

Thesis Title	The Lived Experience of Stroke Survivors in Bandung, Indonesia
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### **Abstract**

Understanding how stroke survivors experience their stroke and recovery is essential if the health services provided for these patients is to be effective and appropriate. This study was designed to explore the lived experience of stroke survivors at home in Bandung, Indonesia. The objectives of this study were to: (1) describe the meaning and feelings of being a stroke survivor, (2) describe the impact of the stroke on the survivor's life, and (3) describe the needs of stroke survivors. The participants were 10 stroke survivors. Three types of data collection tools were employed: a demographic data form, the Barthel Index, and an interview guide. The participants were interviewed at their homes, using an in-depth interview that took about 45-60 minutes. Data analysis used thematic analysis as suggested by van Manen (1990).

The findings demonstrated four main themes of meaning of being stroke survivors: being obedient to the doctor, regressing to childlike status, being under supervision and assistance, and being tested from God (Allah). The findings demonstrated five main themes of feelings of being a stroke survivor: uncertainty about hope, being bound at home, dependence on someone, powerlessness, and low self-confidence. The impacts of stroke on the survivor's life were identified as: being unable to be active, having to adjust to emotional changes, being unable to undertake social activities, failure to fulfill former responsibility, and being growth in spiritual life. In addition, three themes were found as stroke survivor's needs: information, understanding and attention, joyful/leisure time, and choices of therapy.

The findings will be benefit for the improvement of health care system, education, administration, and research in the area of stroke rehabilitation, prevention, and promotion.