## Supplementary information

Supplementary table 3. Prevalence of problems relating to transfer of care, communication and other areas reported by patients and carers. a

		Comment (source of participants;	Time	Prevalence	
Examples	Study	methodology; response rate; comment)	post stroke	n	%
Transfer of care					
Pre-discharge assessments: using the phone, managing money, shopping and laundry	2000 <sup>28</sup>	Hospital admissions; case note audit	6 weeks <sup>b</sup>	38	0–12
Dissatisfaction: discharge preparation	1994 <sup>17</sup>	Hospital stroke register; postal survey using validated Hospsat <sup>c</sup> ; RR = 87%	6 months	120	33
Carers feeling unprepared (information and/or advice)	1992 <sup>14</sup> 1992 <sup>14</sup>		9 months 18 months	94 76	33 72
Communication					
Lack of written information	1994 <sup>16</sup>	Hospital admissions; face-to-face; findings not validated	4 weeks <sup>b</sup> 4 weeks <sup>b</sup>	65 80 <sup>a</sup>	88 81
Dissatisfaction – benefits information	1994 <sup>17</sup>	See note <sup>d</sup> ; Uses Homesat <sup>c</sup>	6 months	120	32
Unhappy with advice and/or information	2000 <sup>29</sup>	Community rehabilitation lists; postal survey – modified Homesat <sup>C</sup> ; RR = 62%	18 months	98	18
Other areas					
Urinary incontinence	2000 <sup>33</sup>	Population-based register; face-to-face interview and postal questionnaire; excludes pre-stroke incontinent clear definition of incontinence provided	2 years ce;	123	10
Ongoing health concerns	1982 <sup>6</sup>	Hospital stroke unit; face-to-face interview; self-report	2-3 years	79	40
Falls	1995 <sup>19</sup>	Hospital admissions and participating in concurrent RCT; face-to-face interview; excludes patients with Barthel ADL of 20, <60 years old or in institutional care; self-report	6 months	108	73
	2000 <sup>27</sup>	Hospital admissions; face-to-face and telephone interview; no specific exclusion criteria; self-report	6 months 18–30 months	220 154	36 45
Shoulder pain	2000 <sup>27</sup>	See note $^{d}$ ; defined as requiring analgesia on $\geq$ 2 consecutive days	6 months	220	15
Carer ill-health (headaches, pain, tiredness)	1996 <sup>21</sup>	Via hospital admissions; face-to-face interview; self-report; excludes carers of patients with SAH, recurrent stroke and living in institutional care	12 months	50	32–48

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Carer report. <sup>b</sup>Post discharge. <sup>c</sup>Validated satisfaction questionnaire. <sup>d</sup>Methodological details of study provided earlier in table, see appropriate reference. RR = response rate; RCT = randomised controlled trial; ADL = activities of daily living; SAH = sub-arachnoid haemorrhage.