Goal Directed Rehabilitation:
Strategies For Accomplishing
Worthwhile Goals

Michael F. Martelli, Ph.D
Concussion Care Centre of Virginia, and Tree of Life
10120 West Broad Street, Suites G - H
Glen Allen (Richmond), Virginia 23060
Email: MFMartelli@cccv-ltd.com /
VillaMartelli Disability Resources Website
http://villamartelli.com

Purpose of Talk
- Offer a Model and Strategies for Continuing Rehabilitation after
  Brain Injury that:
  - Reduces the complexity of identifying and accomplishing
    meaningful goals
  - Simplifies the goal achievement process
  - Issues from:
    - (a) the "automatic learning" and "errorless learning" literature
      and recent evidence of skills relearning;
    - (b) a task analytic examination of acquisition of relevant habits
      as a model of skills retraining;
    - (c) analysis of developmental, characterologic, organic and
      situational obstacles & facilitators of strategy utilization; and
    - (d) techniques for promoting rehabilitative strategy use,
      adaptable to an individuals reinforcement preferences and style,
      which highlight relationships to functional goals, utilize social
      networks, and employ a simple and appealing cognitive
      attitudinal system and set of procedures.

REHABILITATION
The Systematic Process of:
- Removing Obstacles to
  Independence
- Accessing Opportunities for
  Stepwise Achievements (Of Desired
  Goals) in the areas of Love, Work
  and Play!
- Changing Destiny!

Catastrophic Reaction

Early: Acute Overwhelming Anxiety / Distress

COPING

Successful - Maximal Recovery/Adaptation

Unsuccessful

Deterioration

Failure Producing/Progress Blocking Attitudes
Catastrophic Reaction: Goldstein's term for the extreme depression he observed after left-hemisphere lesions.

- "We have characterized the conditions of brain-injured patients, when faced with solvable and unsolvable tasks, as states of ordered behavior and catastrophic reaction. The [latter] show all the characteristics of anxiety."
- Organism in struggle to cope with the challenges of environment and own body.
- Whole; Cannot be divided into "organs" or "mind" & "body"
- "Disease" = changed state with the environment.
- Healing comes not through "repair" but through adaptation to conditions causing the new state.

Common Personality Disturbances Following TBI (Prigatano, 1987)

- Anxiety and the **Catastrophic Reaction**
  - cf Chronic Compensatory Effort Syndrome (Hopewell, 2001)
- **Denial** of Deficits (Anasognosia / Anosodiaphoria)
- **Paranoia** and Psychomotor **Agitation** (cf Bateson)
- **Depression**, Social **Withdrawal & Amotivational States** (cf Seligman, Taub)

Other Psychoemotional & Neurobehavioral Patterns Associated with TBI

- **Behavior** Disorders
  - Irritability / Reduced Frustration Tolerance, Impulsivity, Reduced Insight, Social Inappropriateness, Reduced Motivation, Increased Emotionality
- **Executive** Disorders
  - Initiation, Planning, Problem Solving, Self Regulation
- **Psychosocial** Disorders
- **Substance** Abuse
Sequelae That Tax Reduced Coping Systems (Contribute to Emotional Distress)

- Physical Dysfunction
- Headache (chronic pain), Fatiguability, Dizziness
- Cognitive Dysfunction
- Sensation, Perception, Information Processing (Att, Memory, Reasoning, Judgement)
- Psychosocial Changes

Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy (CIMT):
Evidence for Rehabilitation Suppression by Catastrophic Reaction

- To date, CIMT used effectively for:
  - Upper paralytic/ paretic limb of Chronic, Subacute CVA, TBI, LE CVA, Focal hand dystonia, Phantom limb pain

- Use Dependent Cortical Reorganization
  - Numerous efficacy studies, 5+ TMS, EEG, MEG studies with humans, 2+ studies of monkeys indicate: Cortical reorganization associated with TX effect of CIMT.

- Several Converging Lines of Evidence: Nonuse of a Single Deafferented Limb is a Learned Conditioned Suppression of Movement...efforts to use limb during initial post trauma period are unsuccessful (due to diaschisis, etc.), painful, anxiety and failure inducing and result in Learned Nonuse (cf. Learned Helplessness, Catastrophic Reaction) which persists after cerebral reorganization is possible.

- Mechanism of Action
  - (1) Changing learning contingencies reinforces Use Learning, inhibits Nonuse Learning
  - (2) Sustained, repeated practice of functional arm movements induces expansion of contralateral cortical area controlling movement and recruitment of new ipsilateral areas.

