MOTOR LEARNING



objective

 At the end of the class, the participants will understand motor learning and its application in field of rehabilitation.



THE CEREBRUM

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Motor learning

 Motor learning is a complex set of internal processes that involves the acquisition and relatively permanent retention of a skilled movement or task through practice.



Acquisition permanent retention practice



• An exercise is simply a motor task (a psychomotor skill) that a therapist teaches and a patient is expected to learn



MOTOR PERFORMANCE AND MOTOR LEARNING

- Performance involves acquisition of the ability to carry out a skill, whereas learning involves both acquisition and retention
- Motor learning probably modifies the way sensory information in the central nervous system is organized and processed and affects how motor actions are produced

Types of Motor Tasks

There are three basic types of motor tasks:

- Discrete,
- Serial
- ContinuouS

DISCRETE TASK

- A discrete task involves an action or movement with a recognizable **beginning and end**.
- Isolating and contracting a specific muscle group (as in a quadriceps setting exercise), grasping an object, doing a push-up, locking a wheelchair, and kicking a ball are examples of discrete motor tasks.
- Almost all exercises, such as lifting and lowering a weight or performing a self-stretching maneuver, can be categorized as **discrete motor tasks**.



SERIAL TASK

- A serial task is composed of a series of discrete movements that are combined in a particular sequence.
- For example, to eat with a fork, a person must be able to grasp the fork, hold it in the correct position, pierce or scoop up the food, and lift the fork to the mouth.

CONTINUOUS TASK

- A continuous task involves repetitive, uninterrupted movements that have no distinct beginning and ending.
- Examples include walking, ascending and descending stairs, and cycling.

IMPORTANCE OF RECOGNIZING THE TYPE OF TASK

- To self stretch the hamstrings, a patient must learn how to position and align his or her body and how much stretch force to apply to perform the stretching maneuver correctly.
- As flexibility improves, the patient must then learn how to safely control active movements in the newly gained portion of the range during functional activities.
- This requires muscles to contract with correct intensity at an unaccustomed length

Conditions and Progression of Motor Tasks

Progression of Motor Tasks





There are four main task dimensions

- (1) the **environment** in which the task is performed
- (2) the **intertrial variability** of the environment that is imposed on a task
- (3) the need for a person's body to remain stationary or to move during the task; and
- (4) the presence or absence of manipulation of objects during the task.

Conditions and Progression of Motor Tasks



		without manipulation	with manipulation	without manipulation	with manipulation
CLOSED	without intertrial variability	Maintaining balance in sitting on bed while caregiver combs hair Maintaining balance in standing in hallway as caregiver buttons coat	Sitting at the table and eating a meal Sitting doing household accounts Sitting at desk to write a letter	Rolling over in bed Sit <=> stand from bed Tub transfers Bed <=> bathroom, using same route daily	Carrying a tray of food or drinks from the kitchen to the living room, using the same tray and same route each time
	with intertrial variability	Maintaining sitting balance on different chairs in the room e.g., rocker, straight-backed chair, sofa. Maintaining standing balance on different surfaces: carpet, wood	Standing in the kitchen unloading a dish- washer Sitting on a low stool in the yard, bending over to weed the vegetable garden	Rolling over in a twin bed and a queen bed Sit <=> stand from different heights and surfaces Up and down curbs of different heights	Carrying a tray of food or drinks from the kitchen to the living room, using different trays and routes each time
OPL	without intertrial variability	Maintaining balance in a moving elevator	Rearranging packages while standing in a moving elevator	Walking up or down a moving escalator or a moving sidewalk	Rearranging packages while walking up or down the moving escalator
Ň	with intertrial variability	Maintaining sitting or standing balance in a moving bus	Drinking a cocktail on the deck of a cruise ship	Community ambulation Walking through a living room where children are playing	Shopping in the supermarket Walking a precocious pet on a leash

BODY TRANSPORT

BODY STABLE



