

Mémoire de Maîtrise en médecine No 2476

Choice of an outcome measure for Virtual Reality motor training in acute neurorehabilitation.

Etudiant

Vollet Mehdi

Tuteur

Dresse Karin Diserens
Dpt de neuroréhabilitation, CHUV

Co-tuteur

Gangadhar.Garipelli
MindMaze SA

Expert

Daniel Perez-Marcos
MindMaze SA

Lausanne, Janvier 2016

Journal of Neurologic Physical Therapy

Choice of an outcome measure for Virtual Reality motor training in acute neurorehabilitation.

--Manuscript Draft--

Manuscript Number:	
Full Title:	Choice of an outcome measure for Virtual Reality motor training in acute neurorehabilitation.
Article Type:	Research Articles
Corresponding Author:	Mehdi Vollet, student Acute Neurorehabilitation Unit, Department of Clinical Neuroscience Lausanne, vaud SWITZERLAND
Corresponding Author E-Mail:	mehdi.vollet@unil.ch
Manuscript Region of Origin:	SWITZERLAND
Abstract:	<p>Background: the occurrence of new stroke cases is estimated at 15 million worldwide every year representing the second leading cause of death worldwide during a given ten year period. 75% of stroke survivors suffer from upper limb paresis: studies suggest that only 50% of patients with significant arm paresis recover useful function, so it is crucial to find new techniques of rehabilitation and high-performance outcome measurements tools. Virtual Reality (VR) represents a valuable technology for training the cognitive and motor functions of stroke patients. Successful rehabilitation requires a valid and reliable assessment methodology for tracking the therapy progress.</p> <p>Methods and Results: We first made an analysis of movements offered by the MindMotionPRO VR motor rehabilitation platform. Then a literature review of outcome measurement tools was carried out in order to correlate the selected tools to this platform. Among the investigated motricity and motor function outcome measures, we found that the Fugl-Meyer scale (FM) is the most appropriate, evaluation by its tested movements and its good validity, sensitivity, responsiveness, reliability and its good correlation with ADL in accordance with MindMotionPRO motor rehabilitation exercises.</p> <p>Discussion: The movement analysis of the VR platform is well suited to neurorehabilitation in the acute phase. After a literature review, the FM scale was chosen as an adequate evaluation scale of the movements trained by the VR platform.</p> <p>Conclusions: We recommend using the FM scale to evaluate the outcome of training with this VR platform. Further studies are planned to show the effectiveness of this training also in the post-acute phase.</p>
Keywords:	Virtual Reality; post-stroke; outcome measurement; Neurorehabilitation; acute care unit; Frenchay arm test; Wolf Motor Function Test (WMFT); Fugl-Meyer; upper limb
Suggested Reviewers:	
Opposed Reviewers:	
Other Authors:	Harald Kinzner Gangadhar Garipelli Daniel Perez-Marcos Tej Tadi Karin Diserens
Additional Information:	
Question	Response
JNPT encourages prospective registration of clinical trials. Registration allows persons seeking to participate in trials to identify studies for which they may be eligible. Registration also improves	No

<p>reporting by reducing selective reporting of only positive outcomes.</p> <p>Please indicate below whether your trial has been registered.</p>	
<p>If you answered yes to the question above, please enter your clinical trial registration number below. If your trial has not been registered, please enter 'N/A'.</p> <p>PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE REGISTRY NUMBER ON THE TITLE PAGE OF YOUR SUBMISSION AS WELL.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>RETAINED RIGHTS: Except for copyright, other proprietary rights related to the Work (e.g., patent or other rights to any process or procedure) shall be retained by the author. To reproduce any text, figures, tables, or illustrations from this Work in future works of their own, the author must obtain written permission from Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. ("WKH").</p> <p>ORIGINALITY: Each author warrants that his or her submission to the Work is original, does not infringe upon, violate, or misappropriate any copyright or other intellectual property rights, or any other proprietary right, contract or other right or interest of any third party, and that he or she has full power to enter into this agreement. Neither this Work nor a similar work has been published nor shall be submitted for publication elsewhere while under consideration by this Publication.</p> <p>AUTHORSHIP RESPONSIBILITY: Each author warrants that he or she has participated sufficiently in the intellectual content, the analysis of data, if applicable, and the writing of the Work to take public responsibility for it. Each has reviewed the final version of the Work, believes it represents valid work, and approves it for publication. Moreover, should the editors of the Publication request the data upon which the work is based, they shall produce it.</p> <p>PREPRINTS: Upon acceptance of the article for publication, each author</p>	<p>I agree</p>

warrants that he/she will promptly remove any prior versions of this Work (normally a preprint) that may have been posted to an electronic server.

DISCLAIMER: Each author warrants that this Work contains no libelous or unlawful statements and does not infringe or violate the publicity or privacy rights of any third party, libel or slander any third party, contain any scandalous, obscene, or negligently prepared information, or infringe or violate any other personal or proprietary right of others. Each author warrants that the Work does not contain any fraudulent, plagiarized or incorrectly attributed material. Each author warrants that all statements contained in the Work purporting to be facts are true, and any formula or instruction contained in the Work will not, if followed accurately, cause any injury, illness, or damage to the user. If excerpts (e.g., text, figures, tables, illustrations, or audio/video files) from copyrighted works are included, a written release will be secured by the author prior to submission, and credit to the original publication will be properly acknowledged. Each author further warrants that he or she has obtained, prior to submission, written releases from patients whose names or likenesses are submitted as part of the Work. Should the Editor or WKH request copies of such written releases, the author shall provide them in a timely manner.

DISCLOSURES/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Each author must identify any financial interests or affiliations with institutions, organizations, or companies relevant to the manuscript by completing the form below. Additionally, any financial associations involving a spouse, partner or children must be disclosed as well.

Note: Some sections below come from the ICMJE Uniform Disclosure Form for Potential Conflicts of Interest at http://www.icmje.org/downloads/coi_disclosure.pdf (dated July 2010).

