INVOLVING OLDER ADULT STROKE SURVIVORS & **HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS IN DESIGNING & EVALUATING** A PATIENT-CENTRED WEBSITE TO IMPROVE TRANSITIONAL CARE

Katie Lee, Kathyrn Fisher, Maureen Markle-Reid, Eileen Britt, David Dayler, Ken Hajas, Barb Koetsier, Robert Mahony, Stefan Pagliuso, Jim Prescott, Linda Mayhew, Kimberly Walker

BACKGROUND

- Navigating the transition from hospital to home can be stressful and challenging for older adult stroke survivors.
- · Virtual resources offer a unique opportunity to optimize the accessibility and currency of health service information, but need to be tailored to the unique needs of older adult stroke survivors and their caregivers

OBJECTIVE

 To co-design a website with older adult stroke survivors and healthcare providers that supports care coordination and system/service navigation, promotes selfmanagement, and increases awareness of community-based services.

METHODS

Literature review was conducted to identify best practices in co-designing a strokespecific website with regards to content, format, and functionality.

Patient partners (older adult stroke survivors) were engaged in regular meetings to:



- determine the primary information needs of the target population
- identify a transition-focused framework to guide website design
- establish key features and functions (e.g., glossary, language, geography)
- identify requirements relating to appearance and format (e.g., colours, font)

Healthcare providers and stroke survivors from the Central South Regional Stroke Network were engaged in regular meetings to:



Identify resources and services to be linked to the website Assess the need for training users on website navigation and advise on how to introduce the website to patients in community settings

RESULTS

The website was designed using a paper-based tool: "The Stroke Recovery Journey Map", developed by the Central South Stroke Network's Patient and Family Advisory Council.



Key features:

- Userway plugin to change colour contrast, text size, and font
- **Text-to-speech function**
- Tutorial on how to navigate the website
- Glossary to define medical terminology
- Video testimony from a stroke survivor about his stroke journey.

CONCLUSIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

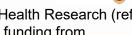
Patient partners and healthcare providers co-designed the website to support seamless transitions across the continuum of care and improve outcomes for stroke survivors and their caregivers. Formal usability testing of the website with a broader group of stroke survivors is planned.

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