The Natural History and Measurement of Power Wheelchair Use

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Participants and Recruitment

- Assistive Technology Outcomes Profile
- Life Space Assessment
- Wheelchair Skills Test - Power
- Wheelchair Skills Test - Power - Questionnaire
- Wheelchair Use Confidence Scale - Power

Implications

Findings of this longitudinal study will advance our knowledge of power mobility use among older adults, build upon previous cross-sectional studies, and provide evidence of the psychometric properties of the outcome measures used.

Method

Design

Longitudinal Multi-Cohort Design (2 year)

Participants and Recruitment

Consecutive sampling strategy (N=150) (3 cohorts)

- Experienced Power Wheelchair Users
- Experienced Power Wheelchair Users Receiving A New Chair
- Brand New Power Wheelchair Users

Inclusion criteria

- ≥ 50 years of age
- Ability to operate their power wheelchair independently
- Able to travel to the testing site for 2 of the 7 sessions

Data collection

- Baseline
- Month 1
- Month 3
- Month 6
- Month 12
- Month 18
- Month 24

Power Wheelchair Outcomes Tool Kit

- Assistive Technology Outcomes Profile
- Life Space Assessment
- Wheelchair Skills Test - Power
- Wheelchair Skills Test-Power-Questionnaire
- Wheelchair Use Confidence Scale-Power

Secondary Outcomes

- Demographics
- Interpersonal Support Evaluation List
- Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale
- Late Life Disability Index

Lessons Learned so far...

- The importance of:
  - regular communication strategies
  - training and continuous follow up
  - flexibility and adaptability
  - retention strategies

References


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- retention strategies