Did you or your institution at any time receive payment or support in kind for any aspect of the submitted work (including but not limited to grants, consulting fee or honorarium, support for travel to meetings

No

<p>for the study or other purposes, fees for participation in review activities such as data monitoring boards, statistical analysis, end point committees, and the like, payment for writing or reviewing the manuscript, provision of writing assistance, medicines, equipment, or administrative support, etc...)?</p>	
<p>Other: Did you or your institution at any time receive additional payments or support in kind for any aspect of the submitted work?</p>	
<p>Please indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities. You should report relationships that were present during the 36 months prior to submission including board membership, consultancy, employment, expert testimony, grants/grants pending, payment for lectures including service on speakers bureaus, payment for manuscript preparation, patents (planned, pending or issued), royalties, payment for development of educational presentations, stock/stock options, travel/accommodations/meeting expenses unrelated to activities listed (for example, if you report a consultancy above there is no need to report travel related to that consultancy), etc.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Other (err on the side of full disclosure): Please indicate whether you have any additional financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities. You should report relationships that were present during the 36 months prior to submission.</p>	
<p>Other Relationships</p> <p>Are there other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work?</p>	<p>No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present potential conflict of interest</p>
<p>AUTHOR'S OWN WORK: In consideration of WKH's and Neurology Section/APTA's publication of the Work, the author hereby transfers, assigns, and otherwise conveys all his/her copyright ownership worldwide, in all languages, and in all forms of media now or hereafter known, including electronic media such as CD-ROM, Internet, and Intranet, to Neurology Section/APTA. If Neurology Section/APTA should decide for any reason not to publish the Work, Neurology Section/APTA shall give prompt notice of its decision to the corresponding author, this agreement shall terminate, and neither the author, WKH, nor Neurology</p>	<p>I agree</p>

Section/APTA shall be under any further liability or obligation. Each author grants WKH and Neurology Section/APTA the rights to use his or her name and biographical data (including professional affiliation) in the Work and in its or the journal's promotion.

WORK MADE FOR HIRE: If this Work or any element thereof has been commissioned by another person or organization, or if it has been written as part of the duties of an employee, an authorized representative of the commissioning organization or employer must also sign this form stating his or her title in the organization.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES: If the Work or a portion of it has been created in the course of any author's employment by the United States Government, check the "Government" box at the end of this form. A work prepared by a government employee as part of his or her official duties is called a "work of the U.S. Government" and is not subject to copyright. If it is not prepared as part of the employee's official duties, it may be subject to copyright.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD/ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE APPROVAL: Each author warrants that his or her institution has approved the protocol for any investigation involving humans or animals and that all experimentation was conducted in conformity with ethical and humane principles of research.

WARRANTIES: Each author warranty made in this form is for the benefit of WKH, Neurology Section/APTA and the Editor; each author agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless those parties for any breach of such warranties.

Journal of Neurologic Physical Therapy will permit the author(s) to deposit for display a "final peer-reviewed manuscript" (the final manuscript after peer-review and acceptance for publication but prior to the publisher's copyediting, design, formatting, and other services) 12 months after publication of the final article on the author's personal web site, university's institutional repository or employer's intranet, subject to the following:

I agree

<p>* You may only deposit the final peer-reviewed manuscript.</p> <p>* You may not update the final peer-reviewed manuscript text or replace it with a proof or with the final published version.</p> <p>* You may not include the final peer-reviewed manuscript or any other version of the article on any commercial site or in any repository owned or operated by any third party. For authors of articles based on research funded by the National Institutes of Health ("NIH"), Wellcome Trust, Howard Hughes Medical Institute ("HHMI"), or other funding agency, see below for the services that WKH will provide on your behalf to comply with "Public Access Policy" guidelines.</p> <p>* You may not display the final peer-reviewed manuscript until twelve months after publication of the final article.</p> <p>* You must attach the following notice to the final peer-reviewed manuscript: "This is a non-final version of an article published in final form in (provide complete journal citation)".</p> <p>* You shall provide a link in the final peer-reviewed manuscript to the Journal of Neurologic Physical Therapy website.</p>	
<p>"Public Access Policy" Funding Disclosure Please disclose below if you have received funding for research on which your article is based from any of the following organizations:</p>	
<p>Please select:</p>	<p>Author's Own Work</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	
<p><u>Compliance with RCUK and Wellcome Trust Open Access Policies</u></p> <p>Both the Research Councils UK (RCUK) and the Wellcome Trust have adopted policies regarding Open Access to articles that have been funded by grants from the RCUK or the Wellcome Trust. If either "Wellcome Trust" or "Research Councils UK (RCUK)" has been selected above, and the authors of the applicable article</p>	<p>I agree</p>

choose to have the article published as an open access publication, the following policies will apply:

* If the article is to be published pursuant to the "Gold" route of Open Access, both the RCUK and the Wellcome Trust require that WKH make the article freely available immediately pursuant to the Attribution 4.0 Creative Commons License, currently found at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode> (the "CC BY License"). The CC BY License is the most accommodating of the Creative Commons licenses and allows others to distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon the article, even commercially, as long as they credit the authors for the original creation.

* If the article is to be published pursuant to the "Green" route of Open Access, both the RCUK and the Wellcome Trust require that WKH make the article freely available within six months pursuant to the Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 Creative Commons License, currently found at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/legalcode> (the "CC BY-NC License"). The CC BY-NC License allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the article non-commercially, and although their new works must also acknowledge the authors for the original creation and be non-commercial, they don't have to license their derivative works on the same terms.

As a service to our authors, WKH will identify the National Library of Medicine (NLM) articles that require deposit pursuant to the RCUK and Wellcome Trust policies described in this section. This Copyright Transfer Agreement provides the mechanism for identifying such articles.

WKH will transmit the final peer-reviewed manuscript of an article based on research funded in whole or in part by either RCUK or the Wellcome Trust to Pub Med Central.

