

Does animal-assisted therapy (AAT) have a positive impact on communication and social interactions in adults with dementia?

Results of the study found 54% of participants showed an active behaviour during therapy and 51% demonstrated improvements in mood. Participants who were active in therapy sessions showed greater mood improvements ($r = 0.814$). Although women demonstrated greater improvements in mood and activity during AAT, this difference was not statistically significant. Participant data was divided into three equal age

differences in age, sex, severity of dementia and ADL among participants. Participants were equally divided into an experimental group and a control group. The experimental group participated in a 40 minute AAT program twice a week for 8 weeks. The Multidimensional Observation Scale of Elderly Subjects (MOSES), Cohen-Mansfield Agitation Inventory (CMAI) and the individual therapeutic goal (ITG) were used as evaluation tools for baseline, pre-test and post-test measures for both the experimental group and the control group.

Results of the study found that the experimental group

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