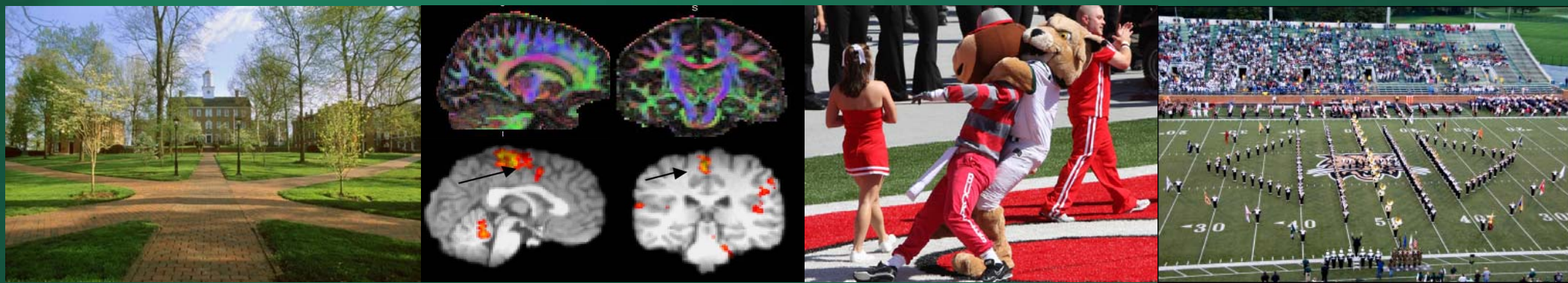


Neuroplasticity in Athletic Training



Dustin Grooms, PhD, ATC, CSCS
Ohio University
Athletic Training

The best student-centered learning experience in America



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Presenter Conflict

No Conflict

- The views expressed in these slides and the today's discussion are ours
- Our views may not be the same as the views of my company's clients or my colleagues
- Participants must use discretion when using the information contained in this presentation

Objectives

Objectives

- Understand how the brain changes after musculoskeletal injury
- How as athletic trainers they can induce neuroplasticity in their patients
- Apply novel concepts from neuroscience to athletic training practice to enhance injury prevention and rehabilitation



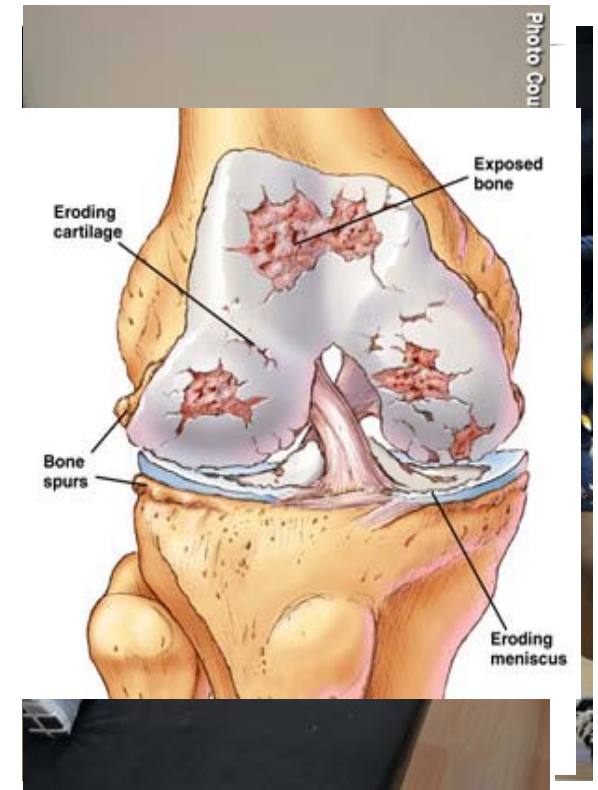
Overview

fMRI to assay neural
control of human
movement

- How I get here
- Neuroplasticity
- Neuroimaging
- Clinical Implications

Anterior Cruciate Ligament Rupture

- 1 in 20 collegiate level athletes^{2,3}
- 1 in 50 high school athletes^{4,5}
 - **70% are non-contact**^{8,9}
- 50% - 100% Radiographic Osteoarthritis^{11,12}
 - Accelerated Knee Degeneration
- 30% failure rate of reconstruction and rehabilitation^{13,14}
 - Rehabilitation focus on joint adaptations
 - “Insufficient evidence for clinical effect”
- **What are we missing?**



1) Nordenvall 2012 *AJSM* 2) Hootman 2007 *JAT* 3) Majewski 2006 *Knee* 4) Hewett 1999 *AJSM* 5) Ferretti 1992 *AJSM* 6) Gerberich 1987 *Phys Sportsmed* 7) Chandy 1985 *Phys Sportsmed* 8) McNair 1990 *NZmedJ* 9) Griffin 2000 *JAAOS*; 9) Pearl diver 2011, 10) Wojtys 2010 *JAT* 11) Lohmander 2004 *AR* 12) Porat 2004 *ARD* 13) Salmon 2005 *Arthro* 14) Paterno 2010 *AJSM*

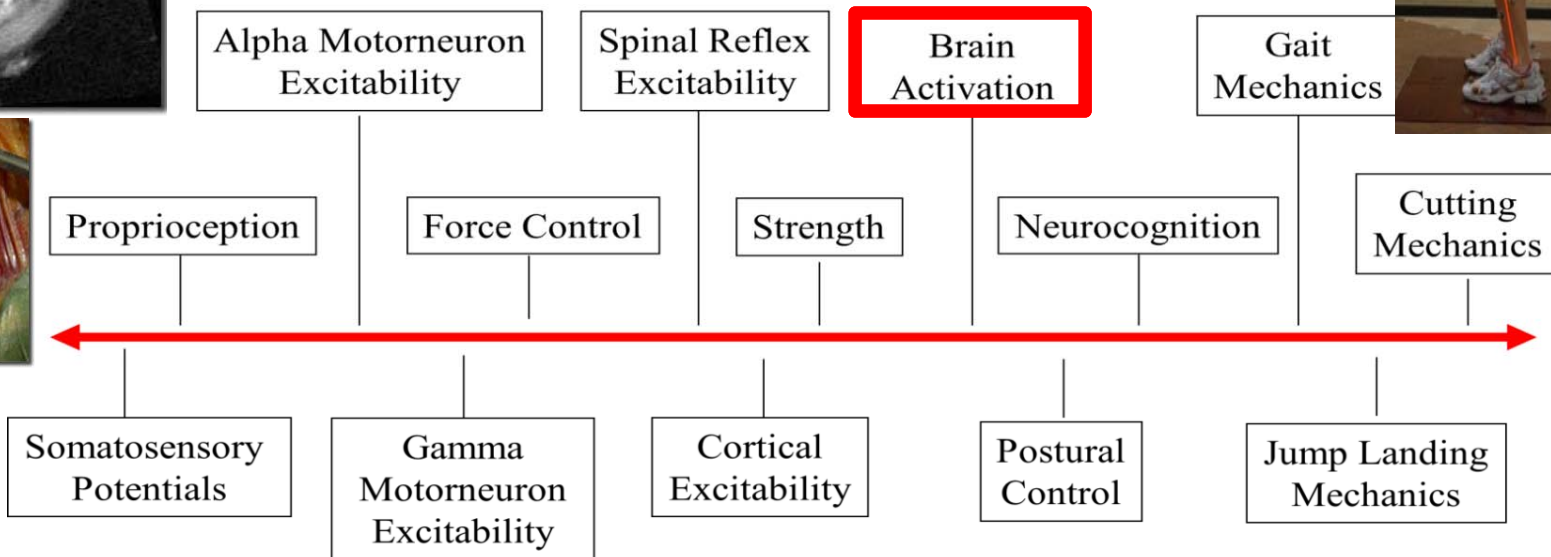
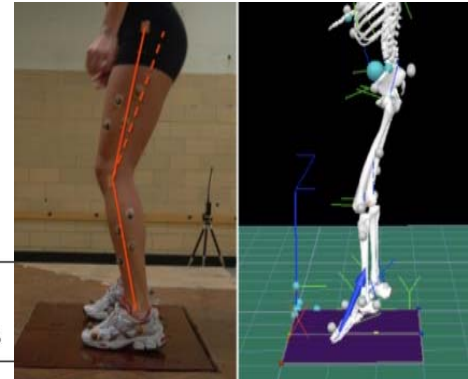
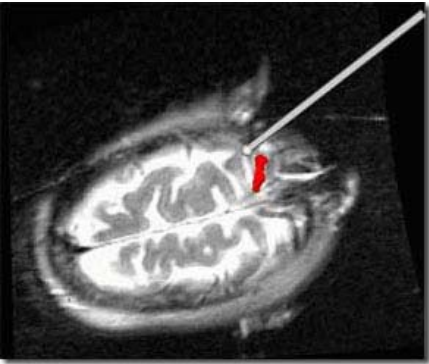
Athletic training

- What aspect of physiology changes first when you interact with a patient?
- Do you think an ankle sprain changes your nervous system?
 - Permanently?
- Have you ever seen a noncontact injury?

