

DRY NEEDLING FOR ATHLETES AND ACTIVE ADULTS

Understanding Neuroinflammation and the Autonomic Nervous System in Exercise



Dr. Nick Sanders PT, DPT, CIDN, CSCS
Integrative Dry Needling Institute



1

Before we start

- Please keep muted during the lecture portion of presentation- we will have discussion times after the lectures.
- BUT, if you have a question during the lecture just use the raise your hand feature on your tool bar under reactions.
- We are tracking the time you are on the zoom and may need to report that to the licensure board if you are audited. Please stay on the zoom the entire time to get the full credit of the course. We will have short breaks!
- You will be required to take and pass a short quiz that we will complete at the end of this webinar.
- The final task will be to do a course evaluation- upon completion it will release the course completion certificate with your CEU hours on it.

Anything else before we start?



2

Today

- **Lecture 1. Introduction of neuro-inflammation and exercise.**
 - Introducing a neuro-inflammatory model
 - The role of pain in movement
 - Factors involved in overtraining.
 - The inflammatory effects of exercise.
 - What is inflammation?
 - What happens with inflammation when we exercise.
 - What happens with DOMS.

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3

Today

- **Lecture 2. Assess Dry Needling Dosage in Sport**
 - What happens with inflammation when we needle.
 - How can we better assess how someone will respond to needling.
 - QST testing
 - Other methods of assessing for overtraining syndrome.
- **Lecture 3. Applying DN and other techniques to exercise specific applications.**
 - Performance, General recovery, Tendinopathy, Sprains / Strains Etc.

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4

Today

• Case Review

- Similar to the foundation course we will go into breakout groups and review 6 different cases.
- You will have a chance to answer the questions you have been provide by email.
- We will present them and discuss our thoughts as we work through the case from there.

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5

Understanding Exercise and Inflammation

Lecture 1: Introduction of neuro-inflammation in exercise, the effects on the peripheral and central nervous systems.



Nick Sanders PT, DPT, CSCS, CIDN

6

Exercise, DN, and Inflammation

- Why do we care about exercise and inflammation?
- What happens when we exercise? When we dry needle?
- What effect does inflammation have on the peripheral and central nervous systems.
- How can we make decisions on DN and manual therapies for exercise recovery and performance.



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7

Nick Sanders

PT, DPT, CSCS, CIDN



- Co-Creator of Neuro Release Treatment Course
- Integrative Dry Needling.
- Owner PHYT For Function LLC.
 - › Cash Based Clinic in Hudson, OH.
 - › Adjunct Professor Youngstown State University 2017
- Certified Integrative Dry Needling with Dr. Frank Gargano 2012.
- Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist Through The National Strength and Conditioning Association
- Continuing Education
 - › Mulligan Manual Therapy, SFMA, Blood Flow Restriction, Postural Restoration Institute, Original Strength

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8

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Can we make this work?

- Yes
- No
- all of the above
- None of the above


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Respond at pollev.com/nicksanders626
 Text NICKSANDERS626 to 22333 once to join, then A, B, C, or D

How much dry needling experience do you have?

- I have not done any dry needling **A**
- I have taken courses but I have not treated a patient **B**
- I am just starting with dry needling **C**
- I have significant dry needling experience **D**

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10

Which topics/ questions would you most like answered during this presentation?

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11

Introductions:

Tell us who you are, where you're from, what you do, and goals / questions you hope to get answered with the presentation.

12

Why do we care about exercise and inflammation?

Inflammation linked from performance gains to chronic disease and everything in-between.

Inflammation is how we heal but it's also one of the main triggers for nociceptor excitation, involved in the transition from acute to chronic pain, and implicated in many disease conditions.

13

13

The Problem.

It's challenging to differentiate the positive healing and growth aspects of inflammation vs. the negative consequences that lead to chronic long term pain problems and how we as therapists play a role.

14

14



15

15

What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?

What role does pain play in movement quality. DOMS vs. Injury.

16

16

NEURO-INFLAMMATION AND MOVEMENT QUALITY

17



Sethi 2016

18

MOVEMENT TRAINING

STRUCTURAL THEORY CAMP

- ▶ Tissue damage guides treatment
 - ▶ High tech imaging and diagnosis specific
- ▶ Focus on tight vs weak muscles.
- ▶ Correction of tissue structure and position.
- ▶ SFMA, PRI, Janda etc...

PAIN SCIENCE CAMP

- ▶ Focuses on perception of pain
- ▶ Less focused on the diagnosis specific
- ▶ Focus on moving in a pain free manner, mindfulness, education
- ▶ Posture less important
- ▶ www.painscience.com

19

MOVEMENT TRAINING

WHAT CAUSES CHANGE IN MOVEMENT?

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ▶ Acute Injury | ▶ Lifestyle Adaptations |
| ▶ Previous Injury | ▶ Training Adaptations |
| ▶ Pain Protection theories | ▶ Perception of movement. |
| ▶ Nerve Tension | ▶ Learned Patterns |
| | ▶ Avoidance |

20

WHERE THE TWO CAMPS START TO COME TOGETHER

A Neuro-Inflammatory Approach to Pain and Movement

21

KNEE OA EXAMPLE

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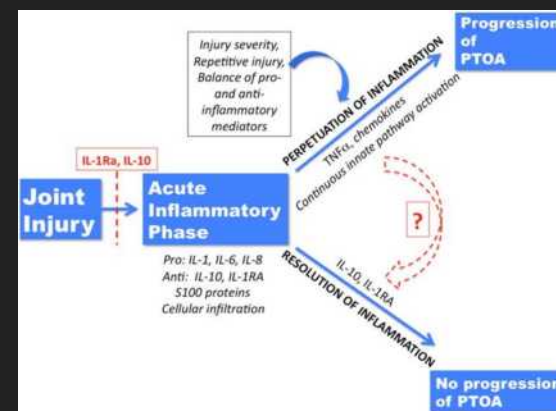
STRUCTURAL THEORY CAMP

- ▶ Mechanical Loading
- ▶ Obesity drives increased strain on knee.

NEURO-INFLAMMATORY CAMP

- ▶ Metabolic and inflammatory components.
- ▶ Endocrine and metabolic effects of adipose tissue.

23



24

Table 1**Important features of the inflammatory response after joint injury supported by human and animal models of PTOA**

Feature	References
Signs of inflammation occur early after joint injury.	9 , 11 , 12
Inflammation is sustained at lower levels.	11 , 18
Patterns of inflammation change with time after injury.	20 , 21
The extent/severity of the initial injury influences severity of synovial inflammation.	10 , 23
Multiple joint tissues and cell types contribute to inflammation after injury.	27 , 30
Inflammation can occur even in the absence of joint instability.	35-37
Inflammation contributes to cartilage damage and pain responses after joint injury.	45 , 54
Certain aspects of post-injury inflammation may be protective and important for repair.	13 , 88
Inflammation is a modifiable feature of PTOA.	30 , 38

Lieberthal 2015 PMID: 26521728

25

LOCAL AND SYSTEMIC FACTORS IN INFLAMMATION

Just as local inflammatory networks have been shown to play a role in osteoarthritis pathogenesis, systemic factors have also been implicated, and the strongest influence appears to be obesity. Obesity has long been recognized as a risk factor for OA [62]. While some of the risk may be due to increased joint loading, the association of obesity with the development of OA in non-weight bearing joints suggests that other mechanisms are involved [63]. The systemic effect of obesity on OA development is believed to be mediated, in part, by inflammatory substances (free fatty acids, reactive oxygen species cytokines and adipokines) produced by adipose tissue which can be released into the bloodstream [64]. Specific adipokines such as the molecules leptin and adiponectin have inflammatory and catabolic influences on joint tissues [65].

Lieberthal 2015 PMID: 26521728

26



- Increasing obesity/adiposity results in an environment of low-grade systemic inflammation that contributes to an increase in inflammation in OA.
- The infrapatellar fat pad behaves differently compared with other adipose tissues and stimulates local inflammation in OA.
- The emerging role of adipose-derived inflammation highlights potential therapeutic targets for OA disease modification.

27

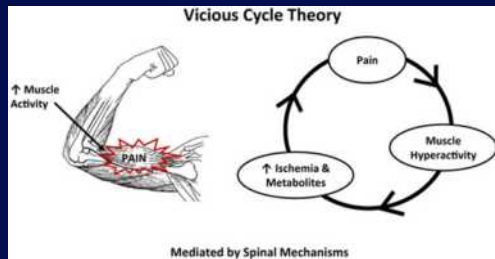
What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?**4 Theories on pain and movement.**

Merkle, 2020. PMID: 30025839

28

28

What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?



Increased muscle activation / guarding leads to energy crisis, Increased pain sensitization, and further guarding.

Merkle, 2020. PMID: 30025839

29

What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?

Strength Inhibition theory.

- General demonstration of peak force in the presence of pain.
- Inhibition vs. pain guarding?

Merkle, 2020. PMID: 30025839

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What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?



- Increased antagonist firing.
- Decreased agonist firing.

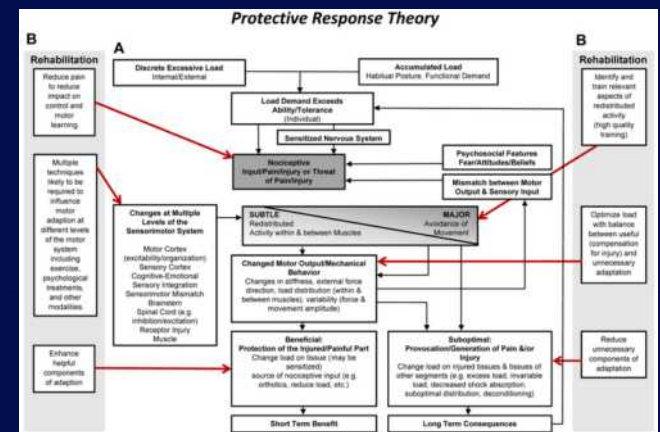
Merkle, 2020. PMID: 30025839

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What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?

- A = Motor adaptations to pain.
- B= Rehabilitation
- Some level of sensorimotor change.

Merkle, 2020. PMID: 30025839



32

What is the role of pain/nociception in movement quality?

- **“Motor output is highly adaptable, can be influenced by multiple mechanisms at various levels along the nervous system, and may vary between individuals despite similar diagnoses.”**

Merkle, 2020. PMID: 30025839

33

33

Summary

Movement quality and illness are not just mechanical constructs.

We must consider the chemical and nervous system impacts of disease and health.

34

34

Exercise and Fatigue

35

35

Fatigue and Injury Risk

Peripheral and central fatigue mechanisms have been potentially linked to injury risk

(Abstract only)

“Acute fatigue can decrease single leg postural control, decrease ankle joint position sense, decrease isokinetic strength of hamstring and quadriceps muscles and can affect isokinetic hamstring:quadriceps ratios.”

“altered injury risk profile for lateral ankle sprain, patellofemoral pain syndrome and hamstring injuries.”

[Review](#) > Sports Med. 2020 Apr;50(4):767-784. doi: 10.1007/s40279-019-01235-1.