<p>Upon NIH request, it remains the legal responsibility of the author to confirm with NIH the provenance of his/her manuscript for purposes of deposit. Author will not deposit articles him/herself. Author will not alter the final peer-reviewed manuscript already transmitted to NIH.</p> <p>With respect to the “Green” route of Open Access, author will not authorize the display of the final peer-reviewed manuscript prior to 6 months following publication of the final article.</p> <p>Authors of articles that have been funded from grants from the RCUK or the Wellcome Trust are required to sign the WKH Open Access License Agreement prior to publication of the applicable article. Please contact the Editorial Office of the applicable journal to receive the Open Access License Agreement that is to be signed in connection with the publication of the article.</p>	
<p>I am the person in question for this submission or otherwise have approval to complete this agreement.</p>	<p>I agree</p>
<p>CME/CE Disclosure</p> <p>Each author must identify and disclose any financial associations involving a spouse, partner or children by completing the Family Disclosure question below, and whether any off-label uses or unapproved drugs or devices are discussed in his/her manuscript by completing the Off-Label Use/Unapproved Drugs or Products question below. In the event that the Work is published as a continuing education or continuing medical education article, this information will be provided to the accrediting body and may be included in the published article. When applicable, articles accepted for publication may need to comply with additional standards related to CME or CE accreditation. Please refer to guidelines for authors for details.</p> <p>WKH and its affiliates reserve the right to publish the manuscript as a continuing education article.</p>	<p>I agree</p>
<p>Family Disclosure</p> <p>Do your children or your spouse or partner have financial relationships with entities that have an interest in the</p>	<p>No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present potential conflict of interest</p>

content of the submitted work?	
<p>Off-Label Use/Unapproved Drugs or Products</p> <p>If your manuscript discusses an unlabeled use of a commercial product or device or an investigational use of a product or device not yet approved by the FDA for any purpose, you must specifically disclose in the manuscript that the product is not labeled for the use under discussion or that the product is still investigational. Please check the item below that applies to you</p>	<p>I will not discuss unlabeled/investigational uses of any commercial product or device</p>

Choice of an outcome measure for Virtual Reality motor training in acute neurorehabilitation.

Choice of an outcome measure for Virtual Reality motor training in acute neurorehabilitation.

Mehdi Vollet^a, Harald Kinzner^a, Gangadhar Garipelli^b, Daniel Perez-Marcos^b, Tej Tadi^b Karin Diserens^a

^aAcute Neurorehabilitation Unit, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, Lausanne, Switzerland.

^b MindMaze SA, Chemin de la Dent d'Oche 1a 1024 Ecublens, Switzerland.

Mehdi.vollet@unil.ch, +41.79.930.14.73 :fax + 41.21.3141256

Number of words in the abstract: 250 words

Number words in text: 3475 words

Checklist :

1. cover letter
2. title page
3. Blinded Manuscript
4. figures

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

Choice of an outcome measure for Virtual Reality motor training in acute neurorehabilitation.

Number of words in the abstract: 250 words

Number words in text: 3475 words

Abstract

Background: the occurrence of new stroke cases is estimated at 15 million worldwide every year representing the second leading cause of death worldwide during a given ten year period. 75% of stroke survivors suffer from upper limb paresis: studies suggest that only 50% of patients with significant arm paresis recover useful function, so it is crucial to find new techniques of rehabilitation and high-performance outcome measurements tools. Virtual Reality (VR) represents a valuable technology for training the cognitive and motor functions of stroke patients. Successful rehabilitation requires a valid and reliable assessment methodology for tracking the therapy progress.

Methods and Results: We first made an analysis of movements offered by the MindMotionPRO VR motor rehabilitation platform. Then a literature review of outcome measurement tools was carried out in order to correlate the selected tools to this platform. Among the investigated motricity and motor function outcome measures, we found that the Fugl-Meyer scale (FM) is the most appropriate, evaluation by its tested movements and its good validity, sensitivity, responsiveness, reliability and its good correlation with ADL in accordance with MindMotionPRO motor rehabilitation exercises.

Discussion: The movement analysis of the VR platform is well suited to neurorehabilitation in the acute phase. After a literature review, the FM scale was chosen as an adequate evaluation scale of the movements trained by the VR platform.

1
2
3
4 Conclusions: We recommend using the FM scale to evaluate the outcome of training with this
5
6
7 VR platform. Further studies are planned to show the effectiveness of this training also in the
8
9
10 post-acute phase.

11 12 13 14 **Introduction**

15
16
17 The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates the occurrence of 15 million new stroke cases
18
19
20 worldwide every year. In 2012, the WHO reported 6.7 million stroke-related deaths occurring
21
22
23 between 2000 and 2012, representing the second leading cause of death worldwide during the
24
25 ten-year period¹.

26
27
28 Strokes can cause a wide range of neurological impairments, which severely reduce a patient's
29
30
31 ability to perform activities of daily life (ADL). Seventy-five percent of stroke survivors suffer
32
33
34 from upper limb paresis, which can have a particularly severe impact on ADL, therefore limiting
35
36
37 independent living. The arm function is especially important in regaining autonomy.
38
39
40 Longitudinal studies of recovery after stroke suggest that only 50% of patients with significant
41
42
43 arm paresis recover useful function. Initial severity of paresis remains the best predictor of
44
45
46 recovery of arm function.²

47
48
49 The ability to recover, measured as the change in Functional Independence Measure (FIM), is
50
51
52 highest during the acute phase, in particular within the first 15 days after stroke^{3 4}. However,
53
54
55 due to early post-stroke medical complications and other clinical factors, the average time from
56
57
58 stroke onset to upper extremity rehabilitation and assessment admission interval is 17 days⁵. It
59
60
61 has been widely advocated that early intervention directly in the acute phase (2-4 days post-

