

“you don't just offer hope to stroke sufferers, you enable us to do something about it...” Bob



*For more information on NeET please call
Tel +44 (0) 1224 619224*

A successful patient story shows the rehabilitative effect of Neuro-Eye Therapy (NeET) after stroke

Very often we take our sight for granted and if it is partially lost as a result of stroke, the debilitating effect on the victim can be severe. Partial sight loss due to damaged neural pathways often results in the victim being unable to drive anymore, so they lose the freedom to enjoy life as they did previously. Suddenly, normal everyday activities such as going to the supermarket become more and more difficult without being able to jump in the car. When a person is used to being independent they can find it difficult and frustrating relying heavily on others. There can be a sense of isolation from family and friends.

One of such stroke victim was Barry Billingham. His vision was so badly affected after suffering a stroke three years ago that he lost his driver's licence. As a result of this Mr Billingham decided to undertake ground breaking therapy in visual rehabilitation.

The therapy – provided by the University of Aberdeen spin out company, Sight Science Ltd which has been licensed to provide the therapy to all EU residence. – is called Neuro-Eye Therapy (NeET). NeET uses a non invasive medical rehabilitation device called the Vision Rehabilitation Program^{CE} to repeatedly stimulate blind areas of vision using on-screen patterns. There is evidence to suggest that repeated stimulation of border neurones that exist between the surviving and damaged area, as well as areas deeper within the blind field, over an extended time may lead to significant changes in sensitivity.

Commenting on his experience he said: “Being unable to drive was awful. I have severe heart disease, and in cold weather I wasn't able to get out and about without driving. My wife had to take on so much to help me. However, after the treatment my eyesight improved so much that I have even got my driving licence back. It has been marvellous for me. Literally quite life changing and now I can keep up with my grandchildren!”

Professor Arash Sahraie, Professor of vision sciences at the University of Aberdeen, commented: “The basis of Neuro-Eye Therapy is similar to the approach currently taken in rehabilitating movement and speech disorders after a stroke. Patients are presented repeatedly and systematically by visual patterns specifically designed to encourage plasticity within the injured brain”.

“In the same way, after daily use of the Vision Rehabilitation Program^{CE} over a six month period, patients have reported an improvement in their sight as well as a range of other benefits, including being able to get about more easily, both inside and outside their homes, and finding reading much less of a struggle. However, as with any treatment, the extent to which a patient's eyesight can be improved will vary from person to person.”

For further information regarding the therapy, please visit www.sightscience.com or call 01224 619 224.