Does Acute Fatigue Negatively Affect Intrinsic Risk Factors of the Lower Extremity Injury Risk Profile? A Systematic and Critical Review

Jo Verschueren ¹, Bruno Tassinon ¹, Kevin De Pauw ^{1,2}, Matthias Proost ¹, Amber Taegels ¹, Jeroen Van Cutsem ¹, Bart Roelands ¹, Evert Verhaagen ³, Rommelt Meeusen ^{4,5}

[Affiliations](#) + [expand](#)

PMID: 31782066 DOI: 10.1007/s40279-019-01235-1

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Verschueren, 2020. PMID: 31782066

36

36

Fatigue and Injury Risk

Peripheral and central fatigue mechanisms have been potentially linked to injury risk

24 male athletes with and without CLBP

Measured Total Reaction Time, Premotor time, and electromechanical delay before and after fatigue



Abdollahi, 2022. PMID: 36284126

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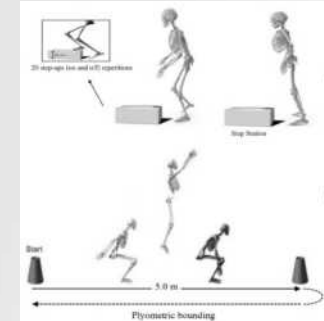


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Fatigue and Injury Risk

4 minute fatigue protocol

20 Step ups + 5 meter bounds. As many rounds as possible in 4 minutes.



Abdollahi, 2022. PMID: 36284126

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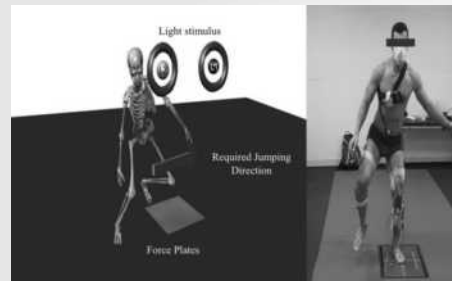
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Fatigue and Injury Risk

Data Obtained with simultaneous Ground Reaction Force and Muscle EMG.

Primary findings was that the CLBP had longer TRT in plantar plantar flexors and knee flexion groups after fatted. PMT was longer in vastus laterals, vastus medialis, semimembranosus, and medial gastrocnemius

n athletes with CLBP, longer PMT and TRT may be related to compromised spinal and/or supraspinal pathways due to injury that may affect timing to unexpected events. If so, these results may provide insight into potentially injurious loading strategies during maneuvers



Abdollahi, 2022. PMID: 36284126

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39

Fatigue and Injury Risk

"In athletes with CLBP, longer PMT and TRT may be related to compromised spinal and/or supraspinal pathways due to injury that may affect timing to unexpected events. If so, these results may provide insight into potentially injurious loading strategies during maneuvers"

Abdollahi, 2022. PMID: 36284126

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40

Fatigue and ACL

Life (Basel). 2021 May; 11(5): 443. PMID: PMC8157175
Published online 2021 May 14; doi: 10.3390/life11050443 PMID: 34069060

Does Compression Sensory Axonopathy in the Proximal Tibia Contribute to Noncontact Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury in a Causative Way?—A New Theory for the Injury Mechanism

Balázs Sonkodi,^{1,*} Rita Bardoni,² László Hangody,³ Zsolt Radák,⁴ and István Berkes¹

Stéphane Pallu, Academic Editor and Hugues Portier, Academic Editor

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Sonkodi, 2021. PMID: 34069060



41

Fatigue and ACL

“Athletes seem to be at the greatest risk for NC-ACL injury towards the end of half-time, at the finishing of games and at season end [28]. Furthermore, we could learn from reported ski accidents that close to one third of ACL injuries happen at the first day of skiing and 57% within the first two days [29]. Not to mention the ‘one last run’ and ‘last hour’ ski related ACL injuries. The above mentioned implies that unaccustomed and strenuous fatiguing eccentric exercise, e.g., skiing is a typical one, could increase the risk of NC-ACL injury, as we could see in DOMS inducing exercises. Accordingly, the current authors are proposing that NC-ACL injuries happen under a cognitive demand derived acute stress reaction (ASR) when insufficient force production is unacceptable in unaccustomed and strenuous fatiguing eccentric exercise moments [27,30].”

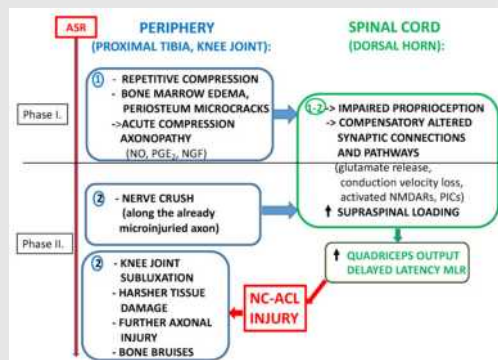
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Sonkodi, 2021. PMID: 34069060



42

Fatigue and ACL



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Sonkodi, 2021. PMID: 34069060



43

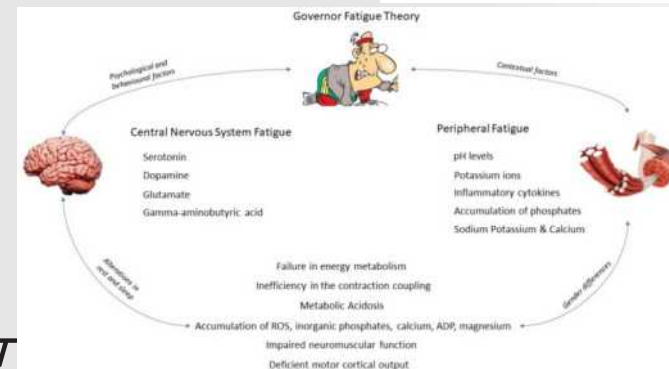
Fatigue and Injury Risk

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2022 Apr; 19(7): 3908. PMID: PMC8987532
Published online 2022 Mar 25; doi: 10.3390/ijerph19073908

Central and Peripheral Fatigue in Physical Exercise Explained: A Narrative Review

José Francisco Torres-Aguilar,^{1,2} Jorge Jarama-Morales,¹ Alexander Rubio-Zarapua,^{1,2} and Vicente J. Clemente-Suñer,^{1,2,3,*}

Paul B. Tchounwou, Academic Editor



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44

Exercise and Fatigue Thought Points.

What is fatigue actually?

- Chemical, Neural, and Mechanical factors.
- How do we train it?
 - o Adding cognitive or distractive tasks to activities.
 - o Getting used to inflammation?
- What can we do to recover?
 - o Sleep, nutrition, lymphatic work

45

45

Inflammation and Overtraining.

46

46

The Multiple Components of Overtraining.

J Sports Med (Hindawi Publ Corp). 2020; 2020: 3937819.
Published online 2020 Apr 22; doi: [10.1155/2020/3937819](https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/3937819)

PMCID: PMC7193300
PMID: 32373644

Diagnosis of Overtraining Syndrome: Results of the Endocrine and Metabolic Responses on Overtraining Syndrome Study: EROS-DIAGNOSIS

Flavio Adsuara Cadegiani,¹ Pedro Henrique Luiz da Silva, Tatiana Camargo Pereira Abrao, and Claudio Elias Kater

• Author information • Article notes • Copyright and License information • Disclaimer

Chronic insufficient energy availability and the depletion of repair mechanisms lead to multiple dysfunctional adaptations in hormonal, immune, inflammatory, and metabolic pathways and ultimately to the clinical manifestations of OTS

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Cadegiani, 2020. PMID: 32373644

47

47

Components of Overtraining.

J Sports Health | SAGE

Sports Health, 2022 Sep-Oct; 14(5): 665-673.
Published online 2021 Sep 8; doi: [10.1177/19417381211046728](https://doi.org/10.1177/19417381211046728)

PMCID: PMC9460078
PMID: 34496702

Diagnosing Overtraining Syndrome: A Scoping Review

Justin Carrard, MD,¹ Anne-Catherine Riepert, BSc,² Christian Appenzeller-Herzog, PhD,³ Elora Colledge, PhD,⁴ Karsten Königsmann, MD,⁵ Timo Hentsche, MD,⁶ and Arno Schmidt-Trucksäss, MD⁷

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“The diversity of the tools and biomarkers identified in the present work highlights the fact that OTS affects multiple body systems”

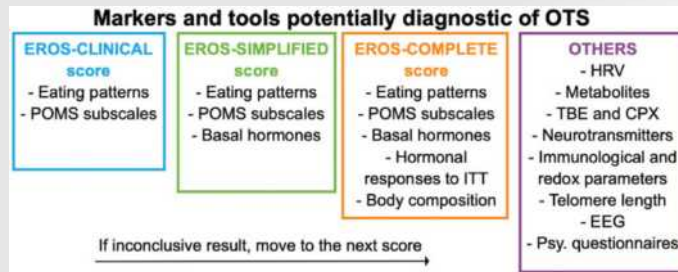
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Carrard, 2022. PMID: 34496702

48

48

Components of Overtraining.



Carrard, 2022. PMID: 34496702

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49

Sympathetic Nervous System, Macrophages, and Joint Pain



"The severity of joint inflammation correlates with the degree of synovial macrophages infiltration, and depletion of these macrophages has a profound therapeutic benefit"

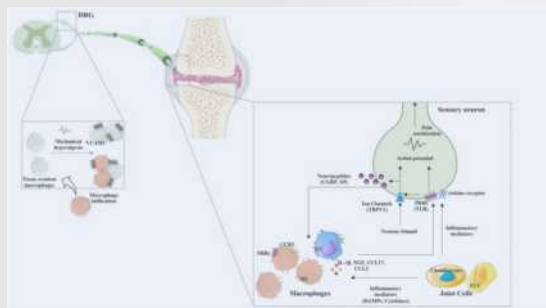
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50

Muscle Guarding and the nervous system

- Inflammatory mediators & macrophages have an effect on the joint cells.
- Triggers an action potential from nociceptors in the joint.
- Nociceptive signaling through the dorsal root ganglion to the brain.
- Sympathetic nervous system release CGRP and SP
- CGRP and SP tend to be vasodilators.
- Triggers increased macrophage infiltration.
- Repeat the cycle.



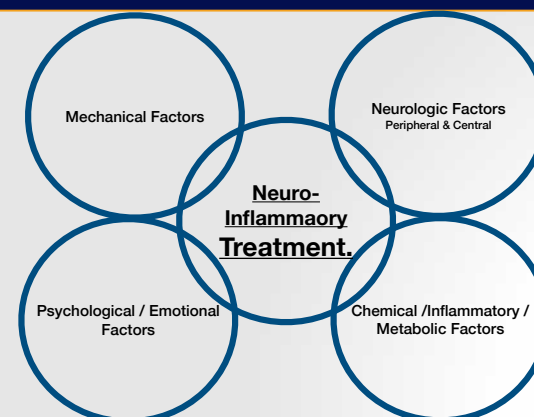
Vasconcelos DP 2022. PMID 35355986

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51

A Neuro-Inflammatory Approach.



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52

What barriers, limitations, or challenges would you consider to a neuroinflammatory model?

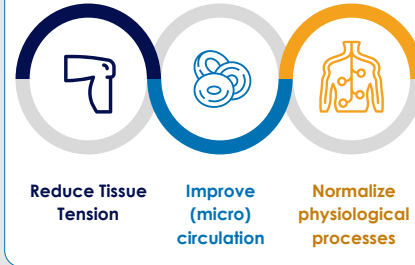
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53

Goals of the Neuro-Release Technique

Reduce pain, restore movement, and improve functional activities.



• The effects of the 720o neurological approach can be:

- › Local
- › Segmental
- › Systemic

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54

54

Discussion:

Questions?

- If you are not already using a neurologic approach how would do you see this fitting into your current model?
- What barriers do you anticipate?
- What limitations do you expect?

55

Everybody do this.....



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56

56

What are the inflammatory effects of exercise?

1. What is Inflammation
2. Relationship to pain
3. Local effects at the muscle.
4. Systemic peripheral effects of exercise.
5. Central nervous system effects

57

57

What is Inflammation?

