

Grading Up the UE & Morning Wrap Up



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ACUTE and IP Therapists: Triage for Early Extension & Abduction!!

Active finger extension is a strong predictor of short, medium, and long-term post-stroke recovery

(Smania et al. 2007)

Minimal UE shoulder abduction & proximal motor control at admission to rehabilitation → “good” chance of regaining some hand capacity whereas patients without proximal arm control had a poor prognosis for regaining hand capacity (Houwink et al. 2013).

Patients with some finger extension & shoulder abd. on Day 2 → 98% probability of achieving some degree of dexterity at 6 months; Only 25% in those who did not show similar voluntary motor control.

60% of patients with finger extension within 72 hours had regained full recovery of upper limb function @ 6 months (Nijland et al. 2010).


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UE Treatment Template:


(Possible) Anatomy of a UE Therapy Session




 Review Homework (if applicable)

 Preparatory Strategies (1-2)

 One Priming Strategy

 Repetitive Task Specific Practice

 Education (Patient and care partner)

 Debrief

 Assign Homework

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Preparatory Strategies (1 – 2)

- Scapular Mobs
- Taping
- Thermotherapy
- Cryotherapy
- Stretching
- Acupressure/Massage

Mitigating Impairments

Priming Strategies (1)

- Mirror Therapy
- Aerobic Exercise
- Mental Practice
- Brain Stimulation
- Manipulation of Sensory Input
- Medications

Getting the CNS Ready to Change and Learn

[Stoykov ME, Madhavan S. Motor priming in neurorehabilitation. J Neurol Phys Ther. 2015](#)

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Stratify Your Interventions By Impairment Level



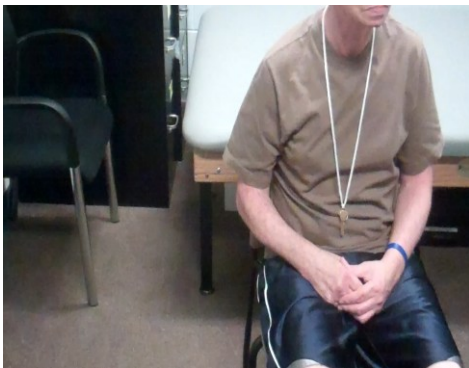
Picture courtesy of: Carrie Crapanzano OTR/L CSRS,
Emily Heerema-Smith OT CBIS CSRS;
Johnson Rehabilitation Institute
at Ocean University Medical Center

Typical patient function at start of level	
Level 1 Practice of gross motor skills & introduction of fine motor skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal hand function Minimal fine motor skills Active shoulder shrug & gravity assisted shoulder flexion
Level 2 Practice of gross motor skills & fine motor skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More graded control of hand grasp Some release and fine motor skills Some gravity assisted shoulder flexion, extension & retraction Some elbow extension & flexion Some finger flexion & extension Grade 2 to 3 wrist extension, therefore, can move almost against gravity
Level 3 Practice of gross motor skills & substantial fine motor skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial fine motor tasks Half of active range of motion for finger flexion and extension Grade 3-4 shoulder and grade 3 elbow and wrist, therefore, can move against gravity
Appropriate Fugl-Meyer scores or Chedoke Stage for each level: Level 1 = Fugl-Meyer scores 10-23 or Chedoke stages 2-3 Level 2 = Fugl-Meyer scores 24-45 or Chedoke stages 3-4 Level 3 = Fugl-Meyer scores 46-58 or Chedoke stages 5-6	

<https://neurorehab.med.ubc.ca/files/2016/08/GRASP-Instructor-Manual-Ver2.pdf>

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Examples of Each Impairment Level



Fugl-Meyer Score
10 - 23



Fugl-Meyer Score
24 - 45



Fugl-Meyer Score
46 - 58

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Circuit Training Ideas:

Fugl-Meyer Score
0 - 23

- Use FIST and FM to identify assets, location in space to challenge
- Integrate functional objects, spouse, frequently-used items located in the home
- Challenge mobility and position (in the chair; in the gym)
- Have them identify targets, rewards



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Circuit Training:

Fugl-Meyer Score
24 - 45

Poor in-hand coordination

Poor insight

Reduced safety awareness

Poor compliance with exercises and AE use/ max VCs and signage

Activation proximally and distally (brain stem stroke)

Poor conditioning



W/B & weightshifting w small steps & into different planes

Leading questions

Signage and "check-ins" by staff/staff education

Situate ADL items low and close

Lots of L UE use with error augmentation & external cues d/t poor insight

Increasingly short breaks

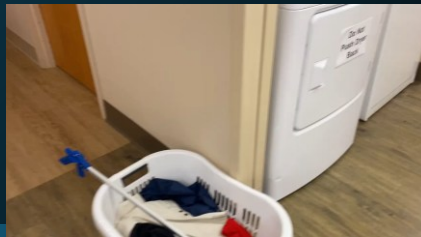
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Circuit Training Ideas:

Fugl-Meyer Score
46 - 66



Movies courtesy of:
Celina Parkman, MS, OTR/L, CSRS
WellStar Health, Marietta GA



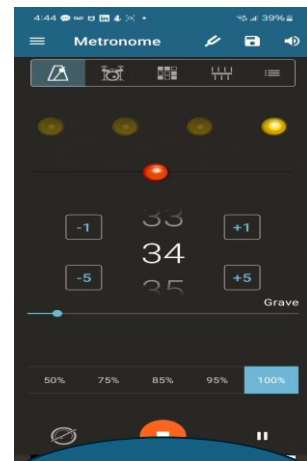
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Circuit Training: Maximize Error, Feedback, and Speed for Challenge

Review > Top Stroke Rehabil. 2016 Apr;23(2):116-25. doi: 10.1179/1945511915Y.0000000007.
Epub 2016 Feb 8.

Error augmentation as a possible technique for improving upper extremity motor performance after a stroke – a systematic review

Finger weights • Weighted gloves • Pulling
into error (wrong plane; correct plane) •
Trunk restraint • Making the task harder
than it would normally be (size of items;
speed at which task is performed; size of
target; positioning of patient)



"Metronome Beats"
<https://stonekick.com/metronome.html>

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Adaptations for Functional Task Practice



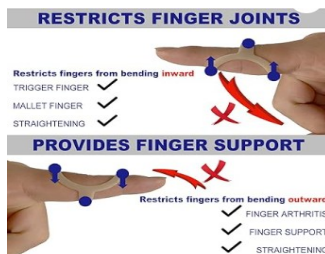
Wrist Support With Palmar Swivel Clip

Leather covered metal splint, with plastic palmar clip and a utensil pocket.

The clip is heated with a heat gun before adjusting.

Wrist position changes by bending the metal.

Amazon.com \$59.95



Ring Splints

Plastic splints that encourage PIP and DIP extension, discourage flexion and internal/external deviation.

Amazon.com \$7.99

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Adaptations for Functional Task Practice



Thumb Abduction Splint

Neoprene splint that wraps around hand and wrist with velcro. Isolates thumb into abduction; patient uses intact grasp for grasp/release. Less "medical" looking.

\$9.00 - \$20.00



Radial Nerve Splint

Neoprene splint that maintains the wrist and fingers in extension. Patient can go into flexion under his/her own power. Adjustable "tendons."

Amazon.com \$85.99

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Debriefing (5 mins)

Discussing exercises that were performed

Ask patient to identify and describe them

Highlighting skilled strategies that you employed and why

Discussing what was successful/unsuccessful with patient/care partner

Patient-reported

Patient ideates why strategies worked/did not work

How long? How many? With what resistance?

Notes: "Educated;" "Patient ideated with xx VCs;" "Reviewed"

Discussing what will be done at next session, in light of the above challenges/successes

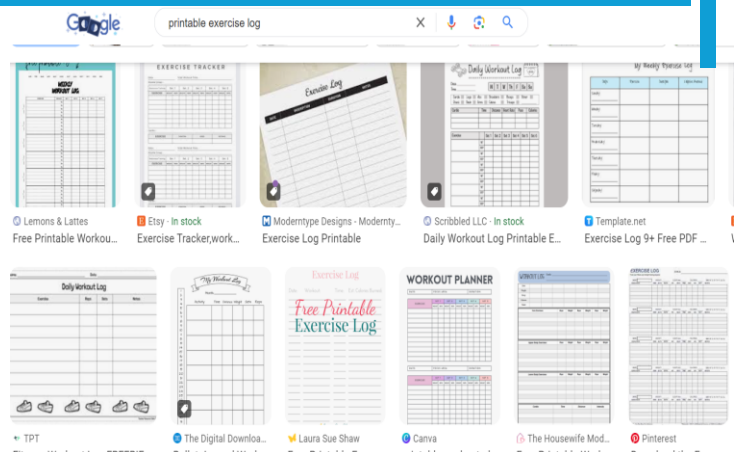
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Logging Their Efforts: The Basis of the Next Therapy Session

Ensure accountability

What wasn't successful?
How can we make it better?
You only did **xx** reps; **WHY?**

Change practice environment?
Time of practice?
Compensatory strategies or AE?



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“Action” Words and Phrases:

Show Skill; Make Payors Happy

- (Skilled) Application of _____, in order to...
- Assessed
- Assisted
- Determined
- Facilitated
- Graded

- Compensatory training (for...)
- Modified
- Normalized
- Positioned
- Instructed
- Educated

In Your Notes:

Two-Page List of “Action” Words and Phrases



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LUNCH!



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