1
2
3
4 stroke) to exploit the unique neuroplasticity conditions and with intensive motor training are
5
6 highly desirable for the survivor's improved recovery⁶. As the acute-care units and acute
7
8 rehabilitation units are not always equipped to deliver the level of intensity required, the lack of
9
10 personal resources can be completed by training by robotic devices. However, the feasibility of
11
12 this type of training and the evaluation of the impact on outcome is still poorly documented.
13
14 Recently, virtual reality (VR) applications have emerged in the rehabilitation landscape⁹. VR
15
16 refers to a computer-generated technology that creates immersive, interactive scenarios
17
18 surrounding the participant. VR-based therapy solutions are indeed a powerful medium to fill
19
20 this gap. VR-based neurorehabilitation can be gamified to intensify training⁷ and additionally
21
22 they can be easy to setup and require less labor⁸. Moreover, VR enables flexible and
23
24 customizable manipulations and feedback modes which can be matched to the physical and
25
26 cognitive impairments of each patient⁹. For example, when the survivor's paretic side is highly
27
28 impaired (mostly the case in the acute phase), the VR-based exercises that integrate evidence-
29
30 based medicine in the neurorehabilitation (e.g., techniques that rely on the brain's mirror
31
32 system via action observation, guided imagery etc.) can help the survivor to pre-activate neural
33
34 structures involved in motor recovery. Early intervention and coupling with objective measures
35
36 for monitoring the patient's progress are attractive features of VR in Upper Extremity
37
38 Assessment¹⁰. The capacity of VR-based systems as a facilitation tool for testing functional
39
40 recovery and engaging brain circuits¹¹, such as motor areas, has been demonstrated.¹² In a
41
42 Cochrane review comprising 37 studies involving a total of 1019 post-stroke participants, VR-
43
44 based therapy was found to be significantly more effective than conventional therapy in
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61

1
2
3
4 improving the upper limb function¹³. Such successful upper extremity rehabilitation may
5
6
7 require accurate and effective assessment of the effectiveness of training.
8
9

10 The VR-based motor rehabilitation system that we refer to in this paper is called
11
12 MindMotionPRO (MindMaze SA). It offers exercises that encourage movements in the air to
13
14
15 enable functional movements such as grasping, reaching for a target, or pointing to a virtual
16
17
18 object in the air and can be applied to the patient in an acute rehabilitation unit either at the
19
20
21 bedside or in a wheelchair according to patient's abilities. These exercises engage the patient's
22
23
24 shoulder, elbow, forearm and wrist movements. Hence for tracking the patient's upper
25
26
27 extremity motor performance the assessment questionnaire chosen must reflect these training
28
29
30 components to ensure sensitivity. The challenge here is that the chosen motor assessment
31
32
33 must also not be time-consuming be able to use the early recovery period in acute care units. In
34
35
36 addition, many of the traditional methods of assessing brain-injured individuals use either basic
37
38
39 pencil and paper techniques or simple motor tasks¹⁴. In cases of upper extremity impairment,
40
41
42 the patient is asked to indicate specific symbols, draw a straight line or reach and place objects
43
44
45 as accurately and as quickly as possible¹⁵. One common criticism of these tests is that the
46
47
48 patient is not being tested in a practical ADL systematic way. However, it has been
49
50
51 demonstrated that an improvement in the Fugl-Meyer scale (FMS), in the Barthel Index (BI), or
52
53
54 in the Functional Independence Measure (FIM) is significantly correlated with an increase in
55
56
57 ADL. Nevertheless, FIM and BI are less suitable than VR because they do not measure the
58
59
60 dynamic process of motor recovery nor do they assess movements trained on the platform.¹⁶ A
61
62
63 numbers of studies have emphasized the requirement for rehabilitation testing methods that
64
65

1
2
3
4 are relevant to the patient's real world environment and which can be transferred to other
5
6
7 daily tasks of living.
8
9

10 **MindMotionPRO Virtual Reality in acute motor training**

11
12
13 The system is a mobile platform (fig.1) that exploits immersive VR for assessing an upper limb
14
15 for people recovering from stroke or brain injury. It uses enhanced kinematic motion detection
16
17 to create an immersive virtual environment in which a person can have custom-designed sets of
18
19 activities and games that simultaneously stimulate, challenge and motivate.
20
21
22

23
24 The platform consists of a motion capture system that tracks the upper extremity and a screen
25
26 displaying an avatar in a 3D virtual environment from an elevated first-person perspective
27
28 (fig.2). The movements of the patient's upper extremity are tracked by a camera and mapped in
29
30 real time to the avatar displayed on the screen.
31
32
33

34
35 The patients can perform different tasks using one arm (unimanual task). In these exercises the
36
37 patient has to: reach appearing targets in the virtual environment following a linear path, point
38
39 to a target, grasp a target and bring it into a predefined area, or to cut some fruits (fig.2).
40
41
42

43
44 From each task performed, we computed three measures from the 3D motion tracking data
45
46 (duration, reaction time and accuracy). A reduction in task duration, a reduction in time
47
48 reaction and an increase in accuracy indicates the patient's learning capacity of the task
49
50 showing clear patterns of progress in their training.
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61

1
2
3
4 In addition to the MindMotionPRO interface, mirror mapping is an additional tool (fig.3) which
5
6
7 can be added to every trained motion on the platform. In neurorehabilitation, it has been
8
9
10 proven that mirror therapy produces better outcomes in comparison with classical therapy¹⁷.

11
12
13 With respect to the advantages of motion data tracking in comparison to conventional
14
15 assessments, one can use data such as the patient's and therapist's feedback to indicate a
16
17
18 patient's workout summary as well as an objective assessment of range-of-motion. Such
19
20
21 feedback to the patient could motivate and aid them in achieving functional improvement.