Inflammation is the immune system's response to harmful stimuli, such as pathogens, damaged cells, toxic compounds, or irradiation [1], and acts by removing injurious stimuli and initiating the healing process [2]. Inflammation is therefore a defense mechanism that is vital to health [3]

Chen 2018

58

58

What's in the mix?

Inflammatory cytokines (release my immune cells: Monocytes, lymphocytes, macrophages).

- Modulate the immune response pro and anti inflammatory cytokines.
- Commonly researched
 - IL-6 pro-inflammation
 - IL-10 anti-inflammation

Table 2
Summary of cytokines and their functions

Cytokine	Family	Main sources	Function
IL-1β	IL-1	Macrophages, monocytes	Pro-inflammation, proliferation, apoptosis, differentiation
IL-4	IL-4	T _H cells	Anti-inflammation, T cell and B cell proliferation, B cell differentiation
IL-6	IL-6	Macrophages, T cells, adipocyte	Pro-inflammation, differentiation, cytokine production
IL-8	CXC	Macrophages, epithelial cells, endothelial cells	Pro-inflammation, chemotaxis, angiogenesis
IL-10	IL-10	Monocytes, T cells, B cells	Anti-inflammation, inhibition of the pro-inflammatory cytokines
IL-12	IL-12	Dendritic cells, macrophages, neutrophils	Pro-inflammation, cell differentiation, activates NK cell
IL-11	IL-6	Fibroblasts, neurons, epithelial cells	Anti-inflammation, differentiation, induces acute phase protein
TNF-α	TNF	Macrophages, NK cells, CD4 ⁺ lymphocytes, adipocyte	Pro-inflammation, cytokine production, cell proliferation, apoptosis, anti-infection
IFN-γ	IFN	T cells, NK cells, NKT cells	Pro-inflammation, innate, adaptive immunity anti-viral
GM-CSF	IL-4	T cells, macrophages, fibroblasts	Pro-inflammation, macrophage activation, increase neutrophil and monocyte function
TGF-β	TGF	Macrophages, T cells	Anti-inflammation, inhibition of pro-inflammatory cytokine production

Chen 2018

59

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What's in the mix?

Other Inflammatory Markers

- Antioxidative defense systems.
- Reduce oxidative stress products that could trigger and growth, gene expression, and increased inflammatory cytokines.

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Chen 2018

60

60

What's in the mix?

- Inflammatory Proteins and Enzymes
 - C Reactive Protein
 - Haptoglobin, serum amyloid A, Fibrinogen, Alpha 1-acid glycoprotein.
- Help restore homeostasis and reduce microbial growth independent of antibodies.

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Chen 2018



61

Defining Pain.

“An unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with, or resembling that associated with, actual or potential tissue damage,”



- Pain is always a personal experience that is influenced to varying degrees by biological, psychological, and social factors.
- Pain and nociception are different phenomena. Pain cannot be inferred solely from activity in sensory neurons.
- Through their life experiences, individuals learn the concept of pain.
- A person's report of an experience as pain should be respected.
- Although pain usually serves an adaptive role, it may have adverse effects on function and social and psychological well-being.
- Verbal description is only one of several behaviors to express pain; inability to communicate does not negate the possibility that a human or a nonhuman animal experiences pain.

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Defining Sensitization.

Sensitization

- Increased responsiveness of nociceptive neurons to their normal input, and/or recruitment of a response to normally subthreshold inputs.



Peripheral Sensitization

- Increased responsiveness and reduced threshold of nociceptive neurons in the periphery to the stimulation of their receptive fields.

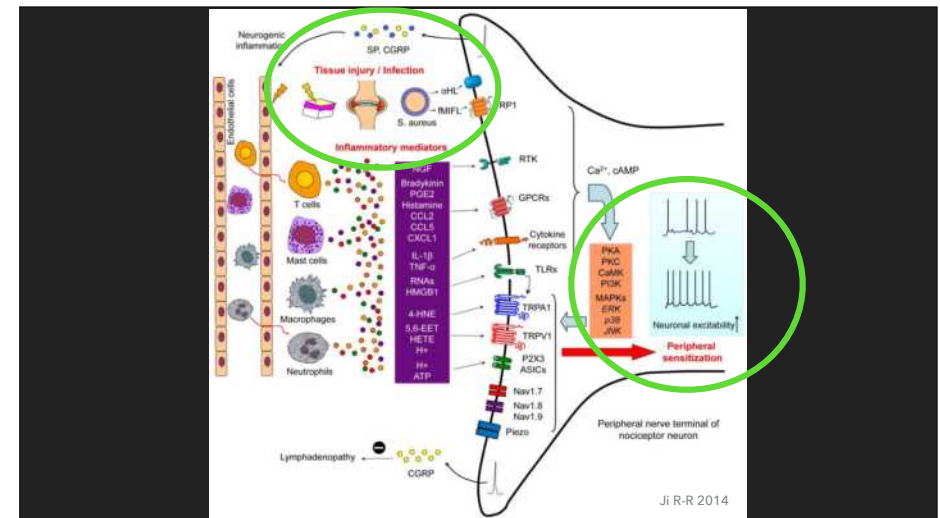
Central Sensitization.

- Increased responsiveness of nociceptive neurons in the central nervous system to their normal or subthreshold afferent input.

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63



Ji R-R 2014

64

Personal Thought Summary.

Nociception = increased neuronal excitability.
There are peripheral and central mechanisms.

Pain = How your brain interprets that information as a threat.

65

65

Inflammation and Exercise Induced Muscle Damage

- Local
 - Pro inflammatory cytokines IL-6 and TNF
 - First 24 hours with a second wave several days into recovery.
- Systemic
 - Leukocytes elevated not only in the exercised muscle but also in the circulation. This suggests a systemic response from EIMD (Fatouros 2016).



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Fatouros, 2016. PMID: 27799809

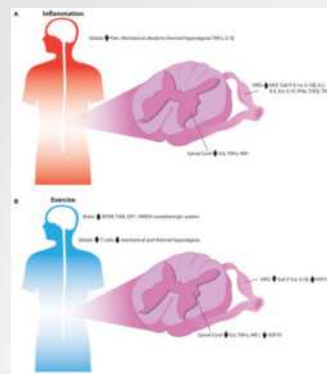
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Inflammatory Effects of Exercise.

“A prominent benefit of both endurance and resistance exercise programs is their reduction of pro-inflammatory cytokines and their increase in anti-inflammatory markers as displayed in Figure 2”

- IL-6 triggers anti-inflammatory response IL-10 anti-inflammation.



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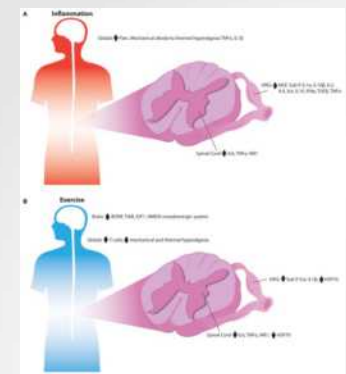
Cooper, 2016. PMID: 27601974

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67

Inflammatory Effects of Exercise.

“The pro-inflammatory acute affects of exercise are proposed to cause a subsequent spike in anti-inflammatory cytokines that are long-lasting after completion of the exercise bout.”



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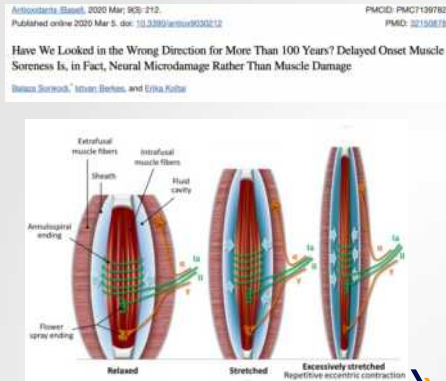
Cooper, 2016. PMID: 27601974

68

68

Inflammation and DOMS

“According to our hypothesis, delayed onset muscle soreness (DOMS) is an acute compression axonopathy of the nerve endings in the muscle spindle. It is caused by the superposition of compression when repetitive eccentric contractions are executed under cognitive demand. The acute compression axonopathy could coincide with microinjury of the surrounding tissues and is enhanced by immune-mediated inflammation”



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Sonkodi, 2020. PMID: 32150878

69

Inflammation and DOMS

Unaccustomed or strenuous eccentric based exercises leads to hyper excitation of Type 1A afferents. This induces Reactive oxidative stress and the production of neuroinflammation/ cytokines in the spinal cord in adding to muscle.

Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness and Critical Neural Microdamage-Derived Neuroinflammation

Olga Polygin, Academic Editor and Mykola Mamenko, Academic Editor

Table 2

Exercise-induced microdamages.

	Painless Condition	Exercise Induced Muscle Damage (EIMD)	Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness (DOMS)
Primary Injury Phase in the Muscle Spindle	Proprioceptive terminal microdamage	No proprioceptive terminal microdamage	Proprioceptive terminal microdamage
Secondary Injury Phase	No extrafusal microdamage and no C-fiber contribution	Extrafusal microdamage with C-fiber contribution	Extrafusal microdamage with C-fiber contribution
Condition	Painless microinjured state without DOMS lasting up to 2-3 days	Exercise induced soreness without delayed onset	DOMS lasting up to 7 days

[Open in a separate window](#)

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Sonkodi, 2022. PMID: 36139045

70

Inflammation and DOMS

Mouse Study. They swam for 2H to induce DOMS

DOMS induced spinal cord astrocyte and microglial activation in the dorsal horn peaked at 24 hours after exercise.

This initiates a neuroimmune reaction with cytosine and oxidative stress sensitizing nociceptors.



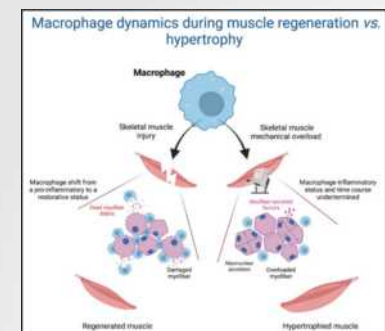
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Borghi, 2022. PMID: 35069187

71

Inflammation and Exercise Induced Muscle Damage

- “Rather than blunting the pro-inflammatory phase, promoting the active resolution of inflammation to establish the regenerative inflammation appears a good strategy to improve/accelerate muscle regeneration as well as to promote muscle growth.”



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Bernard, 2022. PMID: 36200266

72

Inflammation and Exercise Induced Muscle Damage

DOMS Summary

- Probably requires unaccustomed exercise, cognitive demand, or significant eccentric contractions.
- Peripheral and central nervous system effects
- Exercise induced muscle damage creates increased local and systemic inflammatory markers.
- Should dosing exercise be a lot like dosing needling? How often do we consider the neural effects of exercise?

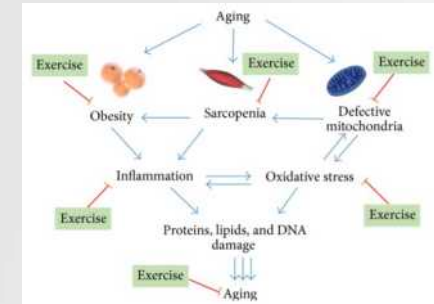
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73

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Inflammatory Effects of Exercise on oxidative stress in aging.

“Exercise exerts antioxidant effects by suppressing inflammatory pathways and therefore inhibiting prominent sources of RONS generation..”



