How Does Delirium Affect Allied Health Therapy After Stroke?

This study proposed to evaluate the effect of delirium on patient participation in allied health therapy, and determine whether time or length of session improved engagement.

- 40 patients recruited for 355 therapy sessions
- Patients had less therapy when in delirium \( (p < .001) \)
  - Delirium +ve sessions: 14.5 mins therapy in 29.0 min session (47.3%)
  - Delirium –ve sessions: 29.3 mins therapy in 42.2 min session (72.0%)
- For delirium +ve sessions, therapists scored participation lower, and both inattention and altered conscious state affected sessions more

Key Messages:
- This is the first study to measure the participation and engagement of patients in post-stroke delirium in rehabilitative therapy
- Time of day and duration of session did not alter efficiency of therapy or participation
- Conscious state may be the best predictor of a patient's ability to engage in therapy