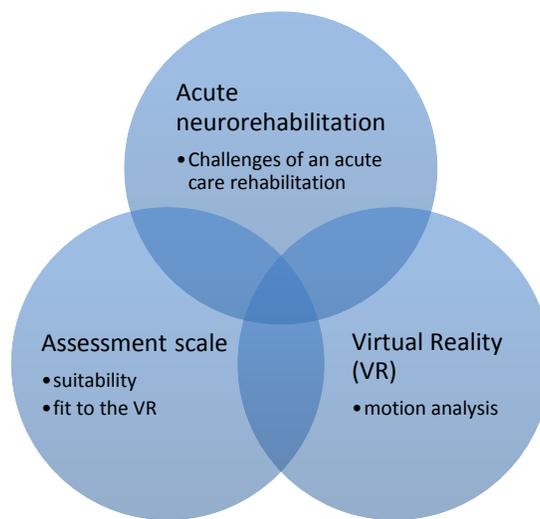
22
23 We would like to integrate VR in conventional stroke rehabilitation which is adapted to the
24
25 conditions and the environment of an acute ward for an unstable stroke patient with cerebral
26
27 reorganization. The platform must adhere to the following conditions during an
28
29
30 investigation/evaluation:
31

- 32
33
34 - Real-time multisensory feedback, especially visual feedback during movement
35
36
37 execution.
- 38
39
40 - Stimulation of a complete plegic arm without confrontation of the patient's incapacity.
- 41
42
43 - Adaption of VR hardware, which can be integrated into an existing environment (i.e.
44
45 patient's room) and requires minimal personal resources.
- 46
47
48 - Training of the movements, which correspond to the patient's deficit and are in
49
50
51 alignment with his individual goals.
- 52
53
54 - Measurement of this individual training program by adapting skill.
- 55
56
57
58
59
60
61

Methodology

As we can find in the Venn diagram, in this following section we tried to identify current difficulties in acute care neurorehabilitation, to verify if the MindMotionPRO platform could be applied in an acute phase of rehabilitation, then we searched for a reliable assessment scale matching with VR motion but also suitable for the acute phase.

Fig.5: Venn diagram integrating the 3 domains:



Acute rehabilitation intervention and needs:

The major issue in the acute phase remains that the patients are very impaired, whether on the motor side or on the cognitive side, so it is required that the tools of rehabilitation suit this kind of patient. They must be physically practical, for example usable at the bedside, but also that utilized exercises are simple and can be shaped to the difficulties of the patient.

In the domain of stroke, there is a vast choice of interventions for motor recovery of patients. They have all proven their efficiency and are commonly used in rehabilitation centers. For the upper limb, the best known are: motor learning, a neuropsychological approach, with

1
2
3
4 essentially the Bobath system, constrain induced movement therapy, repetitive task training,
5
6
7 high-intensity therapy, electrostimulation; mental practice with motor imagery, robotics: a
8
9
10 robotic device allows the patient to repeat a specific task with or without a small intervention
11
12 by a therapist and virtual reality¹⁸.
13

14
15 As mentioned above, all these therapies have already proven their effectiveness and are
16
17 therefore commonly used in acute rehabilitation centers. However, it would be interesting to
18
19
20 integrate several types of approaches with one instrument. With a technical platform, it is
21
22 possible to mix these different therapies to get the best of them (i.e. motor learning, constrain
23
24 induced movements, repetitive task training, high-intensity therapy). Besides, we could
25
26
27 integrate a biofeedback to the rehabilitation.
28
29

30
31 The tools currently used to assess patient's improvement are Nine Hole Peg test, Frenchay arm
32
33 test, Barthel index, FIM and Action Research Arm Test¹⁹. These scales are very necessary for
34
35
36 clinical practice but they are often too inaccurate, evaluating tasks rather than the trained
37
38 motor function directly.
39
40

41 **MindMotionPRO motor training components:**

42
43
44 We could describe in a more detailed manner the movements tested during exercises on
45
46
47 MindMotionPRO device, which are grasping, reaching or pointing, if we dissect these
48
49
50 movements into several stages according to the joints of the upper limb, so we have: shoulder:
51
52
53 abduction, adduction, flexion, extension internal and external rotation; elbow: extension and
54
55
56 flexion; and wrist palmar flexion, dorsiflexion, radial and ulnar deviation, as shown in the table
57
58
59 below (table 1).
60
61

Literature review of outcome measures:

To access the outcomes of post-stroke patients, it is essential to have the most appropriate measurement scale for assessing the trained exercises on the VR platform. As part of the initial assessment process, a literature search was performed.

A literature search was performed using the PubMed and ScienceDirect databases, which included a date range of literature published from 1987 to October 2015. The purpose of the literature search was to become familiar with the existing literature covering the subject of rehabilitation using VR and to identify the appropriate scale for the outcome measurement.

In order to compare outcomes of classical therapies or VR therapy for hemiparetic patients after stroke, it is compulsory to have a specific measurement scale which fits with what we are training. In neurorehabilitation we have a lot of outcomes measurement tools; here we discuss three scales commonly used in rehabilitation centers.

The Frenchay arm test is a specific upper limb test, which assesses the ability to perform a specific task with the paretic limb. Five tasks are rated (1 point when the task is performed completely and 0 points when the patient fails); the total score has a maximum of 5 points. This test has the advantage of being a quick test: when you are a qualified examiner it takes less than 3 minutes to perform it.²⁰ This test was not chosen as it does not evaluate the specific movement trained by the platform.