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Sallam, 2015. PMID: 26823952

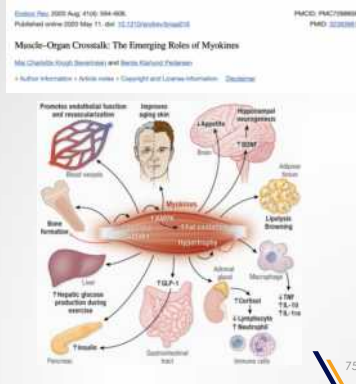
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74

Muscle and Organ Crosstalk

Essential Points

- Myokines are defined as cytokines and other peptides that are produced, expressed and released by muscle fibers and exert either autocrine, paracrine, or endocrine effects
- Myokines mediate communication between muscle and other organs, including brain, adipose tissue, bone, liver, gut, pancreas, vascular bed, and skin, as well as within the muscle itself
- Myokines exert their effects on, for example, cognition, lipid and glucose metabolism, browning of white fat, bone formation, endothelial cell function, hypertrophy, skin structure, and tumor growth
- The myokine IL-6 mediates the exercise-associated anti-inflammatory effects both acutely with each bout of exercise and as a consequence of training adaptation, including reduction in abdominal adiposity.
- The identification of new myokines and their specific roles may lead to novel therapeutic targets
- Myokines can be useful biomarkers for monitoring the type and amount of exercise that are required for the prescription of exercise for people with, for example, cancer, diabetes, or neurodegenerative diseases



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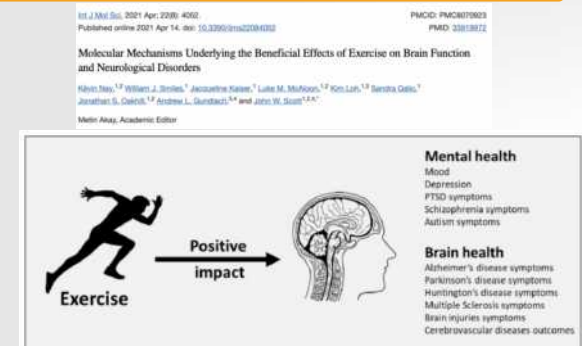
Severinsen, 2020. PMID: 32393961

75

75

Central effects of exercise.

- Positive effects but exact mechanisms poorly understood.
- BDNF
- Myokines
- Liver and IGF-1
- Gut Microbiome and Vagus nerve
- Iron



Nay, 2021. PMID: 33919972

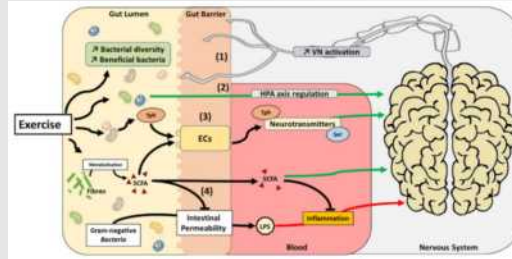
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76

76

Exercise the Brain and the Gut Microbiome

1. Activation of the vagus n.
 - Depressive changes
2. Activation of HPA Axis
 - Pituitary and pineal gland
3. Modulate neurotransmitters
 - Serotonin and tryptophan
4. Reduce systemic inflammation by managing short chain fatty acids and intestinal permeability.



Nay, 2021. PMID: 33919972

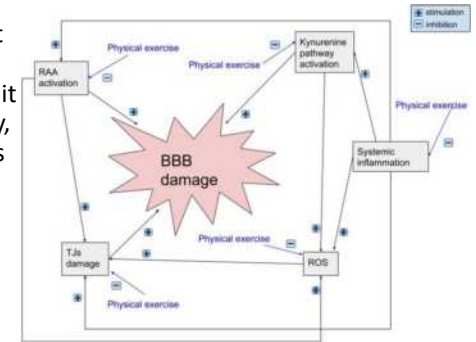
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77

Inflammation the Brain and Exercise

- There is a body of evidence that regular physical exercise diminishes BBB permeability as it reinforces antioxidative capacity, reduces oxidative stress and has anti-inflammatory effects



(Matkiewicz 2019 PMID: 30678702)

78

Summary

Exercise can have a pro and anti-inflammatory effect on inflammation.

There are both local, systemic, and central effects of inflammation and exercise.

There's most likely a metabolic component, a gut component, and central components all at play in how someone reacts to exercise

79

79

What kinds of things are you using to address chemical/inflammatory factors of pain and fatigue?

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Discussion:

Questions?

- What are you currently doing for local vs. systemic inflammation?
- Is anyone having nutrition, stress, or sleep discussions with clients?
 - What have you found success with?
- What are some strategies you could anticipate adding in to someone who is having trouble with multiple problem areas or dealing with systemic inflammation stress.

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82

82

Understanding Exercise and Inflammation

Lecture 2: Assessing and determining needling dosage for systemic stress, overtraining, and recovery in the active adult and exercise.



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What about needling and inflammation

1. What is Dry Needling.
2. Local effects at the muscle.
3. Systemic peripheral effects of exercise.
4. Central nervous system effects

84

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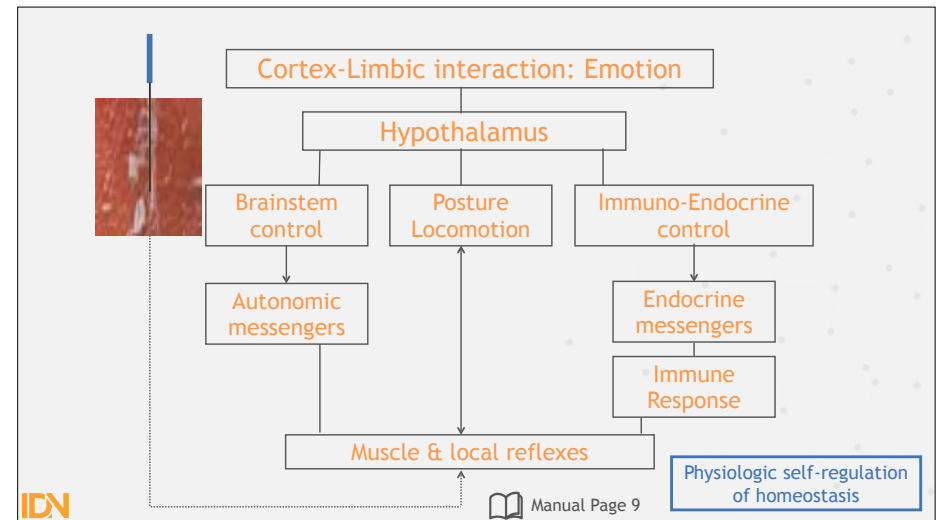
What is Dry Needling

DN is a skilled intervention using a thin filiform needle to penetrate the skin and stimulate underlying myofascial trigger points and muscular and connective tissues for the management of neuromusculoskeletal pain and movement impairments.



85

85



86

Summary of Characteristics of Dry Needling Therapy

1. Non-specific physiological normalization of soft tissue dysfunction
2. Restoration of homeostasis
3. Promotion of self-healing
4. No interference with natural pathologic processes (**Pain, inflammation, fever**)

87

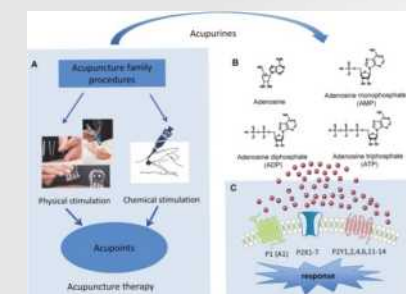
What Possibly Happens When We Put a Needle In?

ATP Cell Production

Purinergic signaling peripheral and central analgesic effects.



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Tang, 2019. PMID: 30458249

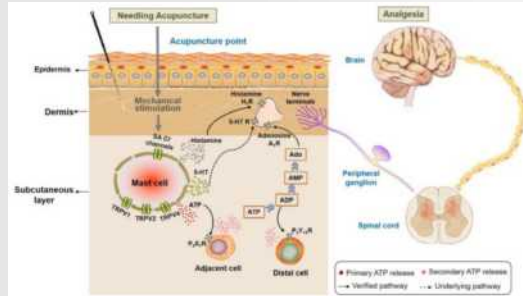
88

What Possibly Happens When We Put a Needle In?

Mast Cell Production

Mechanical stimulation leading to mast cell stimulation and ATP production at distal cells and dorsal root ganglion.

Mast cells can release histamine, cytokines, and other immune players.



Wang, 2022. PMID: 35269431

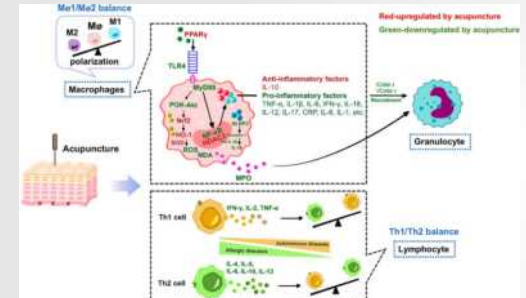
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89

What Possibly Happens When We Put a Needle In?

Anti-Inflammatory Effects



Li N, 2021. PMID: 34992414

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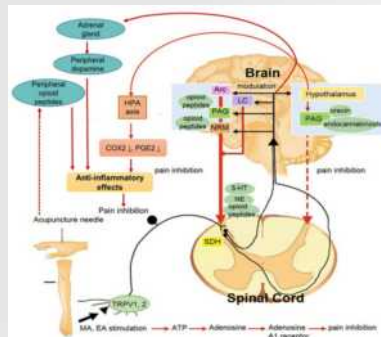


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What Possibly Happens When We Put a Needle In?

Endogenous Opioid Release

Peripheral and Central



Wang, 2022. PMID: 35269431

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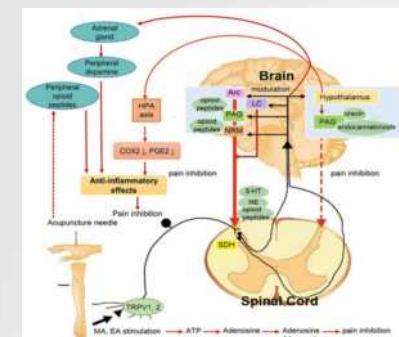


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What Possibly Happens When We Put a Needle In?

Summary of Potential Neurophysiological mechanisms

1. Mechanical stimulation ATP
2. Mast cell and immune response
3. Peripheral and central opioid release



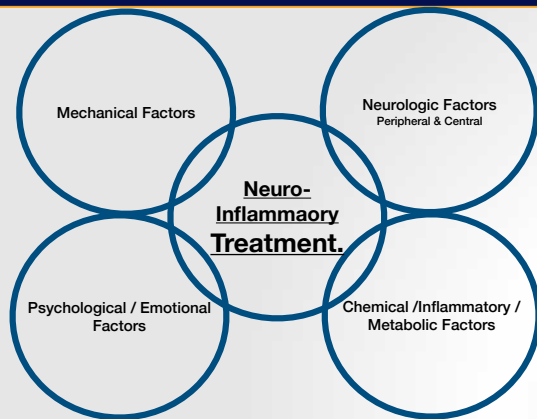
Lin, 2022. PMID: 35422904

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A Neuro-Inflammatory Approach.

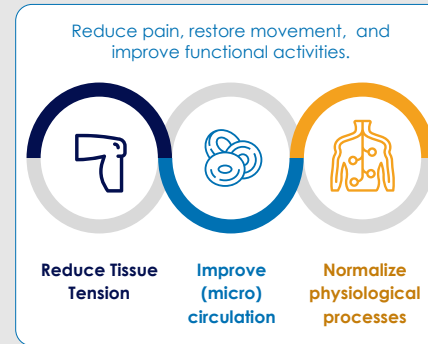


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Goals of Dry Needling Treatment.



