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Accelerometer and global positioning system measurement of recovery of community ambulation across the first 6 months after stroke: An exploratory prospective study

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Accelerometer and Global Positioning System measurement of recovery of community ambulation across the first six months following stroke: an exploratory prospective study

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Running Head: Community ambulation after stroke

Accelerometer and Global Positioning System measurement of

recovery of community ambulation across the first six months

following stroke: an exploratory prospective study

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We certify that no party having a direct interest in the results of the research supporting this article has or will confer a benefit on us or on any organization with which we are associated AND, if applicable, we certify that all financial and material support for this research (eg, NIH or NHS grants) and work are clearly identified in the title page of the manuscript. (Niruthikha Mahendran, Suzanne Kuys Sandra Brauer).

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Conflict of Interest: Nil.

- 1 Accelerometer and Global Positioning System measurement
- 2 of recovery of community ambulation across the first six
- 3 months following stroke: an exploratory prospective study

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- 6 **Objectives:** To characterise community ambulation and determine if it changes
- 7 across the first six months following discharge from hospital after stroke.
- 8 **Design:** Prospective, observational study.
- 9 **Setting:** Community setting, Brisbane, Australia.
- 10 **Participants:** 34 subacute stroke survivors with no cognitive impairment or
- 11 conditions limiting mobility prior to stroke.
- 12 **Interventions:** Nil
- 13 Main outcome measures: Community ambulation was measured by an
- 14 accelerometer, Global Positioning System and activity diary. Measures included:
- volume (step count; time spent in the community, lying/sitting, standing and
- walking), frequency (number of community trips; number of and time in short,
- medium, long duration bouts) and intensity (number of and time at low, moderate,
- high intensity bouts) and trip type at one, three and six months following hospital
- 19 discharge.
- 20 **Results:** At one-month, participants took on average one trip per day in the
- 21 community, lasting 137±113 minutes. Overall, most community ambulation was
- spread across long duration bouts (>300 steps) lasting 11.3 to 14.1 minutes/day and
- 23 moderate intensity bouts (30-80 steps/minute). There was no change in community
- 24 ambulation trip type (p < 0.302) or ambulation characteristics over time except for a
- 25 greater number of and time spent in long ambulation bouts at six-months only (p <
- 26 0.027).
- 27 Conclusions: Total volume and intensity of community ambulation did not change
- 28 over the first six-months post-discharge after stroke. However, at six months,
- 29 survivors spent more time in long duration ambulation bouts. Review of stroke

30	survivors a	at six-months	following	hospital o	discharge is	suggested, as	this is when

changes in community ambulation may first be observed.

Keywords: Stroke, Community ambulation, GPS, accelerometer, activity diary

35	List of abbre	viations	
36			
37	GPS	Global Positioning Systems	
38	10MTW	Timed 10metre walk (comfortable pace)	
39	6MWT	6-minute walk test	
40	SD	Standard Deviation	
41	Returning to o	community ambulation, that is, independent ambulation outside the home and	
42	yard, is regularly reported as a key goal by a majority of stroke survivors ¹ . However despite		
43	its importance	e, individuals with chronic stroke complete fewer community trips and walking	
44	related activit	ies compared to healthy adults ² . Further, high scores on clinical measures of	
45	gait and funct	ion do not predict successful community ambulation outcomes after stroke ^{1,2} .	
46	As communit	y ambulation is a vital precursor to successful community re-integration ³ ,	
47	limitation in t	his outcome could contribute to further disability and poor health outcomes 1,4-6.	
48			
49	To date, com	nunity ambulation after stroke has been measured through self-report diaries	

To date, community ambulation after stroke has been measured through self-report diaries and questionnaires^{1,2,7}. However, these methods are limited by accurate recall⁸, and do not provide objective measures of community ambulation. Recently, devices including accelerometers⁹ and global positioning systems^{10,11} have shown potential for measurement of community ambulation after stroke¹². Accelerometers have been used to measure daily walking activity after stroke, with increases in daily step count reported in the first three months after hospital discharge¹³⁻¹⁵. How much of this occurs in the community is unknown. Global positioning systems (GPS) have been used in one case study of a stroke survivor, to investigate life space and components of outdoor mobility¹¹. In combination, accelerometers and GPS may allow for isolation of community ambulation measures from daily walking activity¹².