Non-Contact Injury



Neural Control of Human Movement



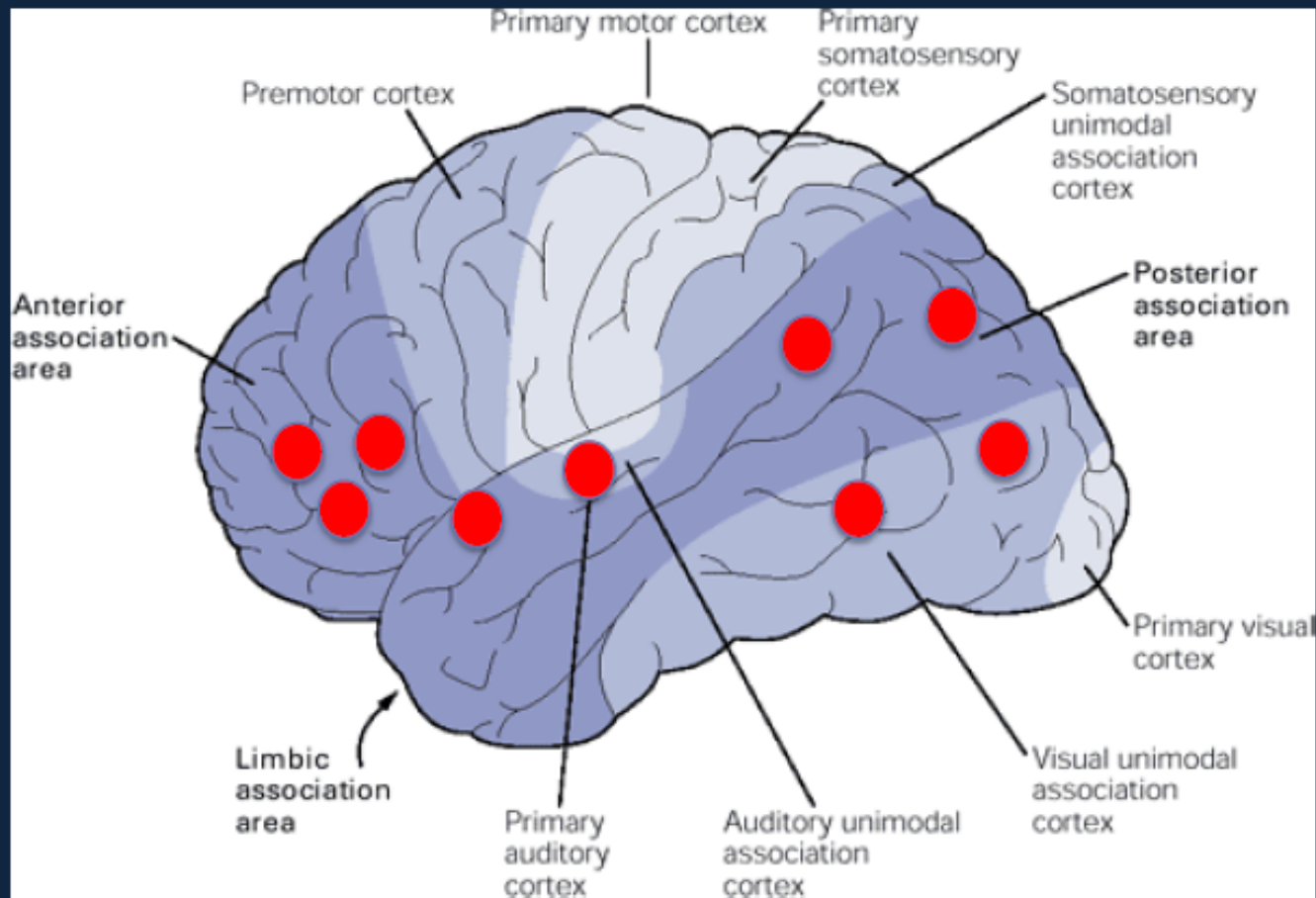
Static.....Dynamic

Sensory.....Motor

Controlled.....Variable

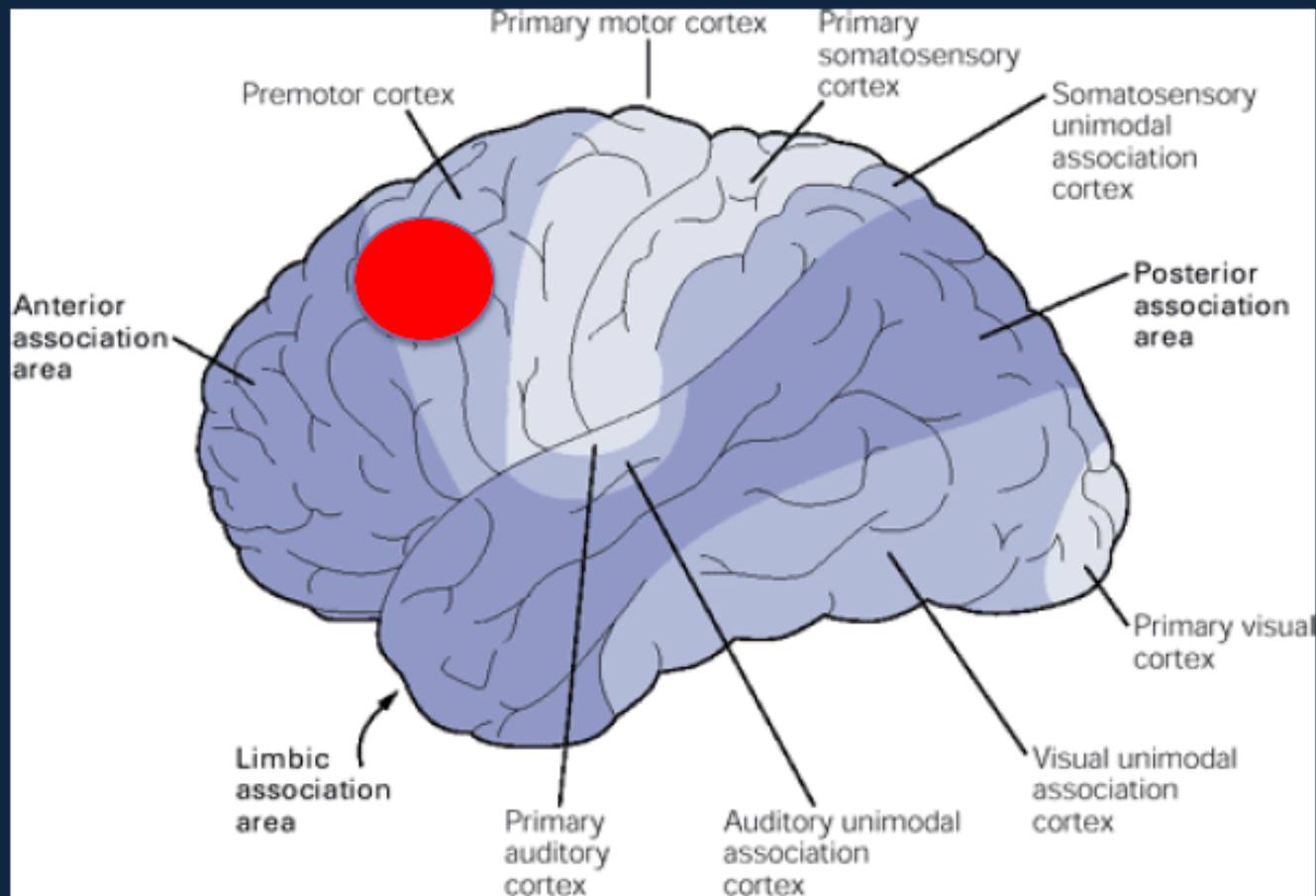
Figure modified from Hertel 2008 Sensorimotor deficits with ankle sprains and chronic ankle instability