• The effects of the 720o neurological approach can be:

- › Local
- › Segmental
- › Systemic

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What other questions do you have about the physiological effects of dry needling?

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Local

What's happening with mechanical stimulation to the tissue?

Do you get that ache sensation?

Location in proximity to neuromuscular bundle?

- Local Endogenous Opioid Release
- Local Mast Cell Production
- Local ATP at the Cell.

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96

Local

Examples of local needling.



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Local

Examples of local needling.



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98

Other Examples.



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99

Upper Neck: Weight Bearing with AROM



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100

Segmental

What's happening at the dorsal root ganglion with nerve stimulation?
Are you treating the area consistent with symptoms dermatomes / myotomes?

- DRG Endogenous Opioid Release
- Secondary ATP production

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Segmental

Examples of segmental needling

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102

Segmental Cervical



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103

Segmental Low Back



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104

Triathlete with Plantar Fasciitis



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105

105

Sciatic Nerve



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106

106

Systemic

Central Level + Endocrine (pituitary/pineal gland) + Emotional

- Endogenous Opioid Release
- Pain Processing Centers
- Hypothalamus

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107

Systemic

Example of systemic or higher central effect needling.



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108

108

Systemic

Example of systemic or higher central effect needling.



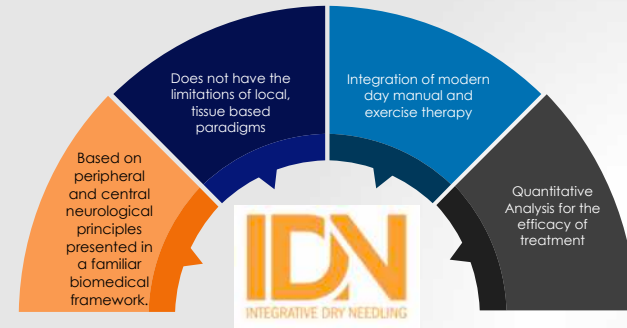
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109

109

IDN: A 720° Integrative Approach



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110

110

Discussion:

Questions?

- For those of you currently doing some needling what have you found with local, segmental, or systemic needling.
- Have you noticed any of these similar patterns or ideas in other manual therapies.
- Any examples that you have a treating proximal or distal working better than treating local ?

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112

Understanding Exercise and Inflammation

Lecture 2: Assessing and determining needling dosage for systemic stress, overtraining, and recovery in the active adult and exercise.



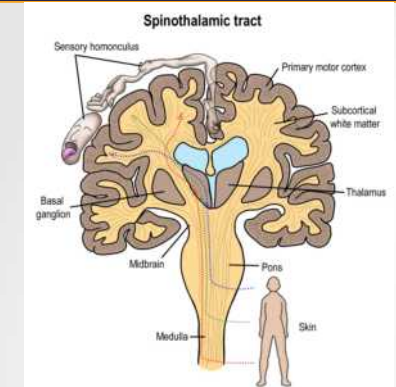
Nick Sanders PT, DPT, CSCS, CIDN

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What is Pain

The Brains interpretation of a signal that could cause harm.

- › Danger (injury)
- › Stranger (intruder)



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114

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Danger Signal: Actual Tissue Damage

- Tissue Damage will result in an inflammatory response
- This is good its how we heal
- Our goal is try to provide a safe environment for healing
- Desensitize
- Prevent transmission to chronic pain.



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115

115

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Manual therapy and the sensory experience

Acute

Focus on lymphatics and desensitization techniques.

Sub-Acute

- Stress to the tissue, sensory nerve feedback
- Prevent transition from acute to chronic pain
- Neurogenic inflammation

Chronic

- Central sensitization

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116

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Acute



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117

117

Acute Proximal Bicep Pain.



Visit 1 / Week 1

Visit 2 / Week 2

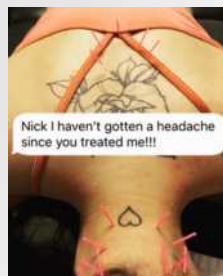
Visit 3 / Week 3

118

118

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Sub Acute



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119

119

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Sub Acute



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120

120

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Chronic



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121

121

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Chronic



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122

122

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Chronic



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123

123

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Chronic



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124

124

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Chronic



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125

125

Treatment Considerations: Actual Damage

Treatment examples Chronic



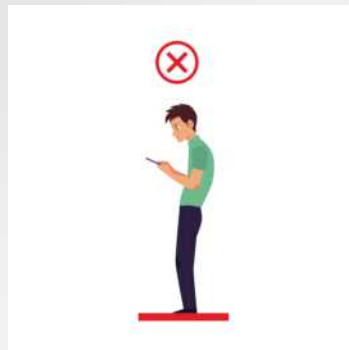
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126

126

Danger Signal: Potential Tissue Damage

- Positional or Postural Stress that can create pain without true tissue damage.
- Muscle Guarding, tone, etc.
- Increase in nerve sensitivity secondary to
 - Changes in local blood chemistry
 - pH
 - Inflammatory markers
 - Oxygenation levels



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127

127

Treatment Considerations: Potential Damage

Manual therapy and the sensory experience

Local

- Focus on increasing blood flow in the involved area.
- Decrease nerve hypersensitivity

Regional

- What's causing increased tone.
- Postural Assessments.
- Tolerance to stretch or tension.

Central

- Is there a fear or cognitive protective mechanism.
- Increased sympathetic activity

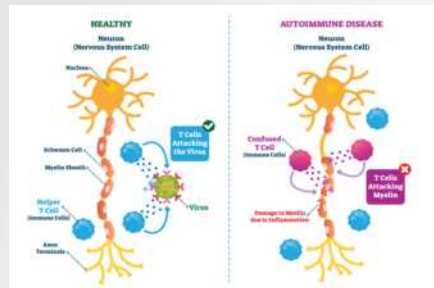
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128

128

Stranger Signals. Real or “Perceived”

- Foreign intruders that cause threat.
- Bacterias, viruses, allergens, implants, Food?
- “Perceived”
- Auto-Immune
- Immune system unnecessarily attacking itself.

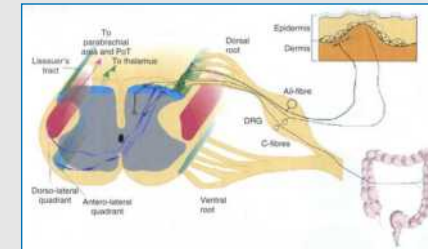


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Visceral Pain: Referred Pain



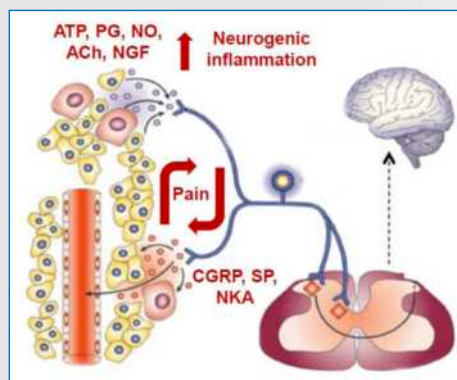
Visceral pain can be referred to a single musculoskeletal structure or to a region of the body.

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130

Neurogenic Inflammation and The Viscera



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131

131

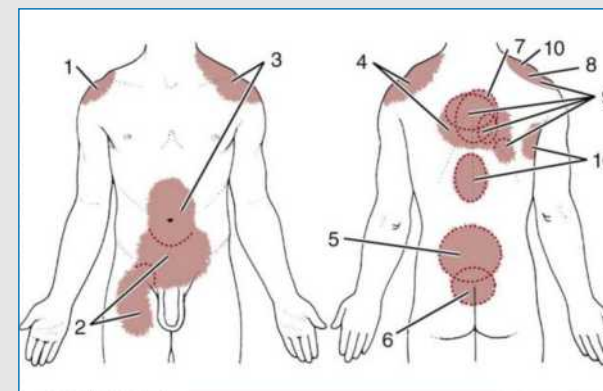


Fig. 8-19
Full-figure referred pain patterns.

- 1, Liver/gallbladder/ common bile duct;
- 2, appendix;
- 3, pancreas;
- 4, pancreas;
- 5, small intestine;
- 6, colon;
- 7, esophagus;
- 8, stomach/duodenum;
- 9, liver/gallbladder/ common bile duct; and
- 10, stomach/duodenum.

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Goodman, C 2013

132

132

Consideration Points

- GI disorders can refer pain to the sternum, neck, shoulder, scapula, low back, sacrum, groin, and hip.
- When evaluated during early onset of referred pain, there is usually full and painless range of motion, but as time goes on, muscle splinting and guarding secondary to pain or as a component of motor nerve involvement will produce altered movements as well.



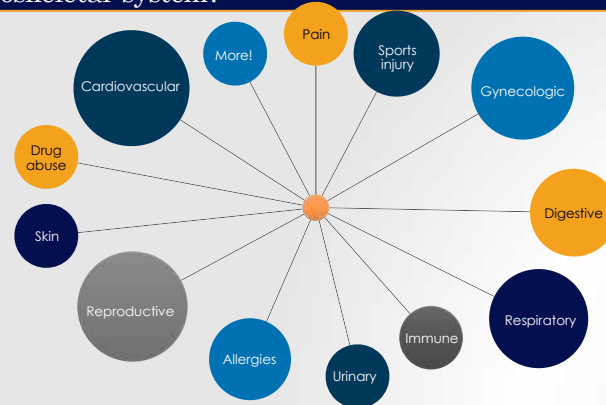
Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapists: Goodman 2013

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All pathologic conditions affect soft tissues/ musculoskeletal system.



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134

All musculoskeletal system disorders can affect visceral organs through systemic circulation.



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135

Treatment Considerations: Stranger Signals

*** Refer out when appropriate***

Local

- Focus on increasing blood flow in the involved area.
- Decrease nerve hypersensitivity

Regional

- May require a referral to make sure there is nothing medically wrong.

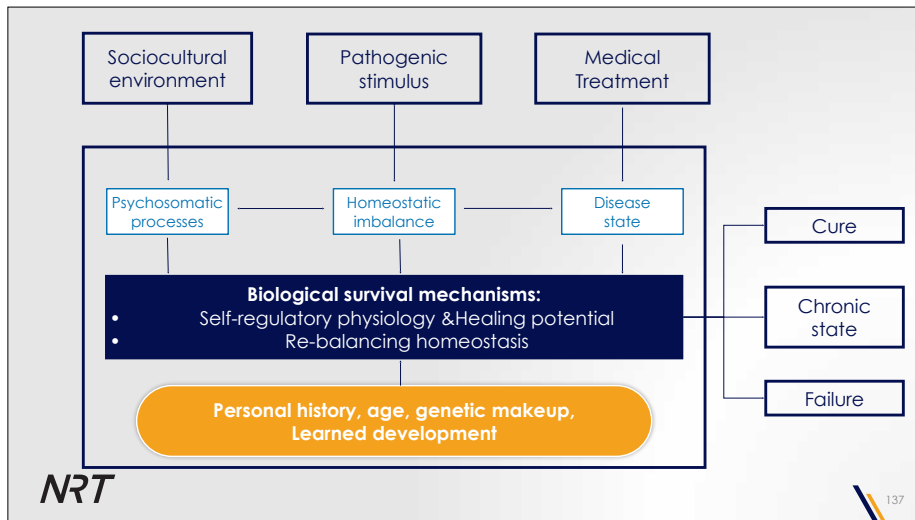
Central

- Lymphatic flow
- Increased sympathetic activity
- Relaxation techniques.

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136

136



137

Discussion:

Questions?

