

Table B. Summary of the initial modifications to the main sub-scales of the Stroke IPQ-R

Item	Change(s)	Rationale
<i>Timeline Acute/Chronic</i>		
My stroke will last a short time	Wording changed to 'I believe that the effects of my stroke will last for a short time'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently changed to 'the effects of my stroke' and 'my condition' for greater relevance to stroke following feedback from Stroke Research Partnership Group; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
My stroke is likely to be permanent than temporary	Wording changed to 'I believe that my condition is likely to be permanent than temporary'	
My stroke will last for a long time	Wording changed to 'I believe that the effects of my stroke will last for a long time'	
This stroke will pass quickly	Wording changed to 'I believe that the effects of my stroke will pass quickly'	
I expect to have this stroke for the rest of my life	Wording changed to 'I expect to have these symptoms of my stroke for the rest of my life'	
My stroke will improve in time	Wording changed to 'I believe that the symptoms of my stroke will improve in time'	
<i>Consequences</i>		
My stroke does not have much effect on my life	-	-
My stroke is a serious condition.	Wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke is a serious condition'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
My stroke has major consequences on my life	Wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke has major consequences on my life'	
My stroke strongly affects the way others see me	Wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke strongly affects the way others see me'	
My stroke causes difficulties for those who are close to me	Wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke causes difficulties for those who are close to me'	
My stroke has serious financial consequences	Wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke has had serious financial consequences'	
Since my stroke I fear becoming a burden on others	Added	Included in Twiddy-version
<i>Consequences</i>		
Memory problems since my stroke are affecting my life	Added; wording changed to 'I believe that memory problems since my stroke are affecting my life'	Included in Twiddy-version; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who
My stroke has strongly affected how I see myself	Added; wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke has strongly affected how I see myself'	
My stroke has badly affected my relationship with my family	Added; wording changed to 'I believe that my stroke has badly affected my relationship with my family'	

Emotional problems since my stroke are affecting my life	Added; wording changed to 'I believe that emotional problems since my stroke are affecting my life'	considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
<i>Personal Control</i>		
I need to avoid doing too much as this may cause another stroke	Added	Included in Twiddy-version
There is nothing I can do to prevent another stroke occurring	Added; wording changed to 'I believe that there is nothing I can do to prevent another stroke occurring'	Included in Twiddy-version; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
What I do can determine whether my stroke gets better or worse	Wording changed to 'I believe that what I do will determine whether my stroke gets better or worse'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
The course of my stroke depends on me	Wording changed to 'I believe that the course of my recovery from stroke depends on me'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently changed to 'my recovery' for greater relevance to stroke following feedback from Stroke Research Partnership; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
Nothing I do will affect my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that nothing I do will affect my recovery from stroke'	
I have the power to influence my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that I have the power to influence my recovery from stroke'	
My actions will have no effect on the outcome of my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that my actions will have no effect on the outcome of my recovery from stroke'	
There is a lot which I can do to control my symptoms	Wording changed to 'I believe that there is a lot which I can do to control my symptoms'	
I am confident that I can manage my recovery well	Added	Considered relevant to stroke by expert panel and stroke literature
Item	Change(s)	Rationale
<i>Treatment Control</i>		
There is very little that can be done to improve my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that there is very little that can be done to improve my condition'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently changed to 'my condition' for greater relevance to stroke following feedback from Stroke Research Partnership Group