Creating a Motor Program



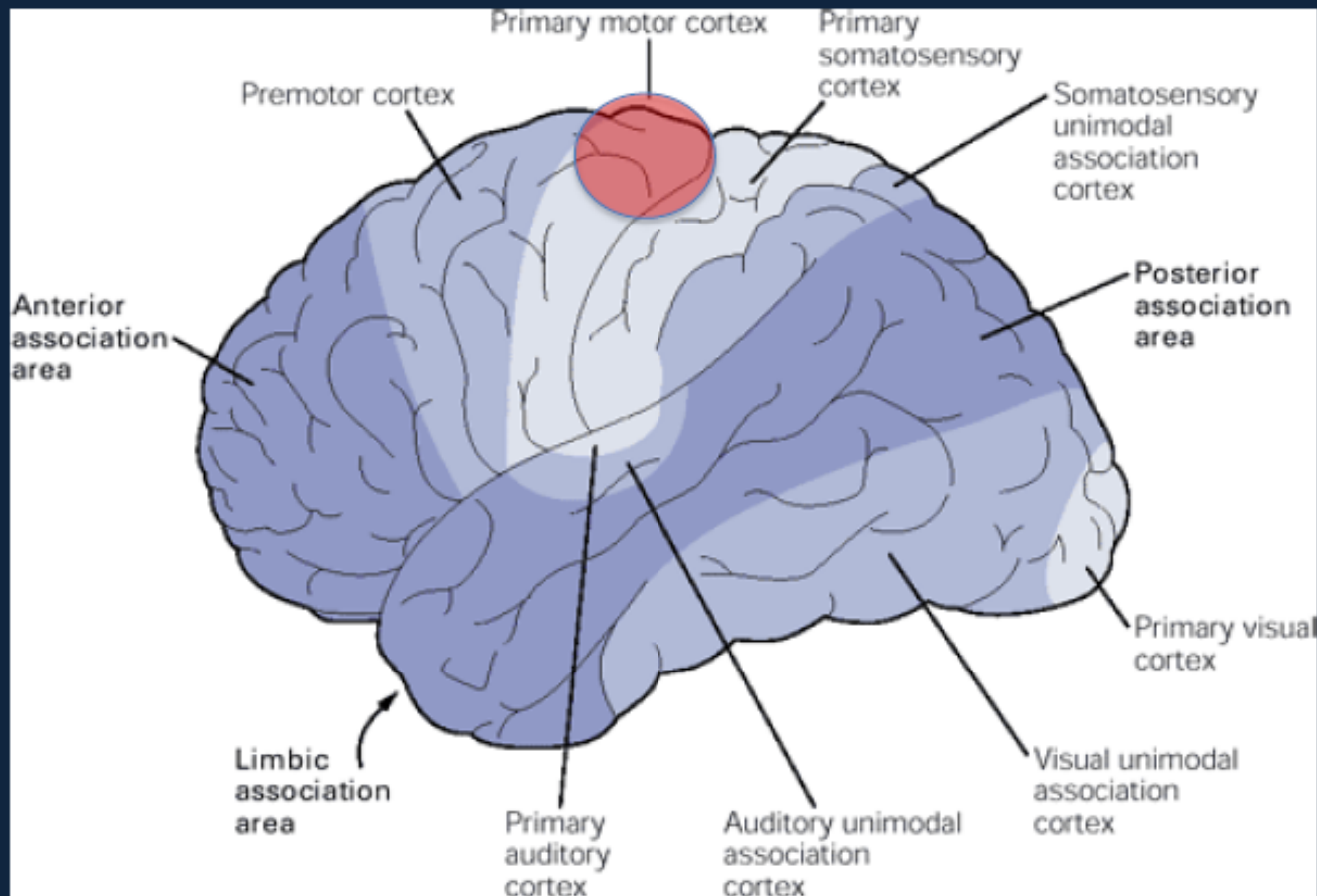
Slide Courtesy of Brain Pietrosimone NATA 2014

Creating a Motor Program



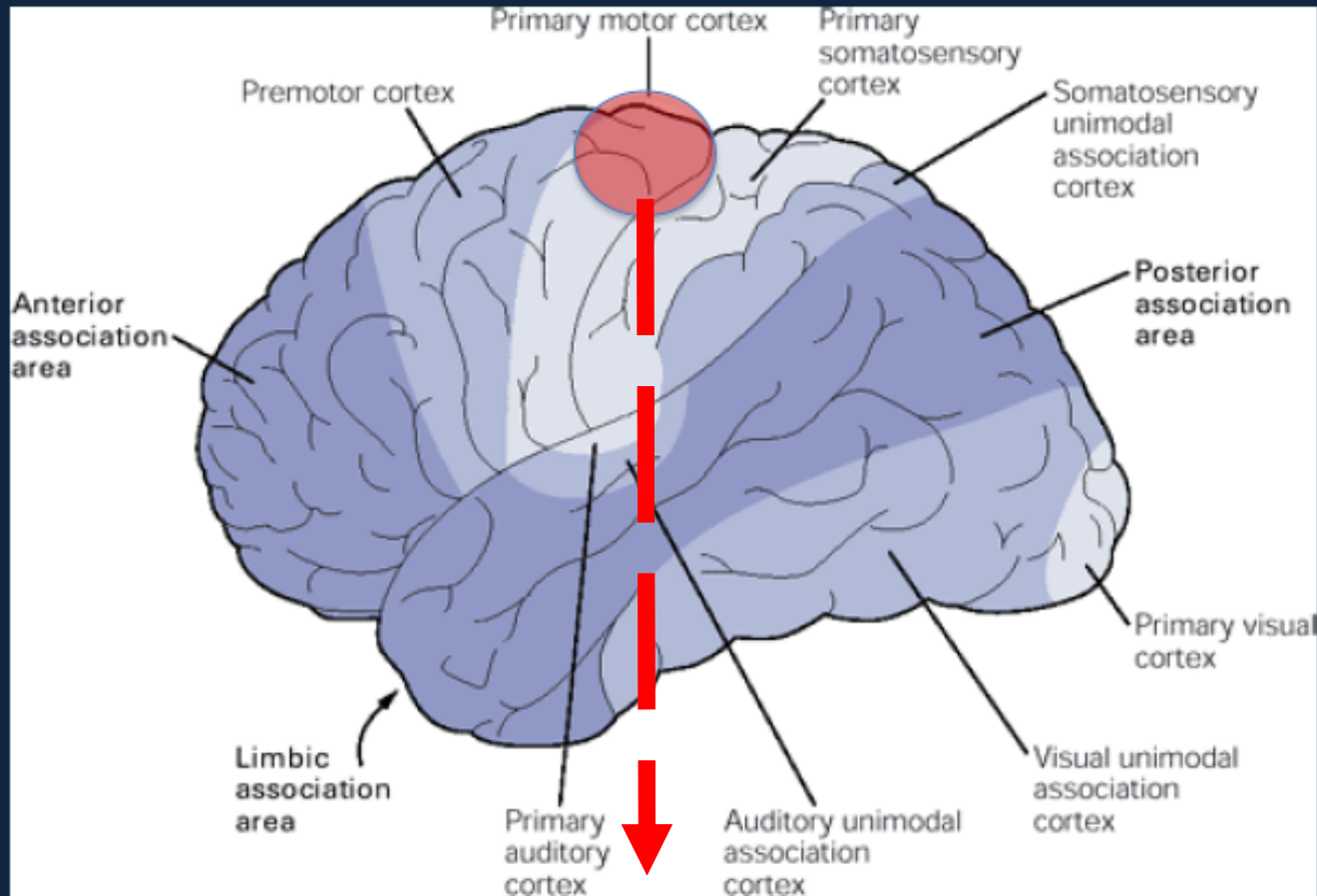
Slide Courtesy of Brain Pietrosimone NATA 2014