- Ever had someone get sick and then notice their old back/neck/whatever problem increases? What do you think that mechanism is?
- How would you structure your exercise programs to mimic manual therapy under this neuroinflammatory style?

138



139

Central Sensitization

“Increased responsiveness of nociceptive neurons in the central nervous system to their normal or subthreshold afferent input.

Note: See note for sensitization and nociceptive neuron above. This may include increased responsiveness due to dysfunction of endogenous pain control systems. Peripheral neurons are functioning normally; changes in function occur in central neurons only.”

<https://www.iasp-pain.org/resources/terminology/>



140

140

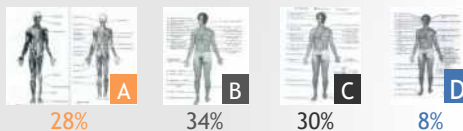
Neuronal Plasticity in Central Nervous System.

Visceral Pathology

Peripheral Sensitized Neuro-Trigger Points.

Central Sensitization - Brain and Spinal Cord.

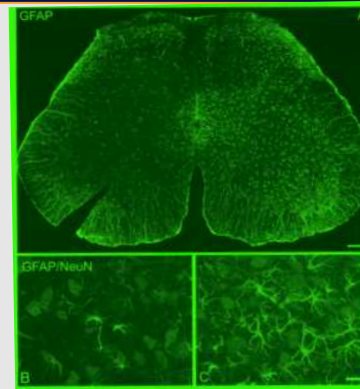
Self Healing Potential



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141

Central Sensitization



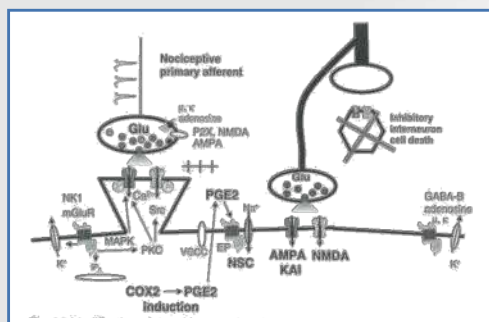
Mense, S. 2003
Current Pain and
Headache Reports
Vol. 7 Issue 6

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142

Central Sensitization of CNS

Modulation or modification of function,
chemical profile, and structure.



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143

Systemic and Central Considerations in Sport

Nervous System Sensitization
in Persistent tendinopathies.

- “Lowered pressure pain threshold was observed across different tendinopathies at the site of tendinopathy, as well as at other sites, the latter being suggestive of central sensitization.”
Plinsinga 2015. PMID 26390275

[Review](#) > J Orthop Sports Phys Ther. 2015 Nov;45(11):864-75. doi: 10.2519/jospt.2015.5885.
Epub 2015 Sep 25.
Evidence of Nervous System Sensitization in Commonly Presenting and Persistent Painful Tendinopathies: A Systematic Review
Melanie L. Plinsinga, Michael S. Brink, Bill Vlaar, C. Paul van Wigen
PMID: 26390275 DOI: 10.2519/jospt.2015.5885

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Systemic and Central Considerations in Sport

Chronic patellofemoral pain syndrome

- › Altered pressure pain thresholds.
- › “Clinicians should incorporate quantitative sensory tests into the examination process to track improvement over time” Sigmund 2021



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Systemic and Central Considerations in Sport

Chronic Tendinopathy

- › Nearly half of patients presented here with tendinopathy conditions or plantar fasciitis scored highly enough on Self-Administered Leeds Assessment of Neuropathic Symptoms and Signs (S-LANSS)” Wheeler 2022



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Systemic and Central Considerations in Sport

DOMS

- › Local and Systemic Effects.



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Any questions on central sensitization or sensitization in athletes ?

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Psychophysical Assessments



The most widely used paradigm to assess central hypersensitivity consists of the application of a standardized stimulus to a peripheral tissue and the recording of a subject's response.

Curatolo 15', Uddin 16'



- The paradigm relies on the assumption that a non-painful stimulus, when applied to a non-injured tissue (passive NTrP), can evoke pain only if central nociceptive pathways are hypersensitive.
- It is difficult for the clinician to determine if the hypersensitivity is caused by a peripheral mechanism, central mechanisms, or a combination of the two.

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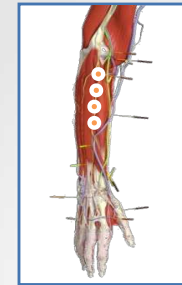
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Quantitative Sensory Testing.

- Original work based on 110 points
- Original evaluation was based on evaluating all 110 points
- The Quantitative Evaluation was modified by Dr. Ma to assess only 16 points.

Technique: Apply sufficient pressure that compresses the soft tissue overlying the involved nerve until a firm end feel is reached.

Firm end feel defined as a sensation of a firm yet elastic response.

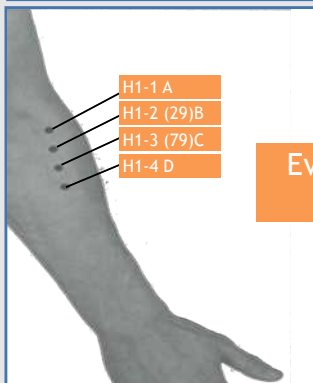


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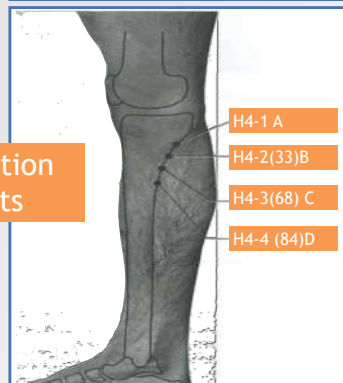
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1. Radial Nerve



Evaluation Points

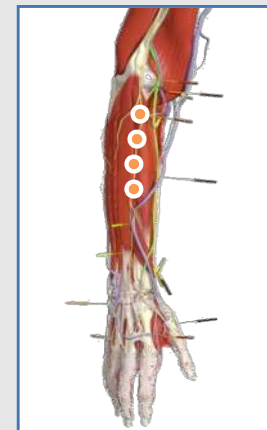
4. Saphenous Nerve



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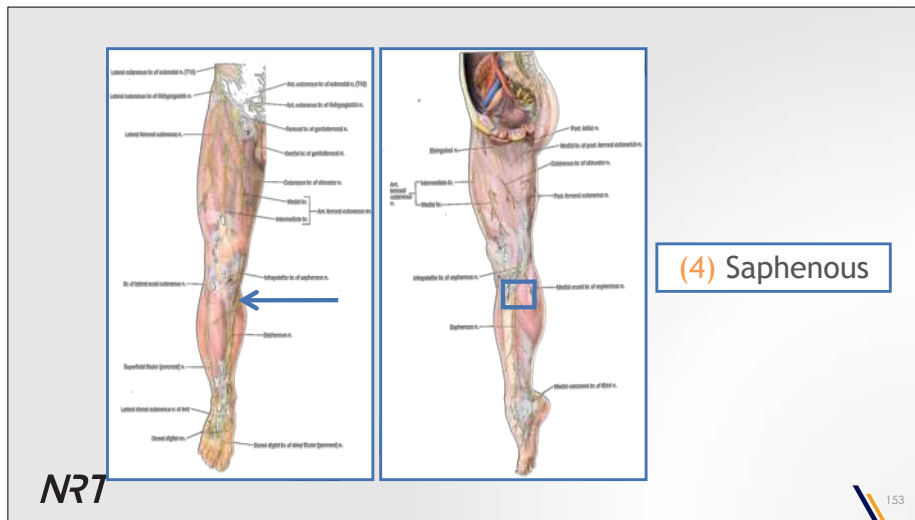


Radial nerve

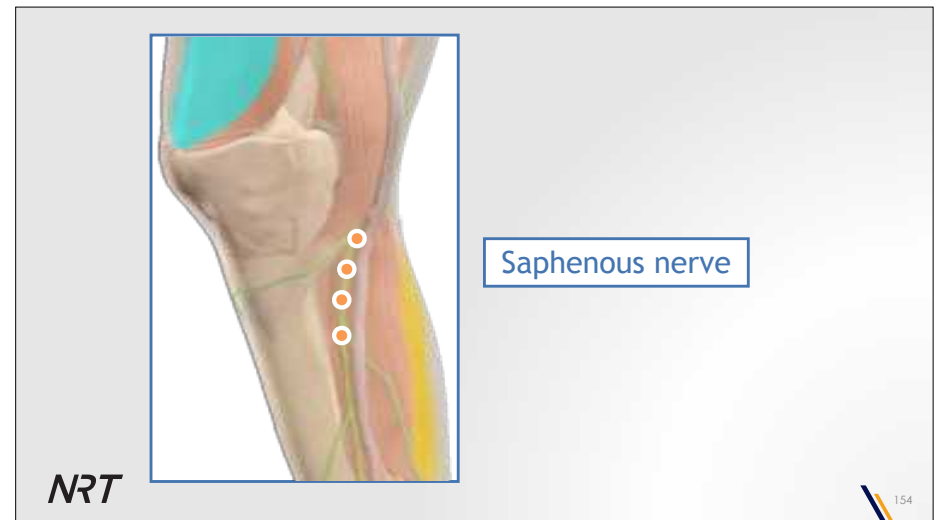
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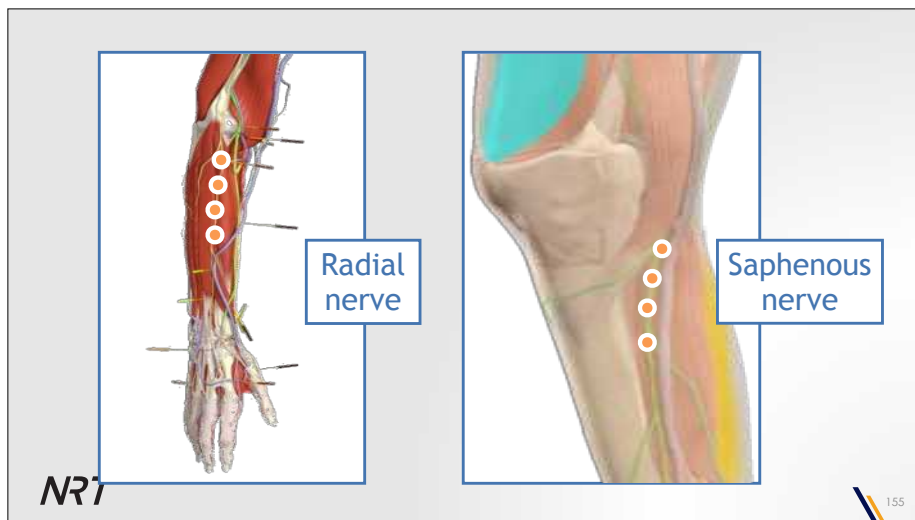
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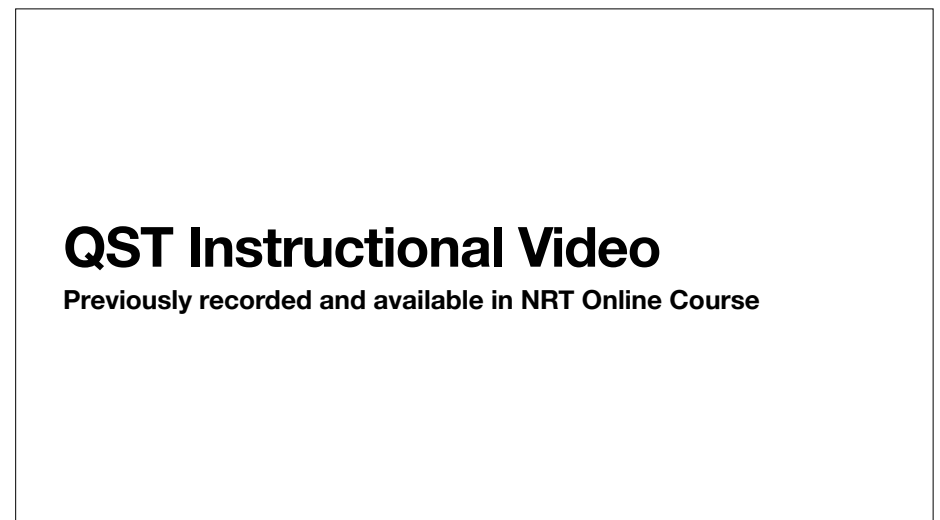
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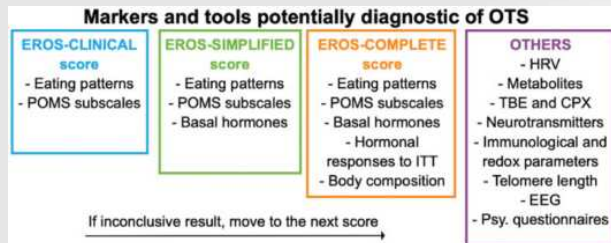