Longitudinal measurement of community ambulation across the subacute phase of stroke is important, as this period is often associated with changes in post-stroke impairments¹⁶, activity limitations¹⁶⁻¹⁸ and personal factors^{19,20}. These changes may also contribute to improvements in ambulation characteristics and behaviours within the community, such as trip duration and frequency, steps taken, purpose of trips, and choices around interaction with the physical environments^{1,2,21,22}. Understanding recovery across this phase may assist in determining why chronic stroke survivors demonstrate poor community ambulation outcomes^{1,2,7}. However, accurate, objective measurement across the subacute phase post-stroke is required.

Thus this study aimed to characterise community ambulation using a combination of accelerometers, GPS devices and self-report activity diaries and determine if the characteristics and purpose of community ambulation changes across one, three and six months following hospital discharge after stroke. It was hypothesised that stroke survivors would increase levels of community ambulation and engage in more social and recreational community ambulation over time.

Methods

This study followed a prospective longitudinal observational design. Institutional ethical approval was obtained and all participants provided written informed consent. This study was conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki.

Participants

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A sample of 42 people who had been diagnosed with stroke was recruited from acute stroke and rehabilitation units of a tertiary referral hospital in Brisbane, Australia. Participants were included if they (1) presented with a stroke within the past 4 months, (2) were aged > 18 years and (3) were discharged into the community to live alone or with a carer or spouse. Individuals were excluded if they: (1) had a diagnosis of another neurological condition (e.g. Parkinson's disease) or co-morbidities that limited ambulation prior to stroke (2) had any unstable medical condition, (3) had chest pain, heart attacks, angioplasty or heart surgery in the previous three months, (4) unable to walk indoors for 10m, (5) were discharged to a residential aged care facility, (6) had moderate to severe expressive or receptive communication difficulties or (7) scored < 24/30 on the Mini Mental State Examination²³.

Procedures

Participants attended four assessments: at discharge from hospital, and at one, three and six months following hospital discharge. At the discharge assessment, general clinical information, demographics and measures of gait and function (Modified Rankin Scale, Motor Assessment Scale, Timed 10 metre walk test, and 6 minute walk test) were collected.

At each follow-up assessment, participants were fitted with an accelerometer, the ActivPALTM, and provided with a Garmin GPS device and activity diary to measure usual community ambulation over four days⁸. The ActivPALTM was worn continuously over the measurement period. The GPS was switched on by the participant at the commencement of any community trip, defined as any trip 'outside the home and yard'¹, and switched off when

109	participants returned home. In addition, participants documented details of each community
110	trip via an activity diary.
111	
112	The ActivPAL ^{TM^a} is a uniaxial accelerometer, which records measures at 15 second epochs,
113	and deemed valid and reliable for community ambulation measurement after stroke ¹² . The
114	ActivPAL TM was encased in a waterproof covering and affixed to the skin in the middle of
115	the front thigh with a low irritant sticker (hypafix). Measures collected from the device
116	included step counts and activity duration.
117	
118	The Garmin Forerunner 910XT ^b is a GPS enabled sports watch with a battery life of up to 20
119	hours and recording frequency of 2.4 GHz. The Garmin GPS operating system was
120	previously deemed valid and reliable for location and duration of trips in a sample of chronic
121	stroke survivors ¹² . Participants wore the device on the wrist of their affected arm, to ensure
122	easy manipulation of the device. Data and graphs obtained from the Garminconnect website
123	(www.garminconnect.com.au) provided overall trip summaries which were used to identify
124	location and time spent out of the home and yard.
125	
126	Participants completed an activity diary that detailed trip time, location, estimated time spent
127	walking, transport choice, purpose of community trips and any issues encountered during
128	trips. The activity diary was used during GPS and accelerometer data cleaning and analysis
129	and to obtain purpose of trips into the community.
130	
131	Outcome Measures
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133	An 'ambulation bout' (defined as a 15-second epoch with ≥ 2 steps) ^{15,24} was used to derive

