

Abstract of the Month



January 2018

Hello again from the Stroke SIG.

Hope you are all having a safe and productive new year.

We are continuing the focus this month on apraxia. Let's delve deeper into this complex phenomenon that is hard to identify and treat. Let's try to understand it more.

This month's article. Wheaton LA, Hallett M. Ideomotor apraxia: a review. *Journal of the neurological sciences*. 2007;260(1-2):1-10.

Abstract.

Ideomotor apraxia (IMA) is a disorder traditionally characterized by deficits in properly performing tool-use pantomimes (e.g., pretending to use a hammer) and communicative gestures (e.g., waving goodbye). These deficits are typically identified with movements made to verbal command or imitation. Questions about this disorder relate to its diagnosis, anatomical correlates, physiological mechanisms involved, and the patients in whom IMA is best characterized. In this review, utilizing information presented at an international workshop, we summarize the present state of knowledge about IMA. We include insights on how to distinguish IMA from the other motor apraxias and confounding disorders. We discuss testing for IMA and the need for more rigorous tests that examine more elements, such as imitation, actual use, task selection, and recognizing proper use. From neurophysiological insights, we propose hypotheses of the necessity of networks in praxis performance. We also point out that more neurophysiological knowledge in humans might lead to a better understanding of how different brain structures may aid in the rehabilitation of praxis. While little is known about exactly how rehabilitation may be pursued, biological evidence warrants the further exploration of this issue.

Some quick definitions from the article below.

Full text available: [http://www.jns-journal.com/article/S0022-510X\(07\)00276-6/fulltext](http://www.jns-journal.com/article/S0022-510X(07)00276-6/fulltext)

Also, here is another apraxia screening tool.
<file:///C:/Users/u0455489/Downloads/APRAXIA%20TEST%20Engelsk.pdf>

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STAY TUNED AS WE GET CLOSER TO CSM 2018 IN NEW ORLEANS. We hope to see you there. Fun stuff happening--maybe a give away.

Table 1

The six main types of apraxia that affect the hand and arm

Apraxia	Deficit
Ideomotor	Deficit in pantomiming tool use and gestures specifically. Knowledge of tasks is still present.
Limb-kinetic	Loss of hand and finger dexterity generally contralateral to the lesion. Mainly affects “manipulative” movements.
Ideational	Failure to carry out a series of tasks using multiple objects for an intended purpose. Tools are identifiable, but no coherent action is made.
Conceptual	Loss of tool knowledge and inappropriate use of tools and objects.
Verbal–motor dissociation	Inability to respond properly to verbal commands to make movements.
Tactile	Disruption of use of the hand as a sense organ, in which object exploration and manipulation are impaired.

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