155



156

Other Considerations for systemic stress in sport

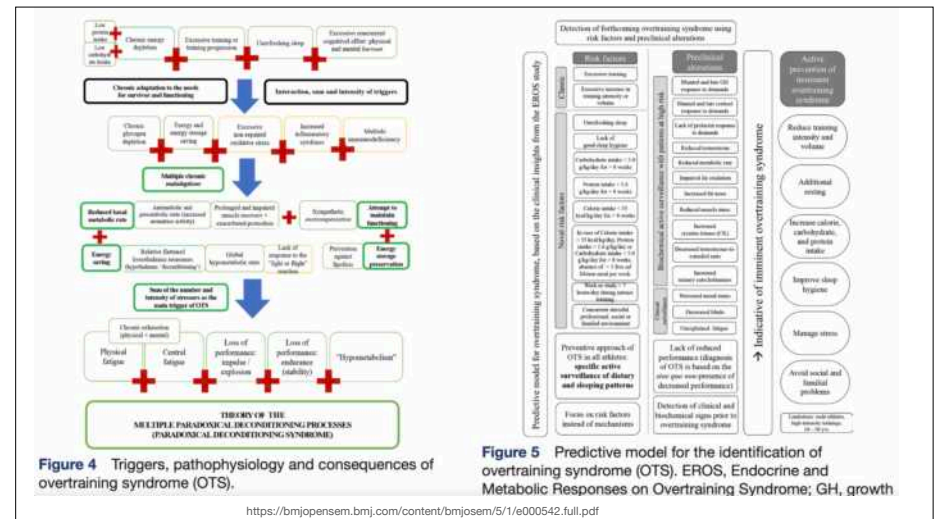


Carrard, 2022. PMID: 34496702

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157

157



158

How can you use your QST to help determine needling dosage and prognosis?

Determining Needling Dosage

How Much Actual Mechanical Stress Do You Need to Create?

- Nerve "tricks" vs. chemical/immune stimulation.
- How much mechanical stimulation do they need?
- What stage of pain is the person in?
- Based off of their QST score can they handle more inflammation?



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160

160

159

Deciding Which Tool to Use: General Guidelines.

Work Superficial to Deep with needling. What is the minimum depth to create an effect?



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Deciding Which Tool to Use: General Guidelines.

Systemic Issues

- Cupping for lymphatic and vascular effects.
- Vibration for central sensory effects
- Combine them???



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Deciding Which Tool to Use: General Guidelines.

Understand the Neurology.
- Work Distal or Proximal

- For exceptionally tender areas.
- Treat the nerve distribution proximally or distally first, gauge the results.
- Then finish with local treatment as necessary.



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163

How can you use your QST to help determine needling dosage and prognosis?

Summary

- Increased central effects can be found in chronic pain including tendinopathy.
- Systemic inflammatory effects in DOMS
- Manage mechanical stress added for someone who is already dealing with high stress.
- What techniques can you use to improve lymphatic flow and decrease sensitization?
- Can you use techniques that have higher sensory value and central activation?

164

164

Discussion:

Questions?

- In what ways are you adding central sensitization testing to your current practice?
- Thoughts on using it with athletes?
- For those of you who have taken the Foundation Course have you started using the QST test on any of your patients? Any significant findings?

165

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166

166

Understanding Exercise and Inflammation

Lecture 3. Integrating Dry Needling into other manual therapies and exercise for the active adult and athlete. + Case Application



Nick Sanders PT, DPT, CSCS, CIDN

167

Dry Needling For Sport and Performance

168

168

Treatment Considerations: Performance.

“The elite athletes appreciated the fast-acting effects of the naDN treatment provided at the study clinic as it facilitated rapid return-to-play (RTP)”

Elite athletes' experiences of musculoskeletal pain management using neuroanatomical dry needling: A qualitative study in Swedish track and field

Richard Thompson, Mårten Prossell, Toomas Timpka

Published: July 23, 2020 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsams.2020.07.004> • Check for updates

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169

Treatment Considerations Range of Motion

- Multiple Studies show improvement with range in the presence of pain.
- Dry Needling Compared to static stretching. (Alaei 2020). *Access to abstract only.*
 - 40 healthy subjects
 - Dry needling demonstrated greater improvements compared to SS.
 - Single session, 60 seconds of needling on 3 points in hamstring.
 - Static Stretching. 3 x 30 seconds.
 - DN significant improvements at 15 minutes post

Randomized Controlled Trial • J Sport Rehabil. 2020 Oct 7;38(3):452-467.
doi: 10.1177/1063426920951111

Dry Needling for Hamstring Flexibility: A Single-Blind Randomized Controlled Trial

Parisa Alaei, Noureddin Fakhroostan Ansari, Soofia Haghighi, Zahra Fakhrani, Shima Karamali, Jani Dennerfelt

PMID: 33027785 DOI: 10.1177/1063426920951111

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170

Treatment Considerations Strength / Power

- Multiple Studies show improvement with strength in the presence of pain.
- Dry Needling Compared to sham (Bandy 2017).
 - 35 healthy subjects
 - Dry needling to 4 sights on the gastrocnemius
 - Sham had guide tube pressed only
 - Vertical jump was tested. (Chalk on wall)
 - Received DN or Sham
 - Vertical Jump Retested (average of 10 minutes between jumps.
 - DN group on average improved 1.2 inches



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171

Dry Needling Timing For Sport

Personal opinion.

1. Best case is get to know your athlete and how they respond to DN treatment. Make your adjustments appropriately.
2. Be careful with aggressive needling followed by full intensity efforts within a 24-48 hour window.
3. Sympathetic boosts or range improvement prior to events? Don't fatigue then out or make them sore prior.
4. For recovery I have had best luck needling within a 24 hour post workout window.
 - Doing all of the homeostatic points has worked better than anything else I have tried.
 - Adding cupping and vibration seems to help as well.
 - I have not personally tried ENS for general recovery but given some of the central mechanisms that might be at play that could be worth experimenting with.

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172

Dry Needling For Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness

173

173

Treatment Considerations DOMS

Acupuncture and DOMS

- Huang 2020
 - Six RCT's qualified.
 - Reduced muscle soreness rating
 - Reduced serum creatine kinase
 - Improved muscle strength
 - Effects lasted 24-72 hours.



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Huang, 2020. PMID:32765287

174

174

Treatment Considerations DOMS

Acupuncture and DOMS

- Chang 2020
 - 15 RCT's included.
 - Acupuncture better on day 1.
 - Lack of follow up reporting is minimal in majority of studies.



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Chang, 2020. PMID:32714410

175

175

Treatment Considerations DOMS

Vibration and DOMS

"DOMS is caused by unaccustomed exercise, mainly after high-intensity centrifugal exercise, and results in skeletal muscle injury and ultrastructural changes which manifest as muscle soreness, stiffness, swelling, decreased strength, and elevated serum CK concentrations [3,19,42]. Of the many published DOMS mechanisms, the most generally accepted favors the mechanical injury theory, the inflammation theory, and other factors acting together to cause DOMS [1,43-45]. Following high-intensity centrifugal exercise, muscle contractile structures within skeletal muscle are at their least stable, and myofibrils within muscle fibers fail to coordinate movement effectively. This results in excessive stress on single or weaker muscle fibers, overstretching to the point of tearing, and damage to the muscle membrane, leading to increased intracellular Ca^{2+} concentrations, calcium overload phenomena activating calpain, the destruction of protein structure, protein degradation, autophagy, and inflammatory responses"

Yin, 2022. PMID:36228110



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176

176

Treatment Considerations DOMS

Vibration and DOMS

- Yin 2022
 - Whole Body Vibration
 - Sixteens studies included.
 - Primary evaluated VAS, PPT, serum creatine kinase.
 - Results suggested improvements in these in all variables including muscle repair
 - Limitations suggesting follow up and best type and duration of VT.



NRT Yin, 2022. PMID:362281110



177

“According to our hypothesis, delayed onset muscle soreness (DOMS) is an acute compression axonopathy of the nerve endings in the muscle spindle. It is caused by the superposition of compression when repetitive eccentric contractions are executed under cognitive demand.”
Sonkodi 2020.

WHAT IS DELAYED ONSET MUSCLE SORENESS?

Antioxidants (Basel), 2020 Mar; 9(3): 212.
Published online 2020 Mar 5; doi: 10.3390/antiox9030212
PMCID: PMC7139785
PMID: 32150877

Have We Looked in the Wrong Direction for More Than 100 Years? Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness Is, in Fact, Neural Microdamage Rather Than Muscle Damage
Balázs Sonkodi,¹ István Berkes, and Erőka Koltai

178

Treatment Considerations DOMS

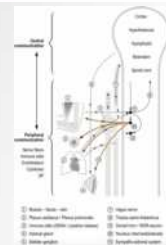
DOMS and the sympathetic nervous system.

- Fleckenstein 2021
 - Suggest inflammation and ANS are linked
 - Applied Stellate ganglion block after eccentric bicep exercise.
 - SGB showed an effect on ANS
 - Effect on DOMS was positive but small.

Front Physiol. 2021 Sep 16;12:697236. doi: 10.3389/fphys.2021.697236. eCollection 2021.

Investigation of the Sympathetic Regulation in Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness: Results of an RCT
Johannes Fleckenstein¹, Elina W. Heiderger², Philipp Bornuth¹, Fabio Correa¹, Angelika Schneider¹, Winfried Banzer¹, Lorenz Fischer³, Patrick Simon¹

ABSTRACT - [expand](#)
PMID: 34625072 PMCID: PMC8481669 DOI: 10.3389/fphys.2021.697236
[Free PMC article](#)



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179

Treatment Considerations DOMS



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180

Treatment Considerations DOMS

DOMS Summary

- Mixed results but generally positive.
- Do we need to include more of a central component to effect ANS?
- In situ 18 minutes?
- Add needle rotations?
- Add ENS
- Does vibration effect lymphatic flow or sympathetic nerve activity?

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181

Treatment Considerations Swelling

Could needling be used to help manage swelling? (Personal experience)

- Normalize ANS response.
- Local tissue guarding that may effect lymphatics or venous return?



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182

Dry Needling For Tendinopathy

183

183

Treatment Considerations Tendinopathy: Acute - Sub-Acute

Promote transition from Pro-Inflammatory to Anti-Inflammatory / Regenerative Processes in the Immune Response.