measures of volume, frequency and intensity based on definitions previously used in stroke^{9,15}. Volume of community ambulation was characterised by measures of total number of steps and time in minutes spent out in the community; as well as time spent sitting/lying, standing, walking and upright in the community per day. Frequency of community ambulation was characterised by measures of total number of community trips² and ambulation bouts per day, as well as number of and total time in minutes taken at each ambulation bout duration per day⁹. Bout duration was defined as - short: < 40 steps; medium: 41-300 steps: and long: > 300 steps⁹. *Intensity* of community ambulation was determined based on the number of and total time in minutes spent at each ambulation bout intensity per day ¹⁵. Bout intensity was defined as – low: a cadence of < 30 steps/minute; moderate: a cadence of 30-80 steps/minute; and high: a cadence of > 80 steps/minute 15 . Trip purpose was defined based on the purpose reported by the participant for each community trip. Purpose of trips was categorized according to the participation domain of the Stroke Impact Scale (version 3.0)³ and included: 1) work, 2) social, 3) recreation, 4) essential errands and roles and 5) religious and spiritual. Multipurpose trips were categorized based on main purpose of the community trip confirmed by participants, diaries and GPS maps.

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Data Analysis

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Measures of community ambulation were obtained by analysing subsets of ActivPALTM data using start and stop times and location data from the GPS and activity diary. A customised MATLAB^c program was used to obtain measures. Data were screened for normality. All measures of community ambulation were positively skewed, and were thus square root transformed²⁵.

159	
160	Means, standard deviation and range for all raw measures of volume, frequency and intensity
161	were calculated to characterise community ambulation at one, three and six months following
162	hospital discharge. Linear mixed effects modelling (using transformed data), adjusted for
163	age ²⁶ and discharge gait speed ^{1,27} , was used to test for change in community ambulation
164	across the three time points.
165	
166	Proportion of trips taken, total time in the community and total steps in the community for
167	each trip purpose across the three time points was calculated. Cross-tabulation and Kruskal-
168	wallis testing were used to check for change in number of community trips by trip purpose.
169	Significance was set for p <0.05. SPSS 21.0 ^d was used for all statistical calculations.
170	
171	Results
172	
173	Participants
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175	Of 225 stroke survivors screened prior to hospital discharge, 42 were recruited. From
176	recruitment at hospital discharge to one month, five participants were lost to follow-up; one
177	participant refused to wear devices and two participants had insufficient GPS data at all three
178	follow-up time points. Data from a total of 34 participants were included in the final analysis.
179	See Figure 1 for flow of participants through the study.
180	
181	Insert Figure 1
182	

Community ambulation after stroke ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT
Table 1 details the sample characteristics at hospital discharge. Discharge gait speed and
endurance indicated that twenty (60%) participants had met both gait speed and endurance
criteria and twenty-four (71%) participants had met gait speed criteria for independent
community ambulation ²⁸ .
Insert Table 1
Characteristics of community ambulation
Participants recorded a total of 325 community trips across the three time points. Of all
community trips, 14% were missing GPS/diary data, and 6% had no purpose reported by
participants across all time points. All participants ambulated within the community at least
once across the four-day measurement period except for one participant at one month (see
Figure 2). Approximately 30-40% of stroke survivors ambulated within their community
every day at all time points (see Figure 2).
Insert Figure 2
Volume, frequency and intensity of daily community ambulation across one, three and six
months are reported in Table 2. Participants took around 1700 to 2300 steps (range 0-10,495
steps) over on average, 2-3 hours per day in the community across all time points. Most time
was spent in sitting positions (1-2 hours per day), with 20-25 minutes (range 0-120 minutes)

spent walking in the community per day (see Table 2).

207	Participants took on average, one trip into the community per day. Community ambulation
208	was spread across a total of 23 to 28 bouts (range 0-78 bouts) each day across one, three and
209	six months. Short ambulation bouts (< 40 steps) were most common at all time points (see
210	Table 2). However, most time was spent in long ambulation bouts (>300 steps) at one and six
211	months and in medium ambulation bouts (40-300 steps) at three months (see Table 2).
212	
213	Most ambulation bouts and time spent walking in the community were spent at moderate
214	intensity levels (see Table 2). Least time was spent walking in the community at low intensity
215	levels (< 30 steps/minute), despite similar numbers of ambulation bouts per day in moderate
216	intensity ambulation. Only 1-2 bouts of community walking per day were of high intensity
217	(>80 steps/minute) at all time points, with stroke survivors spending 7.8 to 13.2 minutes per
218	day walking at a high intensity within their community.
219	
220	Insert Table 2
221	
222	Figure 3 displays the proportion of trips taken for each trip purpose. Most trips and time spent
223	in the community were associated with essential roles and errands at all time points (see
224	Figures 3 and 4a). While most steps were taken for essential errands at one month, by three
225	months most steps were taken during recreational activities (see Figure 4b). Number of trips
226	and time spent out in the community for the purpose of work increased at six months only.
227	Stroke survivors demonstrated a decreased proportion of trips, time and steps in social trips
228	over time. There was minimal change in the trips for the purpose of religious and spiritual
229	practices.
230	
231	Insert Figure 3