Creating a Motor Program



Slide Courtesy of Brain Pietrosimone NATA 2014

Creating a Motor Program

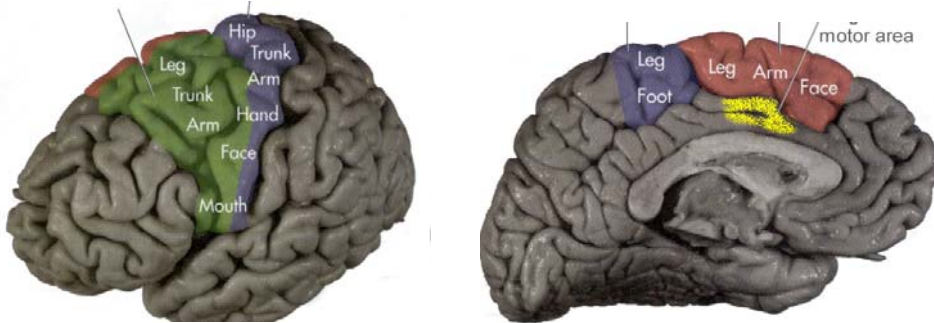


Slide Courtesy of Brain Pietrosimone NATA 2014

Brain Anatomy

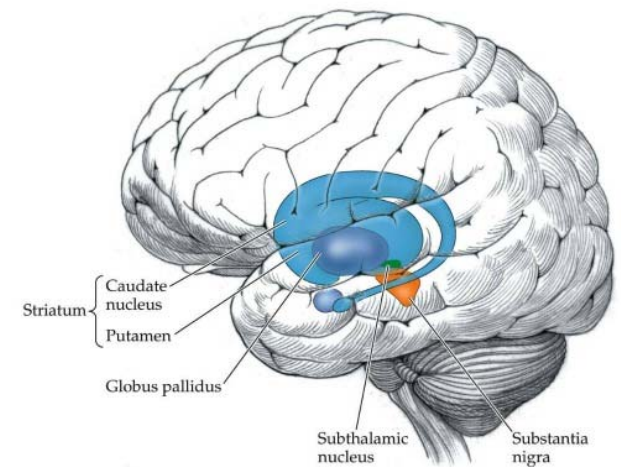
Cortical

- Pre-central Gyrus
 - Primary Motor (M1)
- Post-central Gyrus
 - Primary Somatosensory (S1)
- Supplementary Motor Area
- Premotor Area



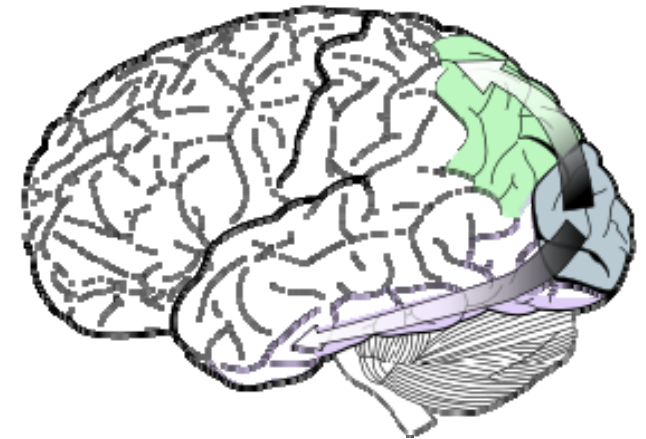
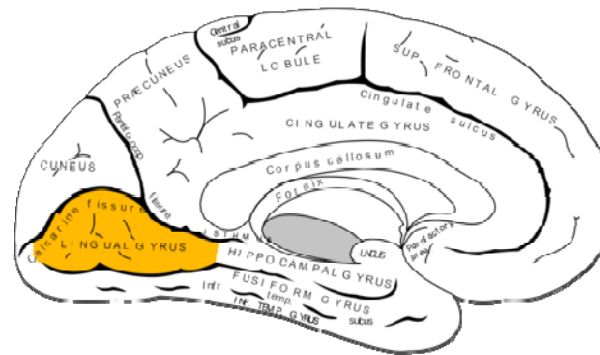
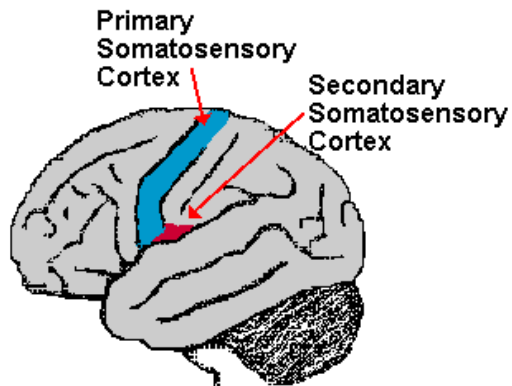
Subcortical

- Basal ganglia
- Cerebellum



Brain Anatomy

- Secondary Somatosensory area
 - Pain, chronic adaptation
- Lingual gyrus
 - Combined sensory-vision integration
- Dorsal & Ventral visual-motor processing



Neuroplasticity

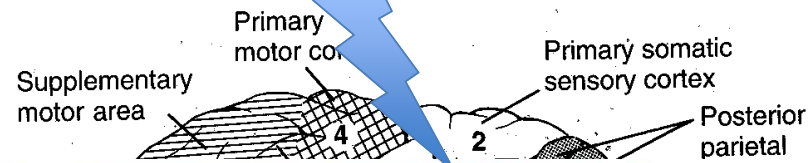
- Ability of neurons to change their function, chemical profile (amount and types of neurotransmitters produced) or structure
- Recovery of function is associated with a return of activity and responsiveness in the motor network
- This is your job!



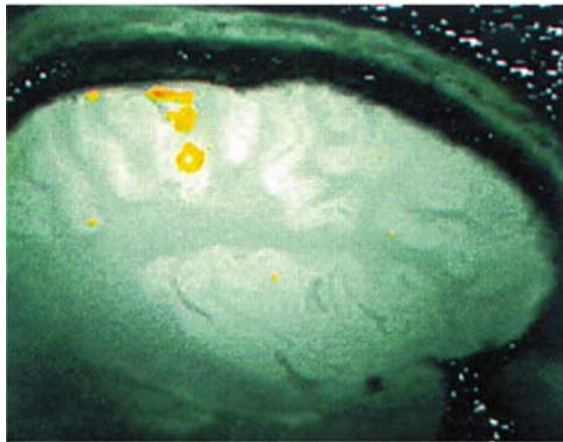
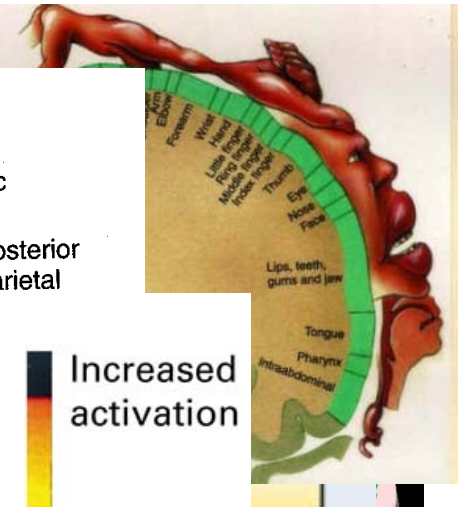
Neuroplasticity

- Neural Efficiency
- Increased cortical area with skill

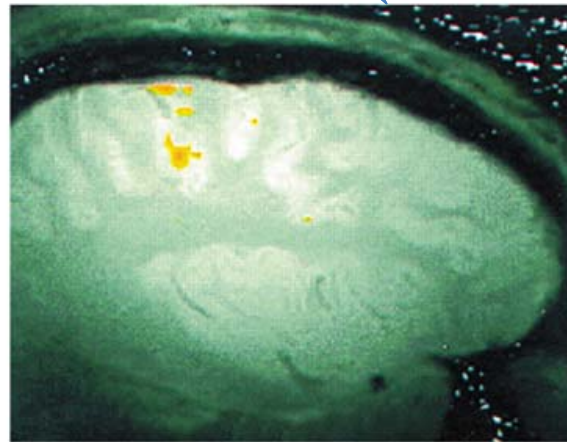
B



TRPI

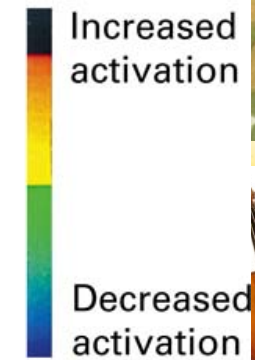


Trained sequence



Untrained sequence

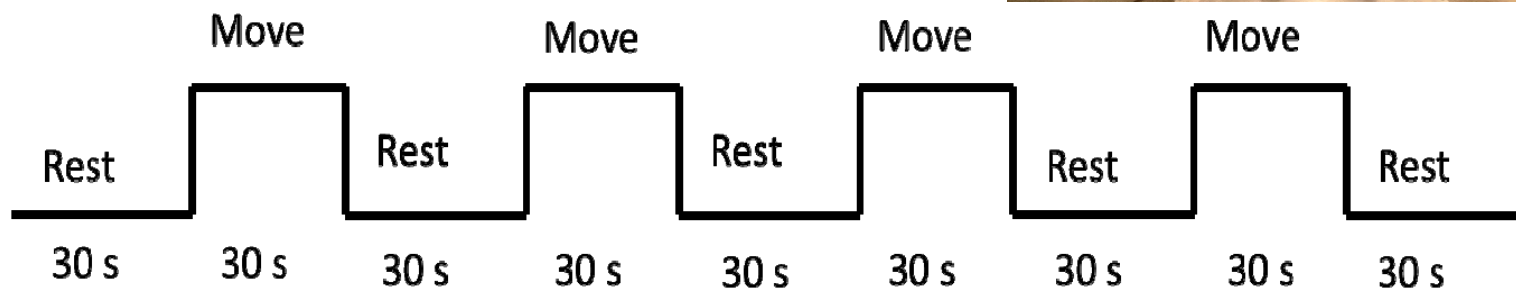
(b)



