Developing a measure of therapeutic relationship relevant to the rehabilitation context

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Developing a conceptual framework

- Qualitative Descriptive Methodology exploring what matters most to the therapeutic relationship
- Semi-structured interviews
  - n=15 people currently receiving rehabilitation following a neurological event

Item generation

- Identify existing measures
- Map items against conceptual framework
- Delete, refine and add items for congruence with conceptual framework
  - 68 items across five domains identified

Item refinement

- Cognitive interviewing
- Checking for comprehensibility, acceptability, relevance and answerability
  - n=13 people including neurological (n=5), long-term chronic (n=4), and acute (n=4) conditions
- Overlapping, not relevant, or ambiguous items were deleted (n=32)
- Eight items were revised for clarity.
  - There were some discrepancies between people with acute versus chronic conditions

Pilot testing and Cultural adaptation

- We have a 36-item measure ready for further testing
- We are looking for rehabilitation localities interested in embedding the measure into their routine data collection processes
- The internal construct validity of the measure will be explored using Rasch Analysis informing final refinements
- A grant application has been submitted to Brain Research NZ to explore cultural acceptability and adapt the measure for Māori