Insert Figure 4 Changes in community ambulation across one, three and six months Changes in community ambulation over the three time points, adjusted for age and discharge gait speed, are presented in Table 3. Time had a significant effect on number of and time spent in long duration ambulation bouts only (p < 0.028) (see Table 3). There were no significant changes in community ambulation over time except for an increase in the number of and time spent in long ambulation bouts at six months following hospital discharge. However, there was a trend towards an increase in total time spent in medium duration ambulation bouts over the six months. The number of community trips for each trip purpose did not change over the six months (p > 0.302). Insert Table 3 **Discussion**

This study is the first to prospectively characterise community ambulation across the subacute phase of stroke using a combination of tools. Stroke survivors who could walk at hospital discharge did not demonstrate any change in community ambulation until six months after returning home. At this time point, stroke survivors increased the number of and time spent in long duration ambulation bouts, with no other change in characteristics of community ambulation. Stroke survivors most often accessed their community to complete

essential	errands and	d in contrast	to the study	hypothesis,	did not	engage	in more	social	and
recreatio	nal commu	nity ambulat	ion over tim	ne.					

Contrary to our hypothesis, the current sample had limited improvement in community ambulation over the first six months after hospital discharge. This was despite most survivors meeting criteria for independence with community ambulation^{1,28}, half the sample being referred to community-based therapy after hospital discharge and half the sample having carer support²⁹. Further, functional improvements are anticipated across this stage^{16,17}. One reason for this could be that the sample had already returned to pre-stroke community ambulation by one month post discharge²⁸. However this seems unlikely, as the number of community trips measured at one month in the current study were lower than that reported in studies of healthy older adults^{2,22}, who on average take 1.5²² to 1.8² trips per day. Further, a study of survivors more than 3 years post-stroke who had a similar number of community trips per day as the current study, demonstrated that stroke survivors had significantly fewer community trips compared to healthy controls. Thus, it is likely that the current sample had decreased community ambulation at all three time points.

It is likely that a combination of factors across various domains of the International Classification of Function, Disability and Health (ICF) contribute to the recovery of community ambulation after stroke³⁰. For example, in people with chronic stroke, mood disorders³⁰, impaired executive function³¹, challenging physical environments²¹, lack of carer support³², or poor self-efficacy³³ are related to reduced self-reported community reintegration, and thus may also affect community ambulation outcomes. Future studies should explore the relationship between factors across all domains of the ICF with community ambulation in people with stroke.

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Community ambulation may recover differently, and over a different timeframe to clinic-based measures of function ^{16,17} and free-living activity after stroke ^{14,15}. A recent study proposed that recovery of community re-integration after stroke, and thus community ambulation, may be reliant upon successful transition between a series of goals, including gaining physical function, establishing independence, adjusting expectations and physical capacity to engage in meaningful roles ³⁴. This process may take months to over a year to adjust and manage expectations around a return to activities, roles and responsibilities ³⁴. In light of this, and the observed change in characteristics of community ambulation at six months in the current study, community ambulation recovery may only begin after six months following hospital discharge post-stroke. Future studies of community ambulation after stroke should consider a longer follow-up period (e.g. > 6 months), and qualitative methods exploring how community ambulation recovers after hospital discharge.

In the current study, the most common purpose for community ambulation at all time points was to engage in 'essential roles and errands' such as spousal and parental duties, shopping, and medical appointments. Essential roles and errands are also the most common purpose for community trips in groups with mobility limitations^{10,35}, including survivors with chronic stroke⁷. While healthy older adults similarly make trips into the community to visit shopping centres^{1,36}, they also often make trips for social and recreational activities (35-80% of trips)^{1,36}. In contrast, social and recreational community trips made up only 25-35% of all trips in the current study. Thus, stroke survivors may restrict community-based social or recreational engagement early after hospital discharge.