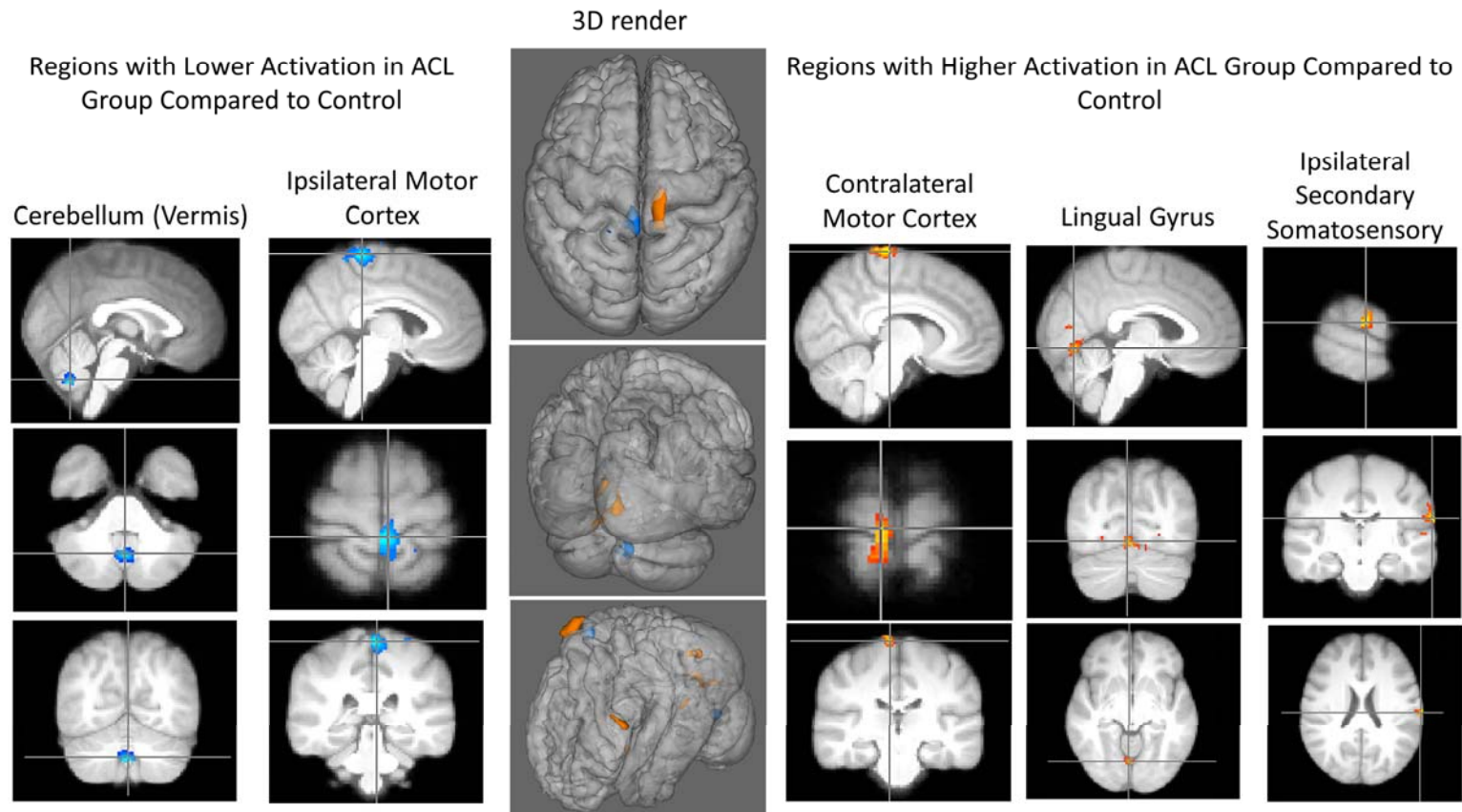
Measuring the Brain

- Movement paradigm – 4 sets – Block Design

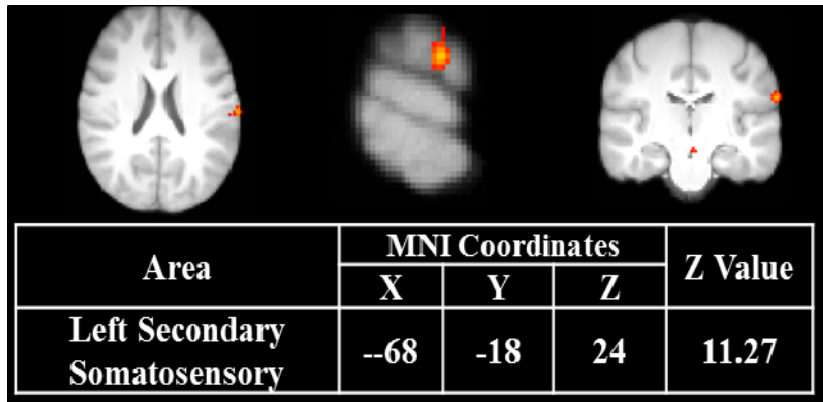
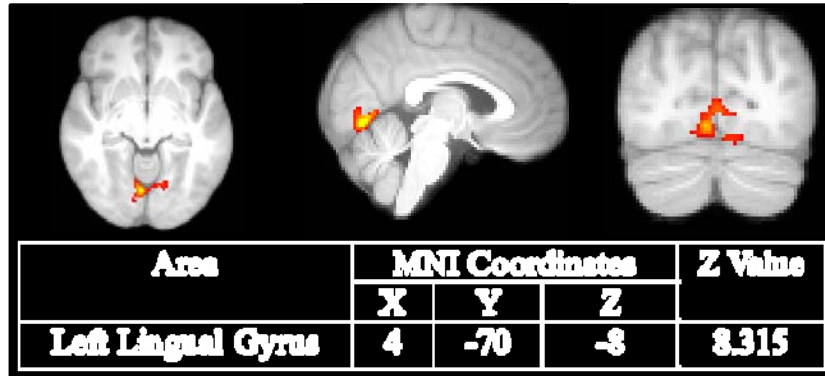
- Rest 30 seconds
- Knee Extension-Flexion
 - 30 seconds
 - 1.2 Hz movement frequency (36 cycles)



Knee Motor Control



Knee Motor Control

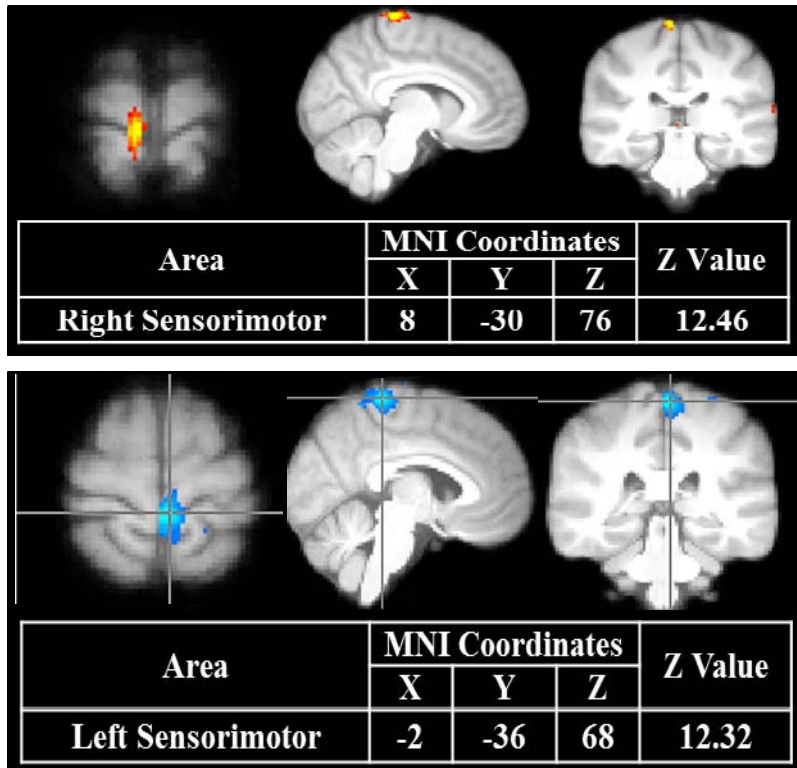


23)Servos CC 2002; 24)Torquati NI 2005



- Lingual gyrus²³
 - Visual processing
 - Visual memory
 - Altered sensory
- Secondary somatosensory²⁴
 - Adapted sensory processing
 - Pain

