

Conceptualising the key components of rehabilitation following major trauma: a mixed-methods service evaluation

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Background

The reorganisation of acute major trauma pathways in England has improved survival, resulting in an increased patient population with diverse and complex needs requiring specialist multidisciplinary rehabilitation.

We used group concept mapping methodology to:

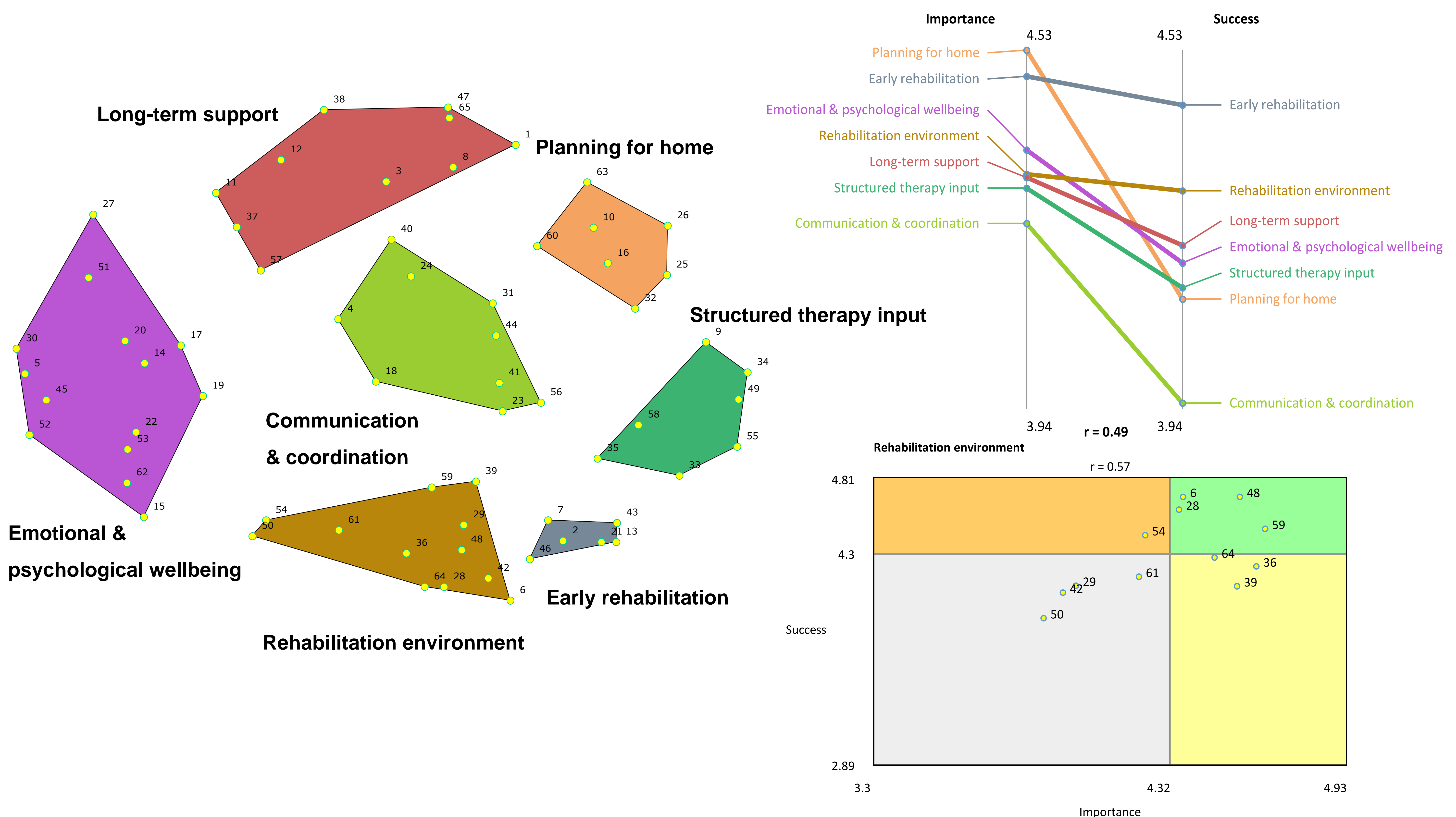
- Identify the clinical service needs of patients accessing the Major Trauma Rehabilitation Service
- Prioritise these needs
- Determine whether each of these needs is currently being met
- Plan targeted service enhancements

Design

Participants contributed towards a statement-generating activity to identify the key components of rehabilitation following major trauma, and individually sorted these statements into themes. Each statement was then rated for importance and current success using a 5-point Likert scale. Multidimensional scaling and hierarchical cluster analysis were applied to the sorted data to produce themed clusters of ideas within concept maps. Priority values were applied to these maps to identify priority areas for targeted service enhancement.

Results

Fifty eight patients and healthcare professionals participated in the ideas generation activity, 34 in the sorting activity and 49 in the rating activity. A 7-item cluster map was agreed upon as illustrated below. Comparisons between mean importance and mean current success ratings for each of the themed clusters are presented in a pattern match. Go-zones were then generated for each of the themed clusters.



Areas for targeted service enhancement included:

#34 Ensuring a seamless transfer between acute wards, rehabilitation unit, home and aftercare

#39 Having access to the specialist pain team

#53 Setting challenging goals that help patients both physically and psychologically when achieved

Conclusion

The conceptual framework presented in this poster illustrates the importance of a continuum of rehabilitation provision across the recovery pathway, from early rehabilitation in an acute inpatient setting to long-term support in the community, and provides a platform to track future service changes and facilitate the co-design of new rehabilitation interventions for individuals following major trauma.