Interestingly, in the current study, most steps were taken during recreational community trips at three and six months. Thus, assistance in increasing engagement in these trip types may be useful in improving overall community ambulation. Increasing ambulation within community environments may increase the proportion of daily ambulation that occurs over long bouts and moderate to high intensities, as distance and speed requirements are often higher for community environments than for household-based ambulation ^{1,28,37,38}. Even in the current study, a high proportion of ambulation occurred across long duration bouts and moderate to high intensities – ambulation characteristics associated with health benefits ³⁹. Thus, encouraging return to recreational activities should be considered during future management of stroke.

Study Limitations

One limitation of the current study is the small study sample. Further, findings are limited to those able to walk at hospital discharge. Another limitation concerns the use of chosen devices. While devices selected demonstrated potential for measurement of community ambulation over four days, GPS requires stroke survivors to start and stop recordings and charge the device daily, which could result in variable engagement with the device over multiple days. In addition, while the accuracy of accelerometers at slow gait speeds has been queried⁴⁰, the ActivPALTM demonstrated good agreement with direct observation of steps at gait speeds below 0.42m/s in people with stroke¹². Only two participants in the current sample walked at gait speeds <0.42m/s, thus this is unlikely to have impacted study findings. However, rapid advances in GPS technology and wearable devices have been made recently. In future, devices that can measure location over 24 hour periods, are accurate at slower speeds, have a long battery life, simple user interface, are unobtrusive and require little user

input would be ideal for community ambulation measurement after stroke if determined reliable and accurate in this population.

Conclusions

Stroke survivors access their community regularly following hospital discharge. Changes in community ambulation across the first six months after hospital discharge are only observed at six months, through an increased number of and time spent in long duration ambulation bouts. Total volume and intensity of community ambulation after stroke, and purpose of community trips remains unchanged over the first six months following hospital discharge. It would be beneficial to consider follow-up of stroke survivors at six months after hospital discharge, as change in community ambulation may only be first observed at this time point.

342	Suppliers
343	^a ActivPAL TM
344	PAL Technologies Ltd©
345	50 Richmond Street
346	Glasgow G1 1XP
347	Scotland, UK
348	
349	^b Garmin Forerunner 910XT
350	Garmin Ltd.
351	Garmin Australasia
352	30 Clay Place
353	Eastern Creek, NSW 2766
354	
355	^c MATLAB
356	Mathsworks
357	3 Apple Hill Drive
358	Natick, MA
359	United States 01760
360	
361	^d SPSS
362	IBM Australia Ltd
363	Level 13, IBM Centre
364	601 Pacific Highway
365	St Leonards
366	NSW 2065

367	Figure Legends
368	
369	Figure 1: Flow of participants through study.
370	
371	Figure 2: Proportion of the sample who took a trip out into the community on one, two, three
372	four or no days across the measurement period at one, three and six months.
373	
374	Figure 3: Proportion of trips taken for each purpose at 1, 3 and 6-months.
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376	Figure 4: Proportion of (a) time spent and (b) steps taken in the community for each trip type
377	at 1, 3 and 6-months.
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380		
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493	

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT Table 1: Sample characteristics at hospital discharge

	n = 34
Demographics	
Age (years)	71.6 <u>+</u> 13.8
Rehab stay (days)	23.6 <u>+</u> 21.3
Gender (n, % males)	24, 70.6
Employed prior to stroke (n, %)	12, 35.2
Returned to work by six months (n, %)*	5, 42.0
Carer (n, % with)	16, 47.1
Hemiplegia (n, %)	
Nil	7, 20.6
Left	6, 17.6
Right	20, 58.8
Bilateral	1, 2.9
Modified Rankin Scale score / 6 (median, IQR)	2, 1
Motor Assessment Scale score at discharge	
MAS item 1 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 0
MAS item 2 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 0
MAS item 3 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 0
MAS item 4 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 0
MAS item 5 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 2
MAS item 6 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 0
MAS item 7 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 1
MAS item 8 score / 6 (median, IQR)	6, 2
Aphasia (n, % with)	9, 26.5
Received therapy on discharge (n, %)	18, 52.9
Independent with outdoor walking at discharge	32, 94
(n, %)	
Used a gait aid at hospital discharge (n, %)	15, 44
Measures of walking capacity	
10MTW (m/s)	1.0 ± 0.4
6MWT (m)	334.7 <u>+</u> 139.7

10MTW: Timed 10 metre walk (comfortable pace), 6MWT: 6-minute walk test, MAS: Motor assessment scale, *of those who were working prior to stroke.

