A means to explore and evaluate interventions that will make a difference to the quality of life of stroke survivors and their families

Dr Emma Patchick
How will the licence request process benefit the PRECiS?

The Click2Go process makes everything very straightforward for people interested in seeing and using PRECiS. I like that people who request the licence are asked to give information about how they plan to use PRECiS and to provide their contact details. Then, when I get the monthly reports on licence requests, I can follow up on research that will utilise PRECiS, meaning I have the opportunity to seek additional data and feedback on PRECiS being used in practice – all of which helps to build up the psychometric 'picture' of PRECiS.

Do you have any advice for colleagues considering embarking on the route to licensing, particularly those who've developed copyright materials such as COAs?

My advice would be: speak to Ed and his UMIP colleagues. They have your best interests at heart and understand the complex world of licensing agreements.

How did the University support you during the licensing process?

They basically took charge of the complex things like licensing terms and conditions. Things were broken down for me when needed; with any complicated terminology clearly explained. It meant I could do what I had expertise in and leave the licensing stuff to the experts. I felt very supported in the process and would recommend it to anyone.

What have you learned during the licensing process and how has this benefitted you personally?

I've learned that copyright and intellectual property is a bit of a minefield and I'm very happy that Dr Ed Maughfling, UMIP's Express Licensing Manager, who really knows his stuff, navigated me through that field!

What does the future hold for the PRECiS?

Through collaborations and post-doctoral work, I hope we can generate further data on PRECiS qualities and possibly make further adaptations and guidance on how it can be used therapeutically to guide rehabilitation approaches. I hope it can be used as a means to explore and evaluate interventions that will make a difference to the quality of life of stroke survivors and their families.

A research team in Oxford are using PRECiS as part of epidemiological work to explore the natural recovery of cognitive difficulties after stroke. Another team of Portuguese researchers and clinicians are translating PRECiS for use in their work with stroke survivors.

My planned post-doctoral fellowship will explore additional applications of PRECiS; early work suggests it could be clinically valuable as a tool to guide rehabilitation approaches, as well as being an outcome measure.

How was PRECiS developed and how have you applied it to your research?

We developed PRECiS within a PhD funded by Stroke Association.

A review of research trials exploring interventions for cognition after stroke highlighted that patient-centred outcome measures are rarely used to explore effectiveness and suggested the need for a new measure.

Developmental work included a qualitative interview study, systematic review of existing tools, pilot work, and in-depth psychometric testing. Every stage involved collaboration with stroke survivors and their carers. PRECiS proved to have good acceptability, validity and reliability; findings have been published open access and the link to the article can be found on the PRECiS product page here.

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Where do you see potential value in using the PRECiS, both from a research perspective and from a commercial perspective?

Patient perspectives are so often overlooked when evaluating the effectiveness of interventions but they are absolutely vital to build up a full picture of the complexity of impact of a problem. I see PRECiS filling a gap and providing stroke survivors with a practical and reliable voice.

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