Knee Motor Control



21) Kapreli NI 2006; 22) Tinazzi NSL 1998



N=30

Contralateral Sensorimotor²¹

- Motor drive
- Conscious control
- Sensory integration

Ipsilateral Sensorimotor²²

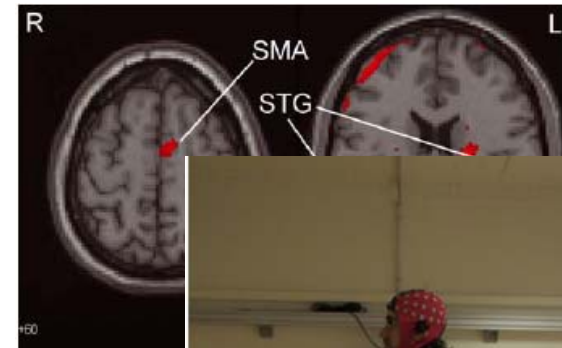
- Contralateral inhibition
- Neural efficiency

Action-Observation & Motor Imagery

Cortical control of gait in healthy humans: an fMRI study

ChiHong Wang · YauYau Wai · BoCheng Kuo ·
Yei-Yu Yeh · JiunJie Wang

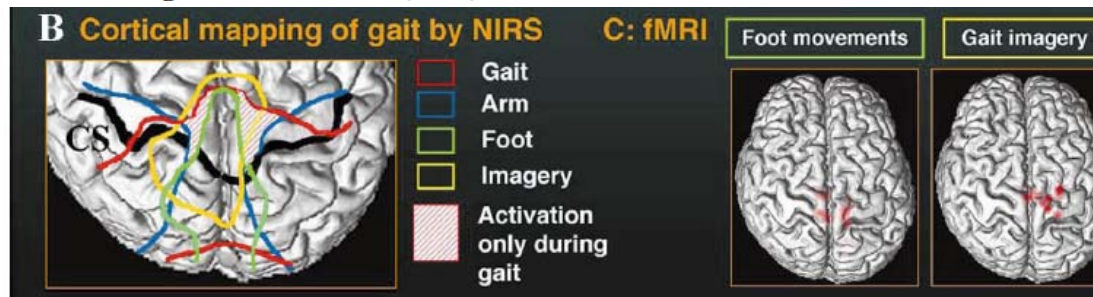
J Neural Transm (2008) 115:1149–1158



Cortical Mapping of Gait in Humans: A Near-Infrared Spectroscopic Topography Study

Ichiro Miyai,* Hiroki C. Tanabe,† Ichiro Sase,† Hideo Eda,† Ichiro Oda,‡ Ikuo Konishi,‡ Yoshio Tsur
Tsunehiko Suzuki,* Toshio Yanagida,†§ and Kisou Kubota*,¶

NeuroImage 14, 1186–1192 (2001)



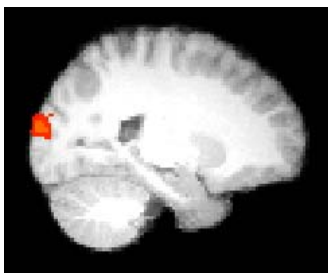
Primary Findings

Red – ACLR Higher



Parietal cortex – *S1 BA1 L* – supramarginal gyrus

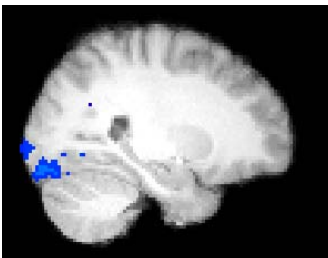
- **Greater visual-sensory integration**



Visual cortex V2 - *BA18 L* – occipital pole - Dorsal

- **Greater internal motor control**

Blue – Control Higher



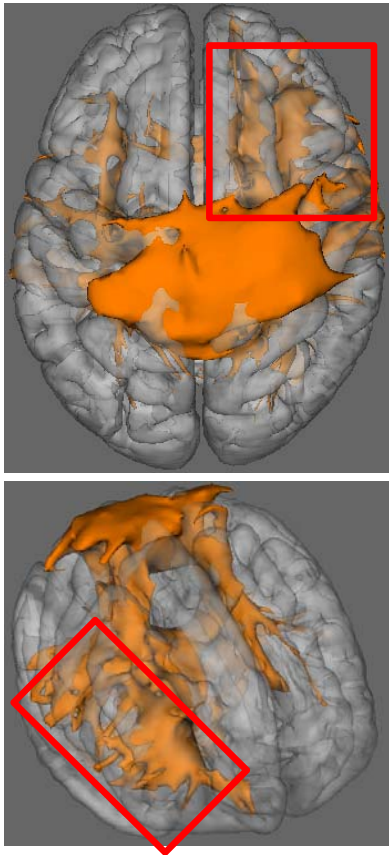
Occipital fusiform gyrus – *V3V R* – Ventral

- Relative suppression in ACL group
- **Less external motor control**

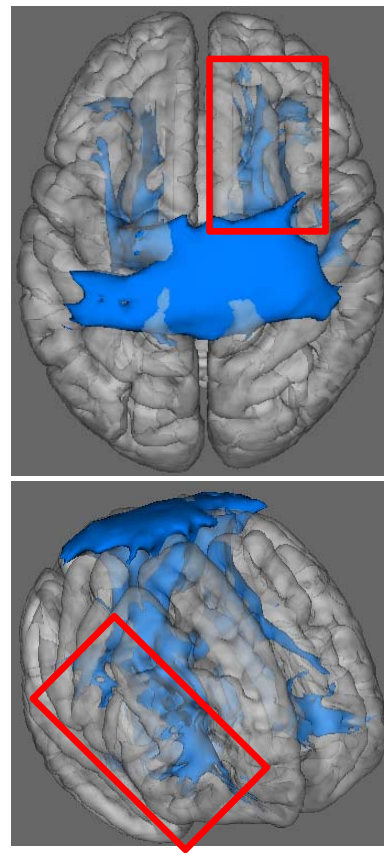
Grooms 2015 NATA

Structural Connectivity

ACLR



Control



Grooms 2015 ACL research retreat

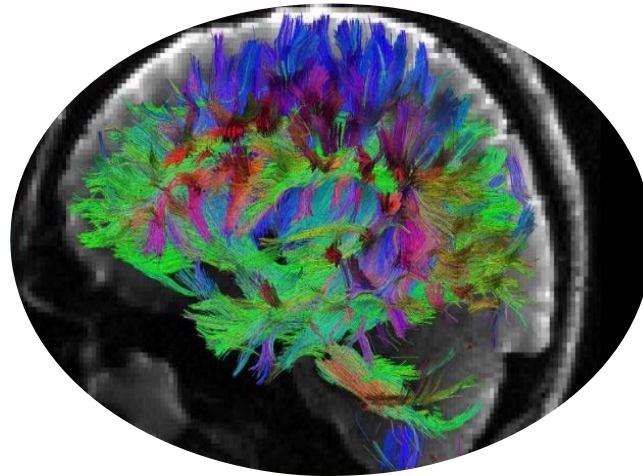
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Clinical Implications

- What can you do with this information?
- A few ways you can induce neuroplasticity in your patients TODAY!!!