The Fugl-Meyer is one of the most used scales in neurorehabilitation and is also a very comprehensive test.²¹ We discuss only the part for the upper limb of the FM scale. This part is made-up of 33 domains with a maximum score of 66 points. These domains measure motions of

1
2
3
4 the shoulder, elbow, forearm, wrist, hand, fingers, and grasping. The patients are rated on a
5 scale from 0 points (no active movement) to 2 points (normal movement) for each domain.^{16, 21}
6
7

8
9 The Wolf Motor Function Test (WMFT) quantifies the upper limb movement using timed tasks
10 and functional exercises. In total, 15 timed tasks and 2 strength tasks are used. Exercises 1 to 6
11 evaluate the shoulder and the elbow, tasks 7 and 14 evaluate strength and the other remaining
12 tasks evaluate the arm and the hand with variations in the complexity²². WMFT is a commonly
13 used test, with a good reliability between interraters, with good specificity and validity.
14
15

16
17 After having identified the main difficulties of neurorehabilitation of the upper limb in the acute
18 phase, analyzed in detail the movements trained on the platform, and reviewed literature
19 focused on the 3 outcome measurement tools, we compared these different scales in order to
20 determine the most appropriate evaluation tool to train the upper limb by this VR platform in
21 an acute neurorehabilitation care unit.
22
23

24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 **Results** 38

39
40 After examination of the review of literature, 3 outcome evaluation scales were highlighted;
41 these tools were widely present in the literature.
42
43

44
45 The comparison of these 3 outcome measurement tools were summarized into 2 tables (table 2
46 and table 3). Table 2 compares advantages and disadvantages of the evaluated movements and
47 tasks, verifying if the movements were evaluated simultaneously (in synergy). Table 3 compares
48 the evaluated task and the trained movements induced by this task of these 3 scales.
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61

1
2
3
4 This comparison permitted to analyze that all the tasks and trained movements by the platform
5
6 are tested with the WMFT or with the FM upper limb scale. The FM scale analyzed in a more
7
8 breaking-down manner the motions of the upper limb, especially wrist movements with specific
9
10 domains for it, whereas the WMFT integrated wrist movements in tasks such as stacking pawns,
11
12 returning cards or turning a key in a lock instead of having precise motion domains. The WMFT
13
14 gives a detailed analysis of the movements. Nevertheless, we chose the Fugl-Meyer upper limb
15
16 scale as it evaluates specifically the movements trained by the platform allowing for the
17
18 monitoring of the evolution of the trained motor pattern (velocity, acceleration or time
19
20 reaction).

21
22 An important part of neurorehabilitation is to improve the ADL score of patients as the capacity
23
24 to perform ADL determines autonomy, one of the main conditions to return back to home.
25
26 Therefore, the assessment scale should also make it possible to establish a good correlation
27
28 with ADL improvement. The FM scale has a good correlation (0.75 of correlation coefficient)
29
30 with ADL score; providing a good validity to measure the improvement of the patient's recovery
31
32 after stroke.¹⁶

33
34 Moreover, the FM scale has a great level of responsiveness: when we have an increase in the
35
36 score, it is that we have a clinical improvement. The FM scale has been correlated with the
37
38 Functional Independence Measure (FIM). We can see an increase in both scales: when we have
39
40 a 24 points increase in the FIM, we have a 10-point increase in the FM scale. As a result,
41
42 improvement in motor function is associated with a significant functional recovery (E. Black et
43
44 al.)¹⁶.

1
2
3
4 In addition, the test has shown a good reliability between rated patients, but also when we are
5
6
7 changing the rater therapist for the same patient.¹⁶
8
9

10 11 **Discussion** 12

13
14 The evaluation of the feasibility of the VR platform showed that it can be easily used in the
15
16 acute phase of neurorehabilitation, especially as it can be brought directly to the bedside of the
17
18 patient. Furthermore, the exercises which it proposes adapt themselves easily to the deficit of
19
20 the patients; although the platform presents basic motions, they have already proved their
21
22 efficiency for a long time.
23
24
25

26
27 The review of literature identified three scales to be the most appropriated to fulfill the
28
29 challenges of neurorehabilitation during the very acute phase by virtual reality. Finally the
30
31 detailed comparison of these three tests concerning the task-specific movement trained by the
32
33 platform permits to argument the choice of FM as the proposed assessment scale to evaluate
34
35 the effect of VR training by MindMotionPRO Virtual Reality. The excellent quality of this test, its
36
37 good validity, sensitivity, responsiveness, reliability and its good correlation with ADL, have
38
39 already been known for a long time. However, little research has confronted the VR and this
40
41 scale.
42
43
44
45
46
47

48
49 Furthermore, this scale, by its relatively simple and basic motion assessment, can easily adapt
50
51 itself to an interpretation in an acute phase with very impaired patients. One of the only
52
53 current constraints would be the time which it takes to be realized and could not be used
54
55 necessarily daily in clinical neurorehabilitation.
56
57
58
59
60
61

1
2
3
4 In summary, we can say that the FM scale suits the VR platform very well corresponding to the
5
6 conditions of an appropriate program of neurorehabilitation of the upper limb during the very
7
8 acute phase.
9

10
11
12 A further study has been started to validate the pertinence of the choice of the assessment
13
14 scale in correlating the kinematic measurement tool integrated in the platform and correlation
15
16 of the ADL measurement.
17
18
19
20
21

22 **Conclusion**

23
24
25 VR in medical applications, and especially in neurorehabilitation, is expanding really fast. It is
26
27 important to have a very good platform, which is easy to use for the patient and also the
28
29 therapist. We know that patients need something that entertains, stimulates, and challenges
30
31 them to have good and fast improvement; all those skills are totally achievable with the
32
33 MindMotionPRO platform.
34
35
36

37
38 The MindMotionPRO platform for the moment is still in the trial phase, but the analysis of
39
40 feasibility showed that it can be included in neurorehabilitation of the upper limb of patients in
41
42 the acute and post-acute phases of stroke. Accordingly, we need an efficient tool in order to
43
44 evaluate the patient's motor recovery with the most accurate method..
45
46
47

48
49 In conclusion, we can say that VR has the potential of providing new assessment scales, with
50
51 precise measures of velocity and/or reaction time; as well as the ability to give a more precise
52
53 shaping of therapy, with personalized exercises and goals for each patient, which can be
54
55 adapted in function of previous measures of motion (velocity, acceleration, stability).
56
57
58
59
60
61

Tables:

Table 1: MindMotionPRO exercises description and primary movements;

