

Exploring the Dimensions of Motivation in Stroke Survivors During Physical Rehabilitation: A Qualitative Inquiry

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction begins broadly but does not specify U.S. epidemiological data, even though the study is conducted there. Adding national prevalence figures would contextualize the sample.

The cited evidence here is primarily quantitative. Since your study is qualitative, consider discussing why quantitative findings need to be complemented by lived experience narratives.

The discussion restates results effectively but could go further by integrating theories of motivation (e.g., Self-Determination Theory) to strengthen conceptual grounding.

This is a novel and powerful theme. Expanding on clinical implications for identity-based therapy could make the contribution clearer.

The limitations acknowledge transferability issues but overlook potential language/cultural biases. All participants were English-speaking; discuss how this might exclude non-English speaking stroke survivors and affect findings.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

This section introduces animal studies. While relevant, the link to your qualitative study could be strengthened—clarify how biological evidence underlines the need to capture subjective motivation.

This is an important nuance, but the paragraph ends abruptly. Expand by explaining why qualitative inquiry is especially suited to capture non-linear trajectories.

The research gap is stated clearly. However, you should articulate more explicitly how your study contributes beyond existing qualitative research (e.g., unique focus on identity reconstruction, or technology-driven motivators).

The guide is mentioned but not provided. Consider including the full guide as an appendix to strengthen transparency and replicability.

This section strongly connects to current literature. However, it would be valuable to address potential accessibility disparities (e.g., technology affordability in underfunded centers).

While these are mentioned, the discussion does not explore potential downsides (e.g., over-reliance on extrinsic rewards). Including this would present a more balanced interpretation.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.