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On the Complexity of some Basic Problems in Computational Convexity: 1. Containment Problems

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Kurzfassung

Aim: To investigate the subjective evaluation of an intensive rehabilitation programme and outcomes by people with Huntington's disease (HD) and their caregivers. **Subjects and methods:** A written questionnaire was mailed to people with mild-moderate HD ($n = 40$) who had completed at least one course of the intensive, inpatient rehabilitation protocol carried out at a facility of the Italian National Welfare System in the previous 3 years (on average 8.6 months before). Descriptive and inferential statistics were used. Thematic analyses were also conducted on written texts. **Results:** The response rate was 93%. A general improvement after discharge was perceived by all of the respondents. Improvements were reported on gait, balance, motor control, and fall reduction. Duration of benefits was estimated to last from 1 to 3 months by 71% of informants with no carry over to the next admission, which occurred on average 5.7 months later. Ameliorations were also reported in speech and swallowing, and several psychosocial aspects: mood, apathy, familiar and social relationships (binomial test, $p < 0.05$). As far as organisational aspects of structure and programme are concerned, all respondents expressed a positive evaluation (binomial test, $p < 0.05$). The mean vote given to the whole rehabilitation experience by patients on a 10-point scale was 7.3, confirmed by caregivers' mean vote of 7.4. Additional free comments were added by the majority of respondents ($n = 35$). From caregivers' and patient's perspectives, relevant themes emerged. **Conclusion:** An intensive rehabilitation programme in people with HD is perceived to produce relevant improvements beyond bodily motor and functional performance. Patients' and caregivers' evaluations are relevant in health-care research in order to assess the worth of a programme and to define new ones.