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Does English proficiency impact on health outcomes for inpatients undergoing stroke rehabilitation?

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Implications for Rehabilitation:

- People with low English proficiency undergoing inpatient stroke rehabilitation in a setting with a primarily in-house professional interpreter service, achieved similar outcomes to those with high English proficiency irrespective of frequency of interpreter usage.
- A non-significant increase of four days length of stay was observed in the low English proficiency group compared to the high English proficiency group.
- For patients with low English proficiency, greater change in Functional Independence Measure efficiency scores was observed for those with higher levels of interpreter use relative to those with low interpreter use. Clinicians should optimise use of interpreters with patients with low English proficiency when possible.