Cascade of Neuromuscular Control Dysfunction

- Video analysis of actual injury events
- Distractors
 - Ball
 - Another player
 - Stressful situation
 - Cognitive load



Visual Feedback Disruption



- Visual – Motor Disruption
 - Stroboscopic visual knockdown^{21,22}
 - Allows complex action
 - Improves visual processing and action anticipation

19) Destaso IES 1997 20) Horita EJAP 1996 21) Appelbaum 2011 JSS 22) Appelbaum 2012 BJSM

Virtual Reality



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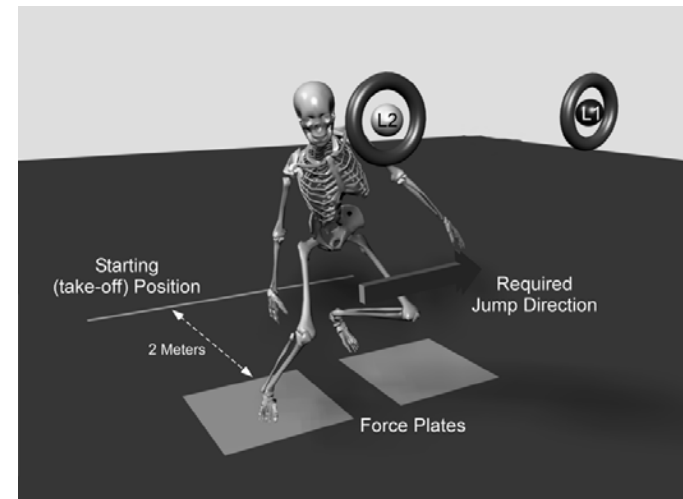
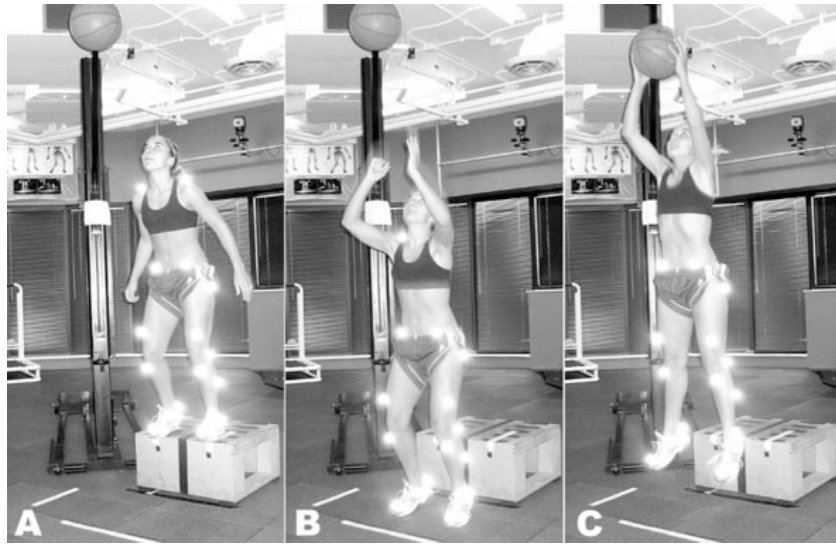


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Environment & Anticipation

USE OF AN OVERHEAD GOAL ALTERS VERTICAL JUMP PERFORMANCE AND BIOMECHANICS

KEVIN R. FORD,¹ GREGORY D. MYER,¹ ROSE L. SMITH,² ROBYN N. BYRNES,² SARA E. DOPIRAK,²
AND TIMOTHY E. HEWETT^{1,2,3}



Differences between Sexes and Limbs in Hip and Knee Kinematics and Kinetics during Anticipated and Unanticipated Jump Landings: Implications for ACL injury.

Environment & Anticipation

IJSPT

CASE REPORT

REHABILITATION STRATEGIES ADDRESSING NEUROCOGNITIVE AND BALANCE DEFICITS FOLLOWING A CONCUSSION IN A FEMALE SNOWBOARD ATHLETE: A CASE REPORT

John Faltus, DPT, MS, SCS, LAT, ATC, CSCS¹



Internal Feedback Model

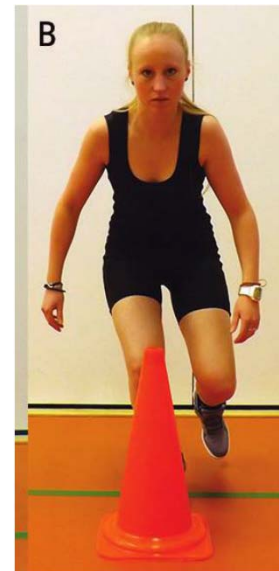
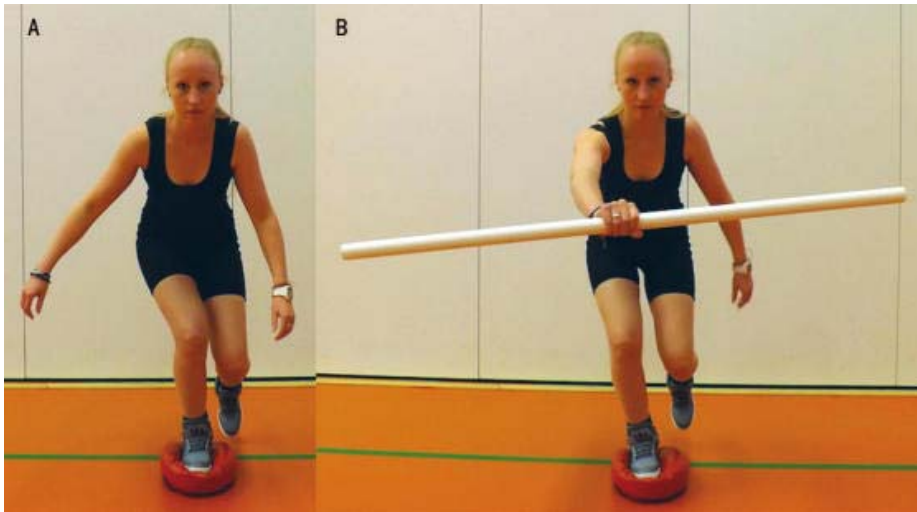


Frontal View



Sagittal View

External Feedback Model



Feedback specific

- Feedback specific cortical activation
 - Frontal pole – working memory & attention
 - Occipital pole – visual spatial processing
 - Precuneous – sensory integration

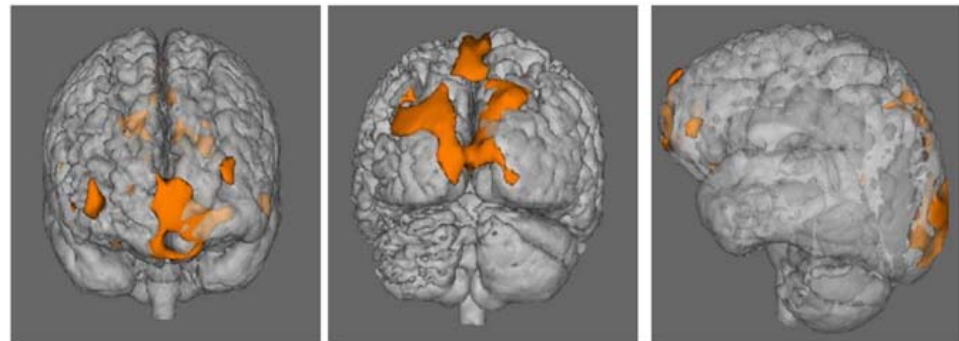


Figure 1: Areas of brain activation when participants used an external focus of attention compared to an internal focus of attention, all $p < .001$.

