

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
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THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Social support: A tool to facilitate social justice for stroke survivors and their families.
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Measuring Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals</i>
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Content

Background: Stroke is the third leading cause of many unexpected deaths and disabilities in the world. Stroke not only affects the individual but also impacts families and communities as well. This study aimed to explore the experiences of families living with a stroke survivor and the subsequent influence it has on family functioning. Methods: A qualitative approach was used to investigate the functioning of families of stroke survivors, as guided by the theoretical lens of systems theory and McMaster's Model of family functioning. An exploratory and descriptive research design guided the in-depth semi-structured interviews that took place to explore and describe the experiences and perceptions of families of stroke survivors. Eight primary caregivers living in a community in the Western Cape South Africa were interviewed. Data was analysed using an inductive approach and thematic analysis. Results: An important theme that emerged from this study was the need for social support from government and community-based organisations. The participants highlighted that stroke survivors held specific roles within communities, such as members of street committees and other community initiatives, social support would facilitate return to these previous roles. Conclusion: The social support approaches that would be considered should ensure social justice for stroke survivors and their families. Applying a social justice approach which facilitates ensuring implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities facilitating equal opportunities for stroke survivors and their families would respond to the need highlighted by the participants in this study.