Exercises	Rehabilitation activity	Primary movements (X: used, and N: non-used)						
		<i>Shoulder Flexion</i>	<i>Shoulder Abd-Adduction</i>	<i>Shoulder Int-Ext. Rotation</i>	<i>Elbow Flexion</i>	<i>Elbow Extension</i>	<i>Wrist palmar flexion, dorsiflexion</i>	<i>radial and ulnar deviation</i>
Reach	Reaching from midline start pad to targets distributed across table height	X	X	X	X	X	N	N
Reach-Hand	Reaching from midline start pad to elevated disc and then placing disc on targets distributed across table height	X	X	X	X	X	N	N
Grasp	Pointing from midline start pad to elevated targets distributed across shoulder height	X	X	X	X	X	N	N
Grasp-Hand	Point-hand game in an evolved environment	X	X	X	X	X	N	X
Point	Pointing from midline start pad to elevated targets distributed across shoulder height	X	X	X	X	X	N	N
Point-Hand	Point-hand game in an evolved environment	N	X	X	N	N	X	X
FruitChamp	Point-hand game in an evolved environment	X	X	X	X	X	N	X

Table 2: Comparative of the 3 outcome measurement tools:

Scales	tasks performed	Synergy	Advantages	Disadvantages
Frenchay arm test	Stabilize a ruler, draw a straight line, grasp a cylinder and lift it, comb his hair, drink a glass of water, and open a cloth peg.	There are no exercise permitting to evaluate an isolated movement. The movements are evaluated in the form of tasks.	It can be done quickly (approx. 3 min). It shows a good validity.	It evaluates tasks but not specific movements. The scale has a maximum of 5 points, and rating is pass or fail, by giving 0 or 1 point to each task. It demonstrates a limited sensitivity.
Fugl-Meyer upper limb	Shoulder: abduction, adduction, elevation, retraction pro/supination. Elbow: flexion, extension. Forearm: pro/supination. Wrist: flexion extension. Hand: grasp, flexion and extension of mass fingers.	The movements are measured in synergy with exercises evaluating a movement (such as flexor synergy item), but also with targeted exercises.	Made of 33 domains to be more precise. Rating by 0,1 or 2 each task with a maximum score of 66 points. It has a good validity, sensitivity, responsiveness and reliability. We have a good correlation between ADL and Fugl-Meyer scale.	Take some time to be done, approximately 25 minutes. Due to its complexity, it requires a trained therapist.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

Wolf Motor Function Test	Put forearms on the table (laterally), put forearm on the box (laterally), extension of the elbow (lateral), extension of the elbow (lateral) with weight, put the hand on the table (face), then on the box (face), put weight on the box, pull the weight, take a can, keep a pencil, pick up a paper clip, stack pawns, return cards, grip strength, turn a key in a lock, fold a towel, raise a basket.	There are few exercises allowing to evaluate an isolated motion. Most exercises worked with many movements.	The combination of motions assessment but also functional tasks and evaluation of the strength; many tasks are timed. It rates every task by 0 to 5 points (evaluation of the gestural quality), with a maximum score of 75 points. It also has good interrater reliability and validity.	Takes approximately 30 to 45 minutes. Due to its complexity, it requires a training of the therapist before performing it with patients. Needs a lot of material (standardized table, towel, basket, can, pen, paper clip, lock, key). Evaluation of too many tasks compared to specific movements.
---------------------------------	---	---	---	--

Table 3: Primary movements of the 3 motor assessment scales:

Scales	Tasks	primary movements (X: used and N: non-used)						
		<i>Shoulder Flexion</i>	<i>Shoulder Abd-Adduction</i>	<i>Shoulder Int-Ext. Rotation</i>	<i>Elbow Flexion</i>	<i>Elbow Extension</i>	<i>Wrist palmar flexion, dorsiflexion</i>	<i>radial and ulnar deviation</i>
Frenchay Arm Test	stabilize a ruler	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	draw a straight line	N	X	N	N	N	N	N
	grasp a cylinder and lift it	X	N	N	N	N	N	N
	comb his hair	X	N	N	X	N	N	X
	drink a glass of water	X	N	N	X	N	N	X
	open a cloth peg	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Wolf Motor Function Test	Put forearm on the table (laterally)	N	X	N	X	N	N	N
	Put forearm on the box (laterally)	N	X	N	N	N	N	N
	Extension of the elbow (lateral)	N	N	X	N	X	N	N
	Extension of the elbow (lateral) with weight	N	N	X	N	X	N	N
	Put the hand on the table (face)	X	N	N	X	X	N	N
	Put the hand on the box (face)	X	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Put weight on the box	X	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Pull the weight	N	N	X	X	N	N	N
	Lift a can	X	N	N	X	X	N	X
Lift a pencil	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

	Pick up a paper clip	X	N	N	X	X	N	N
	Stack pawns	X	N	N	N	X	X	X
	Return cards	X	X	N	X	X	X	X
	Turn a key in a lock	X	N	N	N	X	X	X
	Fold a towel	X	X	N	X	X	N	N
	Raise a basket	X	X	X	X	X	X	N
Fugl-Meyer Upper Limb	Flexor synergy	X	N	N	X	N	N	N
	Extensor synergy	N	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Hand to lumbar spine	X	X	X	X	N	N	N
	Shoulder flexion 0°-90°	X	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Forearm pro-supination	N	N	N	X	N	N	N
	Shoulder abduction 0°90°	N	X	N	N	X	N	N
	Shoulder flexion 90°-180°	X	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Pro-supination	X	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Wrist repeated dorsi-palmar flexion	N	N	N	X	N	X	N
	Circumduction	N	N	N	X	X	X	X
	Hand mass flexion	N	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Hand mass extension	N	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Flexion in PIP and DIP, extension in MCP	N	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Thumb adduction	N	N	N	N	X	N	N
	Opposition	N	N	N	N	X	N	N
Cylinder grip	N	N	N	N	X	N	N	
Spherical grip	N	N	N	N	X	N	N	