Feedback specific

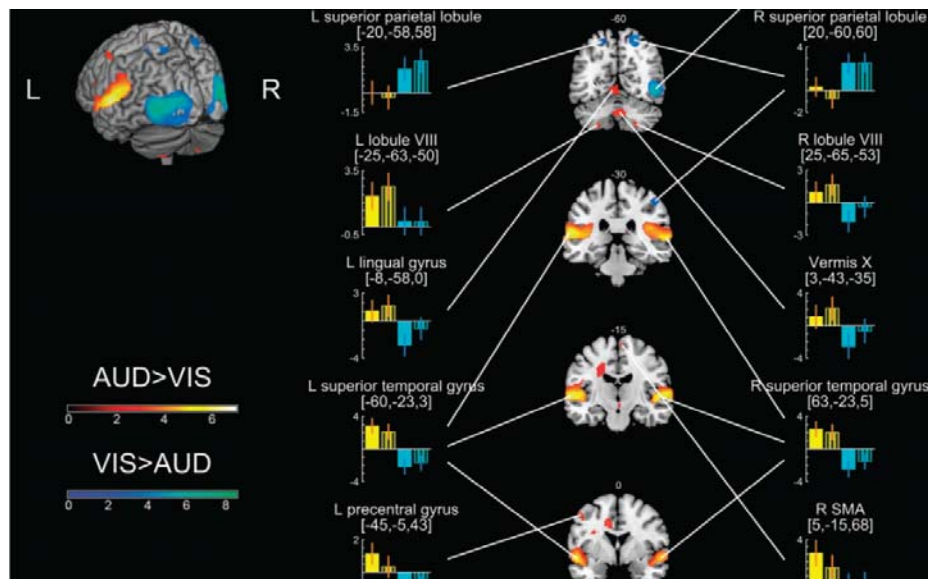
Feedback specific cortical activation

Auditory

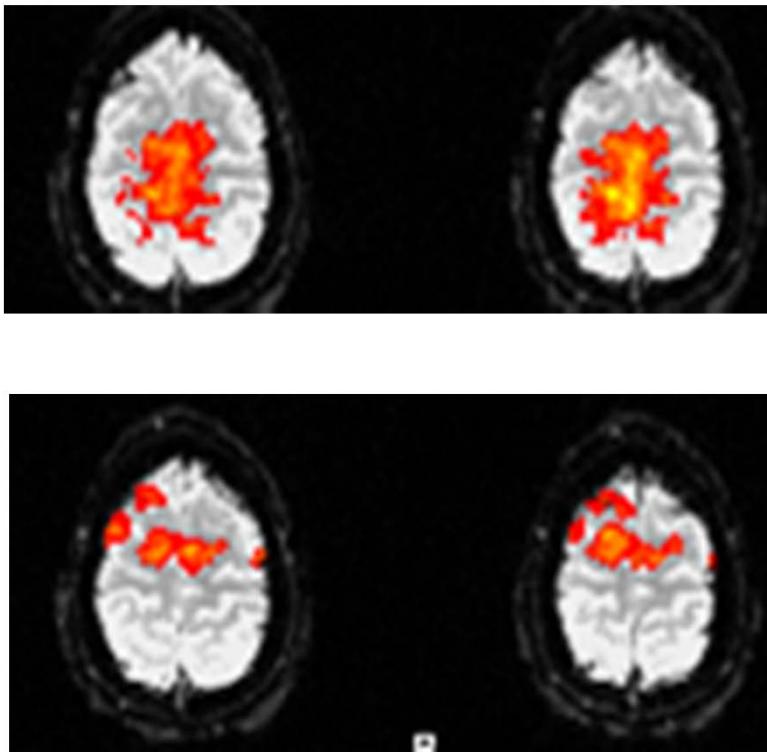
Perform without feedback >> decrease activation >> facilitate autonomous stage

Visual

Reliant on feedback >> Increase activation >> inhibit motor learning progression



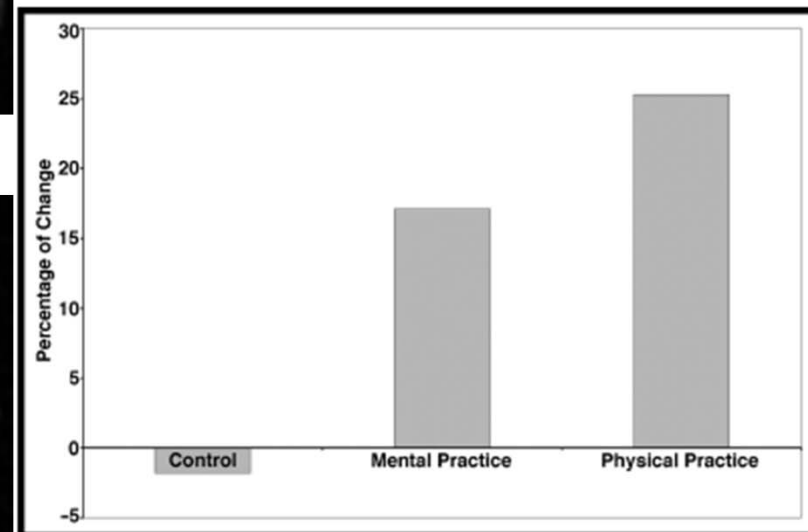
Motor Imagery – Mental Practice



Can Mental Practice Increase Ankle Dorsiflexor Torque?

Physical Therapy
Journal of the American Physical Therapy Association

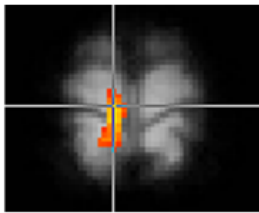
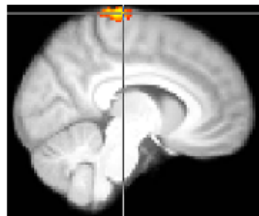
Ben Sidaway, Amy (Robinson) Trzaska



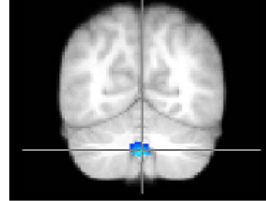
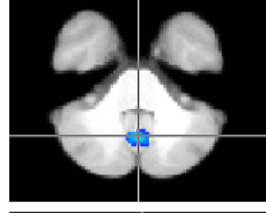
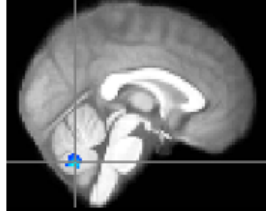
Strength Training

Normal

Contralateral
Motor Cortex

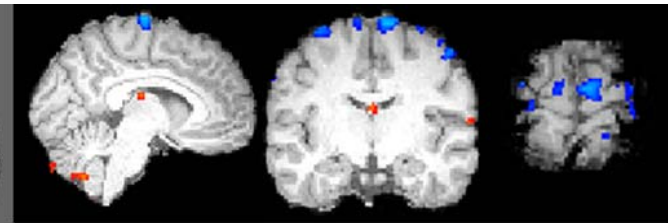
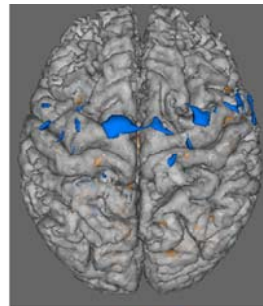


Cerebellum (Vermis)

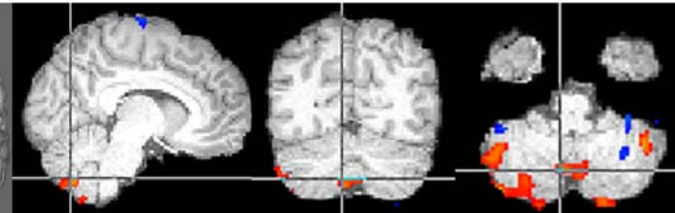
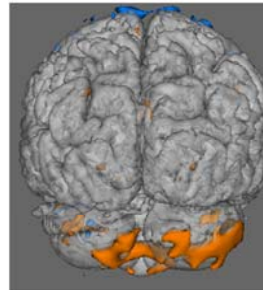


Regions with higher activation ACLR group (orange) and lower activation ACLR group (blue) compared to healthy matched controls.

Eccentrics



Increased motor cortex activation (blue) during concentric quadriceps contractions



Increased cerebellum activation (orange) during eccentric quadriceps contractions

Regions with higher activation eccentric quadriceps contraction (orange) and lower activation (blue).

What if I just throw some tape on it?

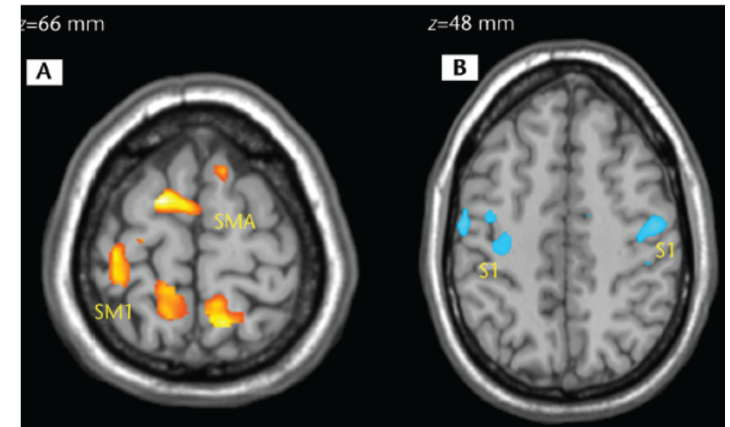


Neuroplasticity of Tape

Effects of Patellar Taping on Brain Activity During Knee Joint Proprioception Tests Using Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Michael J. Callaghan, Shane McKie, Paul Richardson, Jacqueline A. Oldham

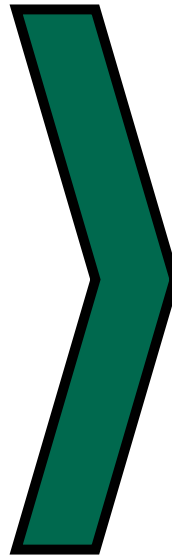
- **Changes brain motor and sensory activation!**
- **DECREASE activation**
 - Sensory cortex – Efficient processing
- **INCREASE activation**
 - Motor cortex – Increased output
 - Supplementary motor



How Does this Change Clinical Practice

- THINK!
 - About the brain in all your intervention efforts
- **Neuroscience Tools can Optimize Interventions**

- Motor Learning
- Visual-motor
- Virtual Reality
- Neurocognition
- Eccentric training
- Motor Imagery
- Taping



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