Table 2: Mean (SD) of volume, frequency and intensity of community ambulation per day at 1, 3 and 6-months following hospital discharge (raw scores)

	1-month	3-months	6-months
Volume	,	R	
Step count, counts	1859 <u>+</u> 1880	1700 <u>+</u> 1380	2298 + 2605
Time spent out in community, minutes	137.0 ± 113.2	120.0 + 66.9	176.9 <u>+</u> 148.8
Time spent sitting/lying, minutes	84.8 <u>+</u> 84.1	70.9 <u>+</u> 43.1	115.6 <u>+</u> 116.8
Time spent standing, minutes	30.9 ± 29.2	29.0 ± 21.7	35.7 ± 28.2
Time spent walking, minutes	21.3 ± 20.1	20.1 ± 14.7	25.5 ± 26.6
Time spent upright, minutes	52.2 ± 45.6	49.1 ± 31.5	61.2 ± 50.0
Frequency			
Total number of trips, counts	1.2 <u>+</u> 0.8	1.1 <u>+</u> 0.7	1.1 <u>+</u> 0.6
Number of bouts, counts	23.8 ± 20.9	24.2 ± 17.6	27.8 ± 22.6
Number of short bouts, counts	16.3 <u>+</u> 15.4	16.8 <u>+</u> 13.6	19.0 + 16.2
Number of medium bouts, counts	$\frac{-}{6.3 \pm 5.6}$	6.4 <u>+</u> 5.5	$\frac{-}{7.3 + 6.9}$
Number of long bouts, counts *	$\frac{-}{1.1 + 1.5}$	1.0 ± 1.2	1.5 ± 1.8
Duration of time in short bouts, minutes	7.4 ± 7.1	7.8 <u>+</u> 6.6	8.5 ± 7.3
Duration of time in medium bouts, minutes	10.6 <u>+</u> 9.6	11.0 ± 9.3	11.9 ± 12.2
Duration of time in long bouts, minutes *	11.3 <u>+</u> 14.9	9.5 <u>+</u> 11.2	14.1 ± 21.3
Intensity			
Number of low intensity bouts, counts	10.1 <u>+</u> 9.4	11.2 ± 10.5	11.1 <u>+</u> 9.9
Number of moderate intensity bouts, counts	11.9 <u>+</u> 11.2	11.2 <u>+</u> 10.3 11.3 <u>+</u> 8.7	14.3 <u>+</u> 13.2
Number of high intensity bouts, counts	1.7 <u>+</u> 1.9	1.7 <u>+</u> 1.9	2.4 ± 2.6
Duration of time in low intensity bouts, minutes	4.9 <u>+</u> 4.6	5.9 ± 6.1	5.3 ± 4.7
Duration of time in moderate intensity bouts, minutes	14.0 <u>+</u> 12.9	14.7 <u>+</u> 12.2	16.1 <u>+</u> 15.9
Duration of time in high intensity, minutes	10.3 ± 13.8	7.8 <u>+</u> 10.7	13.2 ± 21.2

^{*} indicates that time had a significant effect on measure of community ambulation when adjusted for age and discharge walking capacity (p < 0.05)

Table 3: Changes in community ambulation across 1, 3 and 6-months (values are transformed and adjusted for age and discharge gait speed)

