

Table 1 Patients' characteristics and bivariate analysis

Independent variable	Cohort <i>n</i> = 152 Mean (SD) or <i>n</i> (<i>n</i> %)	Correlation with dependent variable	
		EQ-5D (European Index) 1 year after discharge <i>r_p</i> (<i>p</i>) ^a	EQ-5D (European Index) 2.5 years after discharge <i>r_p</i> (<i>p</i>) ^a
<i>Sociodemographic variables</i>			
Age (in years)	67.4 (11.1)	-0.01 (0.93)	-0.05 (0.51)
Sex (female)	60 (39.5%)	-0.11 (0.16)	-0.12 (0.14)
<i>Clinical variables</i>			
Rehabilitation phase (B) ^b	18 (11.8%)	0.07 (0.36)	0.04 (0.59)
BI at discharge	73.0 (16.6)	0.27 (0.001)*	0.31 (<0.001)*
BI change ^c	30.6 (15.2)	0.04 (0.66)	0.09 (0.27)
EBI at discharge	17.5 (5.3)	0.09 (0.29)	0.19 (0.019)*
EBI change ^c	3.4 (4.2)	-0.08 (0.36)	0.09 (0.28)
ERBI at admission ^d			
- Communication disorder	18 (11.8%)	-0.02 (0.84)	0.03 (p=0.70)
- Dysphagia	21 (13.8%)	-0.18 (0.028) [#]	-0.25 (0.002)*
ERBI at discharge ^e			
- Communication disorder	9 (5.9%)	-0.07 (0.40)	-0.04 (0.60)
- Dysphagia	9 (5.9%)	-0.09 (0.25)	-0.09 (0.27)
Body mass index	27 (4.3)	0.03 (0.75)	0.004 (0.96)
Nutritional Risk Screening	2.1 (1.8)	-0.16 (0.048) [#]	-0.16 (0.06)
Scale assessing risk of falls:			
- Runge and Rehfeld (1998)	5.2 (3.1)	-0.38 (<0.001)*	-0.45 (<0.001)*
- Oliver et al. (STRATIFY, 1997)	1.0 (1.1)	-0.21 (0.010)*	-0.24 (0.003)*
Stroke yes/no		0.05 (0.54)	-0.03 (0.74)
- yes	124 (81.6%)		
TOAST classification ^f		-0.02 (0.87)	-0.12 (0.17)
- Atherosclerosis	14 (11.3%)		
- Cardiac embolism	22 (17.7%)		
- Microangiopathy	38 (30.6%)		
- Other aetiology/ unknown aetiology	50 (40.3%)		
Ischemic stroke location		0.25 (0.003)*	0.18 (0.030) [#]
- unilateral right	59 (40.7%)		
- Unilateral left	74 (51.0%)		
- bilateral	12 (8.3%)		
Charlson Index	2.8 (1.2)	-0.11 (0.20)	-0.18 (0.027) [#]
<i>Health-related quality of life</i>			
SF-36 _p at admission	30.5 (8.0)	0.30 (<0.001)*	0.29 (<0.001)*
SF-36 _p at discharge	37.3 (9.0)	0.33 (<0.001)*	0.26 (0.001)*
SF-36 _m at admission	39.1 (9.9)	-0.04 (0.61)	-0.10 (0.24)
SF-36 _m at discharge	45.4 (10.7)	0.15 (0.06)	0.23 (0.005)*
SF-36 _p change ^c	6.8 (9.2%)	0.06 (0.45)	0.001 (0.99)
SF-36 _m change ^c	6.3 (13.0%)	0.16 (0.05)	0.26 (0.001)*
EQ-5D at discharge	66.7 (19.5)	0.38 (<0.001)*	0.42 (<0.001)*
EQ-5D change ^c	21.4 (25.2%)	0.10 (0.21)	0.15 (0.07)

Abbreviations: *SD*, Standard deviation; *n* (*n*%), absolute frequency (relative frequency); *r_p*, Pearson correlation coefficient; *BI*, Barthel Index; *EBI*, Extended Barthel Index; *ERBI*, Early Rehabilitation Barthel Index; *SF-36_p*, SF-36 physical component summary score; *SF-36_m*, SF-36 mental component summary score; *EQ-5D*, EuroQol 5 dimensions.

^a Significant at *p* < 0.025 indicated by *; *p*-values = 0.025 - 0.05 as a statistical trend indicated by [#]

^b Patients in phase B in neurological rehabilitation (all other patients phase C)

^c Discharge score minus admission score

^d Others criteria of the Early Rehabilitation Barthel Index at admission:

intensive care treatment 2 (1.0%), tracheostomy 0 (0.0%), artificial respiration 1 (0.5%), disorientation 9 (4.4%), behavioural disorders 6 (2.9%)

^e Other criteria of the Early Rehabilitation Barthel Index at discharge:

intensive care treatment 0 (0.0%), tracheostomy 0 (0.0%), artificial respiration 1 (0.5%), disorientation 4 (2.0%), behavioural disorders 3 (1.5%)

^f Aetiological classification of ischemic stroke