PD Dr. Barbara Seebacher, MSc Head of Department of Rehabilitation Science, Clinic for Rehabilitation Münster (AT)

Spotlight on Lexo-II - Insights from the second Lexo study

Walking impairment is a significant problem for patients with neurological diseases, affecting their social participation, quality of life, and workability. Robot-assisted gait training (RAGT) has been shown to positively affect walking in stroke patients, but there is a lack of high-quality studies on RAGT including outcome measures in the basic activities of daily living and quality of life domains in the subacute and chronic phases after stroke. A prospective, assessor-blinded randomised controlled trial was conducted at Reha Zentrum Münster (AT) with Lexo to investigate the effects of combined RAGT and conventional physiotherapy as compared with conventional physiotherapy alone on walking ability and basic activities of daily living as co-primary outcomes. Patients after stroke in the subacute and chronic phases were compared.

A total of 100 inpatients after stroke in the subacute (n=50) and chronic phases (n=50) was included in the study. Secondary outcomes were walking speed, walking distance, the fall rate, functional mobility, fall-related self-efficacy, health-related quality of life, fatigue, gait parameters, and physical exertion during the intervention and acceptability of the intervention.

The presentation will include promising study results as well as implications for clinical practice.