	Month 1 to month 3			Month 1 to month 6			
	Mean change	95% confidence interval	p-value	Mean change	95% confidence interval	p-value	
Volume							
Step count	19.1	-78.7 to 116.8	0.688	116.0	1.2 to 230.7	0.048	
Time spent out in community	11.3	-14.2 to 36.8	0.366	12.7	-27.9 to 53.3	0.524	
Time spent sitting/lying	10.4	-12.7 to 33.5	0.353	-0.5	-39.9 to 38.8	0.978	
Time spent standing	4.6	-12.9 to 22.2	0.590	9.5	-8.6 to 27.7	0.290	
Time spent walking	1.8	-8.9 to 12.5	0.731	12.7	0.0 to 25.3	0.050	
Time spent upright	4.0	-14.7 to 22.7	0.664	15.6	-6.1 to 37.2	0.151	
Frequency			7				
Total number of trips	0.6	-1.5 to 2.7	0.583	0.3	-1.4 to 2.0	0.686	
Number of bouts	8.2	-6.2 to 22.5	0.247	8.0	-8.4 to 24.4	0.323	
Number of short bouts	7.1	-5.7 to 20.0	0.262	4.2	-10.1 to 18.4	0.552	
Number of medium bouts	4.9	-3.6 to 13.4	0.245	8.4	-1.1 to 17.9	0.080	
Number of long bouts *	-0.2	-3.6 to 3.3	0.914	4.7	1.7 to 7.7	0.003	
Duration of time in short bouts	4.7	-4.2 to 13.5	0.287	3.0	-6.5 to 12.5	0.522	
Duration of time in medium bouts ^	6.8	-4.2 to 17.8	0.210	12.1	-0.1 to 24.4	0.052	
Duration of time in long bouts *	0.3	-10.3 to 10.8	0.957	13.1	3.5 to 22.7	0.010	
Intensity							
Number of low intensity bouts	4.1)	-7.2 to 15.4	0.460	1.8	-9.3 to 12.9	0.742	
Number of moderate intensity bouts	6.4	-4.7 to 17.5	0.244	8.7	-4.3 to 21.6	0.179	
Number of high intensity bouts	1.5	-2.8 to 5.8	0.482	3.7	-0.7 to 7.2	0.104	
Duration of time in low intensity bouts	4.4	-3.8 to 12.5	0.277	2.1	-5.5 to 9.7	0.579	
Duration of time in moderate intensity	6.5	-7.3 to 20.3	0.340	11.0	-2.6 to 24.6	0.108	
Duration of time in high intensity bouts	3.3	-8.9 to 15.5	0.580	10.1	0.6 to 19.7	0.038	

^{*} indicates significant effect of time on measures (overall change p < 0.05), ^ indicates trend towards time having an effect on measures (overall change p : 0.05 to 0.99), p-values are presented for univariate analyses only.

Screened n = 225Excluded n = 178Discharge n = 42Withdrew (n = 3)Unable to contact (n = 2)Did not want to use devices (n = 1)Insufficient GPS data at all time points (n = 2) One month post discharge n = 34Withdrew (n = 2)Did not want to use devices (n = 1)Unable to contact (n = 1)Three months post discharge n = 30Withdrew (n = 1)Unable to contact (n = 1)Six months post discharge

Figure 1: Flow of participants through study

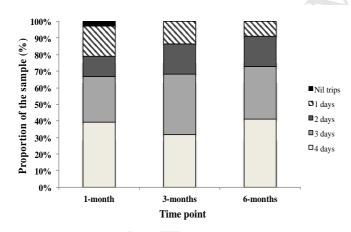


Figure 2: Proportion of the sample who took a trip out into the community on one, two, three, four or no days across the measurement period at one, three and six months

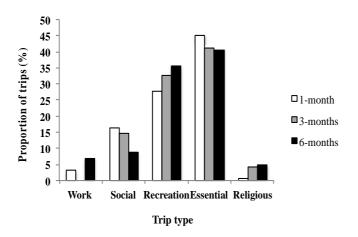


Figure 3: Proportion of trips taken for each purpose at 1, 3 and 6-months

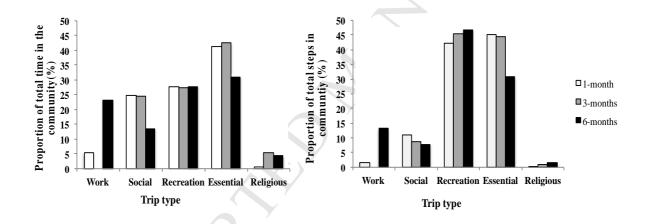


Figure 4: Proportion of (a) time spent and (b) steps taken in the community for each trip type at 1, 3 and 6-months.