic movement

continued

Outcomes

- Seen for total 15 visits
- Activity tolerance: 2-minute step test 63 steps on visit 13 (38 at initial examination)
- Reported diplopia resolved
- Balance: tandem stance 48 seconds, visit 14 (14 at initial examination)
- Strength: 30 second chair rise 14x, visit 11 (9 at initial examination)
- Gait: 0.8 m/s by d/c (0.6 m/s initially)
- Independent with home exercise program

Future

- ER
- Primary care
- Wearable haptic band (Delgado et al., 2017)
 - 8 vibrator motors along wearable band
 - Replace therapist's hands for guiding movement
 - Compared for both arbitrary motion patterns and typical therapy exercises
 - Able to demonstrate efficacy
- Wearable clothing for real-time monitoring of vital signs for chronic patients (Angelidis, 2010)

Case study

- At discharge
 - Single leg stance 10 seconds each leg
 - Gait without device in community 0.8 m/s
 - Knee extension left 56# right 60#
 - Dorsiflexion with knee extension right 2 degrees, left 5 degrees
 - Family/friends and physicians reported improvement in voice quality

Resources

- www.pubmed.gov
- www.amedeo.com
- American Telemedicine Association SIG
www.americantelemed.org
- www.apta.org
- [www.fb.com/groups/telehealthpts](https://www.facebook.com/groups/telehealthpts)
- www.telehealthprime.com
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