Personal Thoughts:

- Add mechanical Stress
- Manage sympathetic up regulation / emotional response as best as possible.
- Continue to promote microcirculation

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184

Treatment Considerations Tendinopathy: Chronic

Chronic tendinopathy

- May show signs of chronic inflammatory processes
 - Achilles Dakin 2018 PMID: 29118051
- Central sensitization (Plinsinga 2015) PMID 26390275
- Increased and persistent stromal fibroblast activity in diseased vs healthy tendon. (Dakin 2017 PMID 28122639)

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185

Does low grade, chronic inflammation effect tendon healing?

- The type of macrophages present and the level of pro-inflammatory inflammation may be effected in the first 3-7 days in the presence of low grade inflammation.
- May effect the transition from a pro-inflammatory response (M1 macrophages) to a reparative response (M2 Macrophages).
- “Active control of the immune system is a very plausible therapeutic strategy to induce tissue regeneration. However, one of the main challenges is to target the right immune cell populations and pathways for the tissue that need to be regenerated.”

Rehak 2021 PMID: 34863223

186

Treatment Considerations Tendinopathy: Chronic

Chronic tendinopathy

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187

Tendinopathy

Dry Needling

- Most studies involve local needling
- Positive outcomes for hip trochanteric bursitis, lateral epicondylitis, patellar, achilles. etc. Stoychev 2020. PMID: [31942676](#)
- If we wanted to include central effects.
 - Add ENS
 - Add needle rotation.
 - Uygur 2017 PMID 28828509
 - Needling for lateral Epicondylitis compared to ibuprofen and brace.
 - 5 needles in most painful area of lateral epicondyle. Rotated 3-4 times. In situ 10 min.

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188

The use of dry needling vs. corticosteroid injection to treat lateral epicondylitis (LE): a prospective, randomized, controlled study. Uygun, Aktas 2021

Design: 101 subjects with LE had first line treatment of NSAID's/forearm brace if no change at 3 weeks then randomly assigned to 1 of 2 groups. Outcome variable was the Patient-Rated Tennis Elbow Evaluation (PRTEE).

Group 1: 5 sessions of dry needling (DN) {N=49}

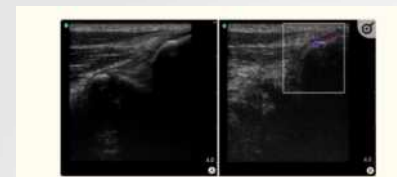
- 15- 25 mm needles inserted down to the bone, 3-4 rotations, and left in 10 minutes at the lateral epicondyle and down the extensor muscle bulk.

Group 2: 1 single Cortisone Injection (CS) {N=52}

- 2 mL methylprednisolone acetate, Depo-Medrol 40 gm/ML single dose injection followed by 20-30 peppering lesions using a 22 gauge needle.

Results: PRTEE Scores revealed patients treated with DN had greater improvement than CS patients at both 20 days and 6 month follow up. Minor skin complications in the CS group (N=4)

Golfer's Elbow Case Report



Patient was 40yo, male. 2 year pain. Multiple other treatment techniques.

- Tendinopathy identified on US/ doppler.
- 10 needles left in situ for 20 minutes
- Patient reported decreased pain and disability at 2 days



Dry Needling vs. Corticosteroid.

Chiropr. Man. Therap. 2021; 29: 49.
Published online 2021 Dec 2. doi: 10.1186/s12908-021-00408-y
PMCID: PMC8638538
PMID: 34857021

Corticosteroid injection or dry needling for musculoskeletal pain and disability? A systematic review and GRADE evidence synthesis

Luís Fernando Sousa-Filho,^{1,2} Marta Maria Barbosa Santos,³ Gabriel Henrique Freire dos Santos,² and Walderi Monteiro da Silva Júnior^{1,2}

Author information Article notes Copyright and License information Disclaimer

- "In conclusion, there is very low quality of evidence that there is no significant difference between CSI or DN for pain or disability at short-, medium- or long-term follow-up in people with myofascial pain and greater trochanteric pain syndrome."
- Sousa 2021 PMID: 34857021

Dry Needling Tendinopathy Discussion Points.

- Thoughts on Tendinopathy and inflammation?
- Theories of eccentric exercise?
- Combining Dry Needling with Isometrics or Eccentrics.
- Dry needling plus cross friction massage.
- Dry Needling Plus IASTM / Cupping



Dry Needling Tendinopathy

Discussion Points.



193

Dry Needling For Osgood-Schlatter disease / osteochondritis

194

Osgood-Schlatter disease / osteochondritis

Healthcare (Basel), 2022 Jun; 10(6): 1011.
Published online 2022 May 30. doi: 10.3390/healthcare10061011

PMCID: PMC9222654
PMID: 35742062

Osgood-Schlatter Disease: Appearance, Diagnosis and Treatment: A Narrative Review

Francisco Corbi,¹ Sergi Matas,¹ Jesús Álvarez-Hernández,² Sebastian Sitko,³ Ernest Baiget,⁴ Joaquim Reverter-Masía,⁵ and Isaac López-Lavie^{6*}

María Chiara Gallotta, Academic Editor

No consensus on etiology / pathogenesis.

- Training factors and force may be involved.
- One studied looked at vitamin D deficiency.
- Did not look at inflammatory markers.
- Shape of patella etc. did not play a roll

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195

195

Osgood-Schlatter disease / osteochondritis

Personal Experience / Opinion

- In my experience I have good results with different osteochondritis conditions.
 - With children in general
 - Smaller gauge needles and less of them
 - Goal is a normal immune response
 - How much stimulus do you need?
 - Use a desensitization technique first
 - Cupping, vibration, IASTM
 - Taping after?



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196

196

Dry Needling For Muscle Strains

197

197

Treatment Considerations Muscle Strain

Looking at myotendinous junction.

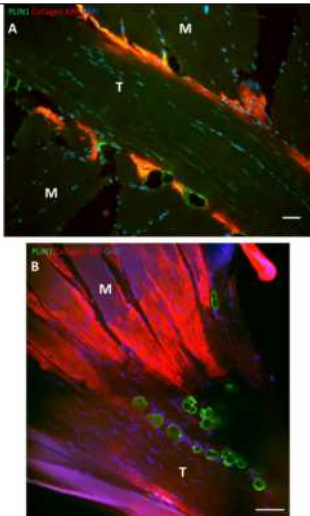
- Author suggests mechanism not fully understood
- Strain may require simultaneous stretch + forceful muscle contraction
- High number of adipocytes at the MTJ.
 - Adipocytes can produce cytokines
 - May be responsible for the remodeling process that needs to repeatedly happen at the MTJ.
- Mechanisms pro-inflammatory response (M1 macrophages which release pro-inflammatory cytokines) to a reparative response (M2 Macrophages anti-inflammatory cytokines).



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198

198



A is human semitendinosus.
B is mouse soles

M = muscle
T = Tendon.
Green = adipocytes

199

Dry Needling For Sprains

200

200

Treatment Considerations Sprain: Acute

Personal Experience / Opinion

- In my experience with acute sprains.
 - Manage swelling
 - Normalize Pain.
 - Combine With Other Treatment Options



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201

201

Treatment Considerations Sprain: Chronic

DN for Chronic Ankle Instability

- 32 patients with CAI
 - 16 received DN to Peroneus Longus and anterior tibialis. The most painful trigger point was identified. Poisoning manipulation with 1 puncture/sec for 30 seconds.
 - 16 placebo DN, with set technique that did not puncture skin.
- PL and TA activation improved. Single leg balance and sway improved in the DN group only. Maintained out to 1 month.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2021 Feb; 18(6):2080.
Published online 2021 Feb 21; doi: 10.3390/ijerph18062080
PMCID: PMC7924825
PMID: 33669979
Effects of Dry Needling on Neuromuscular Control of Ankle Stabilizer Muscles and Center of Pressure Displacement in Basketball Players with Chronic Ankle Instability: A Single-Blinded Randomized Controlled Trial
Luis López-González,^{1,2} Delorah Faria,³ Irene Lázaro-Hernández,^{1,2} Cristina Lorenzo-Sánchez-Aguilera,⁴ Ivonne Rodríguez-Casta,⁵ Daniel Pineda-Martín,^{1,2} and Teresa Delgado-García,^{1,2}
Aurelio Chedoke, Academic Editor and Victor Rubio, Academic Editor



NRT Lopez- Gonzales, 2021. PMID:33669979

202

202

Knee Pain Case Scenario.

- What Nerve Level is involved>Working Superficial To Deep
- Passive to Active.



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203

203

Passive.

Superficial → Deep



204

204

Patellar Mobility + Anterior Femoral Cutaneous n.



Deak, V. et al. Percutaneous freeing of sensory nerves prior to total knee arthroplasty. Knee (2016), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.knee.2016.01.011>



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205

205

Deep Treatment Of the Nerve Distribution.



206

206

Dry Needling With Vibration.



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207

207

Active



N



208

208

Active



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209

209

Segmental L2-L4



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210

210

Segmental L2-4



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211

211

Regional



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212

212

Home Exercise Program.



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213

213

Lymphatics.



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214

214

Any Other pathologies / situations you want us to specifically talk about?

215

Any other questions on needling application or ideas on combining with other tools?

216



Case Study Review

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217

Case 1. General

- 25 year old female, Active, Crossfit 2-3x/ week, but works in office setting.
- History of chronic headaches (multiple times per week), jaw pain, thoracic pain and lumbar pain. No significant medical/ health history.
- Woke up in the morning yesterday with acute neck pain, radiating down the left scapular girdle, making it difficult to turn her head left.
- QST 14/16

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218

218

Case 2. Lower Extremity

Anterior Knee Pain.

- A 13 year old female basketball player has a new onset of anterior knee pain you suspect Osgood-Schlatter disease.
- Normal patellar tendon reflex. Paresthesias and a numbness sensation reported in the medial knee and medial right calf.
- She is in week 3 of the season
- Quantitative Analysis score of 15/16



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219

219

Case 3. Upper Extremity

Shoulder pain and weakness of the arm

- A 16-year old, male, high school pitcher is experiencing a painful sensation in his right shoulder after pitching.
- He denies numbness or tingling, denies neck or elbow pain, states it only hurts after he throws.
- Has noticed he has been less consistent with velocity and ability to throw strikes.
- Weak shoulder external rotation, and biceps with reduced right biceps reflex.
- Quantitative Analysis score of 2/16



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220

220

Case 4. Lower Extremity

Achilles Tendonitis

- A 22-year old female is a long jumper that was injured at a competition 2 weeks ago. She reported a sharp pain upon pushing off with the left foot.
- She reports pain, cramping and paresthesias in the posterior left calf down into the lateral foot with walking. Neuro examination is negative. Strength is pain limited. Quantitative Analysis score of 12/16
- She has not had an MRI.



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221

221

Case 5. Lower Extremity

Hamstring Pain and Buttock Pain.

- A 24-year old triathlete experienced a sharp pain in the left posterior thigh down to the posterior calf during a run 2 days ago that stopped her from running.
- She experienced weakness to resisted knee flexion and a reduced hamstring reflex but a normal Achilles reflex. Quantitative Analysis score of 6/16
- Low lumbar pain began the next day; she has not had imaging done but does have moderate bruising present.



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222

222

Case 6. Upper Extremity

Lateral Elbow Pain

- A 45-year old male tennis player and pipe fitter has had a 5 year history of lateral elbow pain.
- History of ulnar reposition 8 years ago.
- He gets sharp pain with gripping, shaking hands, and playing tennis.
- General neck soreness and will occasionally feel an achy type pain down the back of his forearm.
- QST score 8/16.



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223

223