1
2
3
4 **Figure legend :**
5

6
7 fig.1 : MindMotionPRO Virtual Reality based neurorehabilitation system.
8
9

10 Fig.2 : 3D virtual environment from an elevated first-person perspective, with the 4 motions
11
12 (point, reach, grasp, cut fruits).
13
14

15 Fig.3: Mirror mapping: (a) The midline of the body is defined and the movements of the two
16
17 arms are reversed with respect to the mid-sagittal plane, (b) Mirroring of position: Right-hand
18
19 movements towards the right correspond to left-hand movements. (c) Mirroring of rotation:
20
21 Clockwise right-hand movements correspond to counter- clockwise left-hand movements.
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

30
31 **References**
32

33 ¹ WHO 2014, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs310/en/>
34

35 ² A Sunderland, D Tinson, L Bradley, and R L Hewer, Arm function after stroke. An evaluation of grip strength as a
36
37 measure of recovery and a prognostic indicator. *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry* 52: 1267-
38
39 1272, 1989
40

41 ³ Katherine Salter, B. A., B. A. Mark Hartley, and BASc Norine Foley, Impact of early vs delayed admission to
42
43 rehabilitation on functional outcomes in persons with stroke. *J Rehabil Med* 38.113Á/117 (2006).
44
45

46 ⁴ Y. J. Kang, H. K. Park, H. J. Kim, T. Lim, J. Ku, S. Cho, S. I. Kim, and E. S. Park. Upper extremity rehabilitation of
47
48 stroke: facilitation of corticospinal excitability using virtual mirror paradigm. *Journal of neuroengineering and*
49
50 *rehabilitation*, 9(1):71, Jan. 2012.
51
52

53 ⁵ Roth et al., Delay in Transfer to Inpatient Stroke Rehabilitation: The Role of Acute Hospital Medical Complications
54
55 and Stroke Characteristics, *Top Stroke Rehabil* 2007;14(1):57–64
56
57
58
59
60
61

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

⁶ Krakauer, J. W. The applicability of motor learning to neurorehabilitation. *Oxford Textbook of Neurorehabilitation*, 55-63, 2015.

⁷ Leon NI, Bhatt SK et al., Augmented reality game based multi-usage rehabilitation therapist for stroke patient, *International journal of smart sensing and intelligent system*, 2014

⁸ Maclean N, Pound P, Wolfe C, Rudd A, critical review of the concept of patient motivation in the literature on physical rehabilitation. *Soc Sci Med* 2000, 50:495–506.

⁹ Cameirao MS, Badia SB et al., Neurorehabilitation using the virtual reality based rehabilitation gaming system: methodology, design, psychometrics, usability and validation, *Journal of Neuroengineering and Rehabilitation*, 2010.

¹⁰ C. J. Bohil, B. Alicea, and F. A. Biocca. Virtual reality in neuroscience research and therapy. *Nature reviews neuroscience*, 12(12):752{762, 2011.

¹¹ M. K. Holden. Virtual environments for motor rehabilitation: Review. *Cyberpsychology & behavior*, 8(3):187{211, 2005.

¹² Merian As., Tunik E., Adamovich Sv. Virtual Reality to Maximize Function for Hand and Arm Rehabilitation: Exploration of Neural Mechanisms. *Studies in health technology and informatics*. 2009;145:109-125.

¹³ Laver KE, George S, Thomas S, Deutsch JE, Crotty M, Virtual reality for stroke rehabilitation (Review), *The Cochrane Collaboration*, 2015

¹⁴ D. Gourlay, K.C. Lun , Y.N. Lee, J. Tay, Virtual reality for relearning daily living skills, *International Journal of Medical Informatics* 60, 255–261, 2000.

¹⁵ Jang Han Lee et al, A Virtual Reality System for the Assessment and Rehabilitation of the Activities of Daily Living, *CYBERPSYCHOLOGY & BEHAVIOR* Volume 6, Number 4, 2003

¹⁶ David J. Gladstone, Cynthia J. Danells, and Sandra E. Black, The Fugl-Meyer Assessment of Motor Recovery after Stroke: A Critical Review of Its Measurement Properties, *Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair* 16(3); 2002.

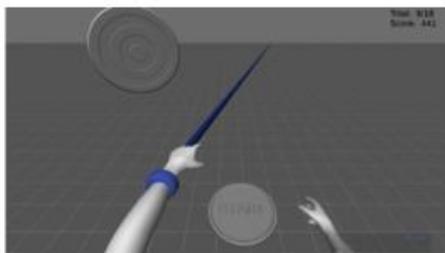
-
- 1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
- ¹⁷ L. Oujamaaa, I. Relavea, J. Frogera, D. Mottet, J.-Y. Pelissiera, Rehabilitation of arm function after stroke. Literature review, *Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine*, 52, 269–293, 2009.
- ¹⁸ Peter Langhorne, Fiona Coupar, Alex Pollock, Motor recovery after stroke: a systematic review, *Lancet Neurol* 2009; 8: 741–54.
- ¹⁹ M.-C. Gellez-Leman , F. Colle, I. Bonan, N. Bradai, A. Yelnik, Evaluation of the disabilities of hemiplegic patients, *Annales de réadaptation et de médecine physique* 48, 361–368, 2005.
- ²⁰ Heller et al., Arm function after stroke: measurement and recovery over the first three months, *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry*, 50:714-719, 1987.
- ²¹ Bushnell et al., Chronic Stroke Outcome Measures for Motor Function Intervention Trials Expert Panel Recommendations, *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*. 2015; 8: S163-S169
- ²² E. Bürge, D. Kupper, M. Badan Bâ, B. Leemann, A. Berchtold, Qualities of a French version of the Wolf Motor Function Test: A multicenter study, *Annals of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine* 56, 288–299, 2013.

Figures :

1)



2)



POINT



REACH



GRASP



PLAY

3)

