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### To explore the decision-making process of utilizing post-acute care among stroke patients/family

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**Objective:** Post-Acute care for stroke patients can improve the quality of life. The relevant studies on how patients and their families selecting post-acute care for strokes are still insufficient. This study investigated the decision-making process of stroke patients and their families in selecting post-acute care.

**Methods:** A qualitative design study was performed in a neurology unit of a medical center in the southern part of the country. Samples were collected with the defined conditions as follows: The qualified patients whom were screened and transferred out for post-acute care by the case management staff, were under the provisions of Health Insurance Agency. The study data are collected during the period from January to December of 2017. A semi-structured interview guideline was used. There were 10 participants. This study adopts content analysis method and context analysis of the interview.

**Results:** The decision-making process of the patients with stroke and their families who chose to utilize the post-acute care, can be summarized into seven major themes: the need of nursing care by family, the viewpoints of professional rehabilitation, the medical conditions of the patients, the lack of rehabilitation beds in the previous hospital, the confidence from establishing communication interactions, the referencing medical staff information and the decision-making model.

**Conclusion/Practical Application:** The results of this study will provide caregivers when facing patients and their families, a timely assistance, and helping patients and their families to obtain better post-acute care.

#### Biography

Wen-Ying Huang holds a M.S. degree from the Chang Jung Christian University. She is the head nurse at National Cheng Kung University Hospital . She has 23 years of working experience in Neurological disease-related clinical care.

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