My treatment will be effective in curing my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that my medical treatment/rehabilitation will be effective in preventing another stroke from happening'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; did not make sense to survivors from the Stroke Research Partnership Group, so item duplicated and separated according to medical treatment e.g., tablets to lower blood pressure and rehabilitation (therapy) e.g., physiotherapy for greater relevance to stroke; wording changed to emphasise stroke prevention to be consistent with Twiddy-version
The negative effects of my stroke can be prevented (avoided) by my treatment	Wording changed to 'I believe that the negative effects of my stroke can be prevented (avoided) by my medical treatment/rehabilitation'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; did not make sense to survivors from the Stroke Research Partnership Group, so items duplicated and separated according to medical treatment e.g., tablets to lower blood pressure and rehabilitation e.g., physiotherapy for greater relevance to stroke; wording changed to 'symptoms of my stroke' to improve understanding of items by stroke survivors; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
My treatment can control my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that my medical treatment/rehabilitation can control the symptoms of my stroke'	
Item	Change(s)	Rationale
<i>Treatment Control</i>		
My treatment will help me to recover	Added; wording changed to 'I believe that my medical treatment/rehabilitation will help me to recover'	Included in Twiddy-version; items duplicated and separated according to medical treatment e.g., tablets to lower blood pressure and rehabilitation e.g., physiotherapy for greater relevance to stroke; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
There is nothing which can help my stroke	Wording changed to 'I believe that there is nothing which can help my recovery from stroke'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; did not make sense to survivors from the Stroke Research Partnership Group, so wording was subsequently changed to 'my recovery' for greater relevance to stroke following discussion with an expert panel; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more

		personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
<i>Illness Coherence</i>		
The symptoms of my stroke are puzzling to me	Removed	Feedback from Stroke Research Partnership Group indicated difficulties with comprehension by stroke survivors
My stroke is a mystery to me	Removed	
I have a clear picture or understanding of my stroke	-	-
I don't understand my stroke	Wording changed to 'I don't understand my recovery from stroke'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently changed to 'my recovery' for greater relevance to stroke following feedback from Stroke Research Partnership Group
My stroke doesn't make any sense to me	-	-
Item	Change(s)	Rationale
<i>Timeline-Cyclical</i>		
My stroke is very unpredictable	Wording changed to 'I believe that the effects of my stroke are very unpredictable'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently changed to 'the effects of my stroke,' 'symptoms of my stroke' and 'my condition' for greater relevance to stroke following feedback from Stroke Research Partnership Group; 'I believe' phrasing added to each statement following discussion with an expert panel who considered that making each question more personally relevant would improve comprehension by stroke survivors
The symptoms of my stroke change a great deal from day to day	Wording changed to 'I believe that the symptoms of my stroke change a great deal from day to day'	
I go through cycles in which my stroke gets better or worse	Wording changed to 'I believe that I go through cycles in which my condition gets better or worse'	
My symptoms come and go in cycles	Wording changed to 'I have good days with few or no symptoms and bad days, when I have a lot of symptoms'	Original IPQ-R wording did not make sense to stroke survivors from Stroke Research Partnership Group, so item was subsequently changed for improved comprehension following discussion with an expert panel
<i>Emotional Representations</i>		
I feel embarrassed	Added; wording changed to 'I get embarrassed by the way I am since my stroke'	Considered relevant to stroke by expert panel and stroke literature; wording subsequently changed to be consistent with Twiddy-version
My stroke does not worry me	-	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors

When I think about my stroke I get upset	-	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors
I get depressed when I think about my stroke	Wording changed to 'Since my stroke I get depressed'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'my stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently simplified following feedback from an expert panel to improve comprehension by stroke survivors
Having this stroke makes me feel anxious	Wording changed to 'The symptoms of my stroke make me feel anxious'	Retained from original IPQ-R with wording initially amended from 'my illness' to 'this stroke' following recommendations by IPQ-R authors; wording subsequently changed to be consistent with Twiddy-version
My stroke makes me afraid	-	-
My stroke makes me feel angry	-	-
I feel lost since my stroke	Added	Considered relevant to stroke by expert panel
I have lost confidence in myself since my stroke		
I do not feel in control of my emotions	Added	Included in Twiddy-version
My stroke is very worrying to those closest to me		
Those closest to me get very distressed about my stroke		

Symbols and abbreviations: IPQ-R: Illness Perception Questionnaire-Revised; Twiddy-version; Stroke-specific version of the IPQ-R developed by (Twiddy 2008)