Resolving the Persistent Catastrophic Reaction

- Confront deficits:
  - Without being Overwhelmed by distress
  - With a Conceptual Framework and Rehab Methodology that Bolsters and Supports and offers Hope Through Conceptually and Through Graduated Successes
  - With a Calmer CNS and Decreasing Catastrophic Reactions (emotional, cognitive, neurophysiologic) that would block optimal recovery

Habit Retraining Model for ABI:
(continued)

- If some of even the most basic habits are weakened or erased, everyday abilities and routines can be seriously disrupted, efficiency lost. What was once automatic and effortless can become overwhelming, requiring the same effort it took before efficient ways of performing any of the components of daily activities were learned.
- Even if important behavioral habits are lost, and the brain cells which sustain them destroyed or altered by injury or illness, the ability to relearn is seldom destroyed. Newl learned habits can be developed as replacements.
- We know the prerequisites for learning / relearning:

M.F. Marink, Ph.D. : 1995
Habit Retraining Model for ABI: (continued)

- The greatest obstacle to learning or relearning is the redirection of energy away from goal directed activity and toward debilitating emotion and activity.
- The most frequent Rehab Energy Reserve Poisons (Re-Learning Blocks) include:
  - Fear / Anxiety, Persistent Catastrophic Emotional Reactions (usually subterranean), Anger and Resentment, Feelings of Victimization, and inertia
- Rehabilitation Requires Removal of Blocks

M.F. Martelli, Ph.D.: 1995

Holistic Habit Rehabilitation

Ingredients: The 3 P’s

Plan: A strategy or design for stepwise progress toward a desired outcome. Most plans are based on task analyses, or breaking seemingly complex tasks down into simple component steps, and proceeding in a list wise fashion. Clearly, the more specific, concrete, and obvious, the more likely the plan will work.

Practice: Repetition is the cement for learning which makes complex and cumbersome and boring tasks more automatic and effortless. With practice and repetition, even complex tasks become automatic and habitual. That is, a habit, or automatic robots, performs the tasks for us without special effort, energy, concentration, memory, and so on.

Promoting Attitude: A facilitative attitude provides the motivation that fuels persistence & mobilization of energy necessary for accomplishment of a progressive series of desirable but challenging goals.

M.F. Martelli, Ph.D.: 1995

Task Analysis: The Building Block of LEARNing

- TA: Breaking a task into single, logically sequenced steps & recording in a Checklist and then checking off each step as it is completed.
- TA’s always make task initiation, completion & follow through much easier...greatly improve performance despite limitations in memory, attention, energy, initiative, ability to sustain performance, organization...any other difficulty.
- TA’s reduce demand and energy consumed by reasoning & problem solving associated with planning, organizing & having to recall, make decisions & prioritize appropriate steps and sequences for both basic and complex tasks.
- TA’s (re)establish efficient habit routines that make up normal everyday activity. 30 to 1000 consistent repetitions produce automatic habits
- Ingredients: for (re)building automatic habits are the 3 P’s: Plan, Practice, Promoting Attitude. The result is (re)habilitation, or increased efficiency accomplished by removing obstacles to independence.

M.F. Martelli, Ph.D.: 1999

The Five Commandments of Rehabilitation: Incorporating Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy to Conquer the Catastrophic Reaction

I. Thou Shall Make Only Accurate Comparisons. Thou shall not make false comparisons.

II. Thou Shall Learn New Ways to Do Old Things.

III. Thou Shall Not Beat Thyself Up...Instead, Thou Shall Build Thyself Up!

IV. Thou Shall View Progress as a Series of Small Steps

V. Thou Shall Expect Challenge & Strive to Beat IT

M.F. Martelli, Ph.D.: 1999
Rehab Commandment IV: Rehabilitation Imperative

- **First - Want to Improve**
- **Second - Believe that You Can Improve**
- **Third - Set a Series of Gradual, Incremental Goals** so that You Can Improve *in small steps!*

You can only Get Better If...
You want to get better more than you want anything else*

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The Behavior Management Imperative: Replace Negative Reinforcement (the "Stick") with Shaping (the "Carrot")

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative Reinforcement &quot;The Stick&quot;</th>
<th>Shaping &quot;The Carrot&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Believes that human nature is basically bad and that bad must be guarded against and kept in check</td>
<td>☐ Believes that human nature is neutral and that good and bad are learned. Good can be taught, nurtured and cultivated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ &quot;Bad&quot; Focused. Avoiding Bad is Good &amp; the Absence of Bad is Good. Focus is with Avoiding and Preventing Bad Behaviors and Negative Behaviors → &quot;I don't want...&quot; something Negative</td>
<td>☐ &quot;Good&quot; Focused. Good is Good, which Prevents Bad. Focus is with a Driving/Goal Directed Vision of Making Desirable Changes and a Positive Future → &quot;I want...&quot; something Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ A Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Bad!</td>
<td>☐ A Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Good!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Uses &quot;Should, Ought, Must... Shouldn't, Mustn't&quot;, Frowns, Nods, etc. Leads to → Anxiety, Distress, Pessimism &amp; Negative Identity</td>
<td>☐ Uses &quot;In Your/Their Best Interest... Not in...Best Interest&quot;, Smiles, Pats, etc. Leads to → Confidence, Optimism, Hope &amp; Positive Identity, in My / Their / Our Best Interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Uses Distress / Punishment to Decrease and Prevent Undesirable (Bad) Behavior and</td>
<td>☐ Uses Rewards to Increase Desirable (Good) Behavior Rewards &amp; Praises approximations of Good/Desirable Behavior that are present, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Uses Anxiety, Fear, Distress &amp; Guilt Until the Bad Behaviors Stop and Good Ones Begin</td>
<td>☐ Gradually and Successively Shapes Increases in Desirable Behavior Until Achieved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shaping via Reinforcement of Successive Approximations of Desired Behavior:

This involves successively rewarding the smallest movements (baby steps) in the desired direction with carrots (i.e., verbal rewards, expressions of approval & appreciation, smiles & nonverbal gestures of approval, physical/tangible rewards, jumping up with joy, etc.)

Each successful small step is rewarded, which teaches feeling good about being good.
NeuroBehavioral Regulation: Adaptative Habit Retraining Strategies Derived From Task Analyses

Acquisition of Coping: Resilience (Optimal Learning)

Poor Acquisition of Coping: Resilience (Suboptimal Learning: Traumatization)

Poor Acquisition of Coping: Resilience (Suboptimal Learning: Overprotection)
Graduated Successes Protocol for Increasing Self-Confidence
(Decreasing Anxiety, Frustration, Self-Consciousness, Low Self-Esteem, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complexity</th>
<th>Required Amount of</th>
<th>of External</th>
<th>Assistance Structuring/ Cueing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Begin with easier tasks and maximum support - ensure Success
- Subsequently introduce slightly more challenging tasks and reintroduction of the above noted process of maximum to gradually diminishing cues (method of diminishing cues)

Graduated Exposure Programs in Rehabilitation

- Exposure to distressful emotional, physiological and sensory reaction situations
- Incremental increases in tolerance (and incremental compensatory learning, anxiety extinction, sensory interpretation distress) without experiencing significant anxiety or sensory distress.
- Requires person Not experience distressful reactions or experiences.
- Examples: anxieties, phobias & distressful emotions and sensory reactions related to the following:
  - Noise and/or light (when not mediated by headaches, etc.)
  - Crowds and public places (e.g., stores, malls, sporting events)
  - Overwhelming visual stimulation and patterns
  - Driving (especially in traffic)

METHOD: Schedule Gradually Increased Exposure / Assigned Activities, Incremented in Time and/or Distance and/or Intensity that are followed Exactly

Lisa's Graduated Exposure Driving Program
(Beginner's Version)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level/Step</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time (max)</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>SUDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-1</td>
<td>Sit in and Start Car</td>
<td>&lt;= 2 min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Start Car, Back up slightly, then pull forward in driveway, going no further than is comfortable</td>
<td>&lt;= 2 min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Start Car, Back up all the way to street, then pull forward, going no further than is comfortable, and repeat one or two times.</td>
<td>&lt;= 2 min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Start Car, Back up all the way to street and then slightly into street, then pull forward, going no further than is comfortable, and repeat one or two times.</td>
<td>&lt;= 2 min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-2</td>
<td>Start Car, Back up all the way to and one full car length into the street and then pull forward, going no further than is comfortable, and repeat one or two times.</td>
<td>&lt;= 2 min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RULES:
- Stop the activity if you begin to feel even a little shaky.
- Do not progress to next level / previous level completed for all exposures for 2 consec. days
- Email feedback to MFM re: progress, any shakiness you experienced, when level completed

LT's Graduated Exposure Driving Program

Monday (3/23)
Drive from home around 6:00pm to Chamberlayne Avenue and follow to Broad Street to Mid Town Auto Sales, look at cars for 10 minutes, and return home.

Tuesday
Drive from home around 6:00pm to Chamberlayne Avenue and follow to Broad Street to Bailey's Auto Sales, look at cars for 15 minutes, and return home.

Wednesday
Drive from home to technical center while mom is in back seat around 6pm, drive from center to home around 9:30pm with mom in back seat.

Saturday (3/28)
Drive from home around 6:00pm to Chamberlayne Avenue and follow to Broad Street to the Mid Town Auto Sales, look at cars for 10 minutes, drive to Bailey's and look at cars for 10 minutes, drive to any other car lot on Broad Street and return home.

Thursday (4/3)
Drive from home around 5:00pm to Byrd Park, circle through, head to Broad St. to Mid Town Auto Sales, then to Bailey's, then to a lot on the South Side and then return home.

Friday (4/4)
Return at 5:00pm to Sheltering Arms. Drive self. After leaving, head to Byrd Park, circle through it, then head to Broad Street to the Mid Town Auto Sales, then head to Bailey's, then to a lot on the South Side, and then return home.
### Graduated Exposure Sensory Tolerance Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level/Step</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>SUDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-1</td>
<td>Stand on stepladder or chair for 3 Sec's (s)</td>
<td>3 Sec.</td>
<td>3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Perform a visuomotor scanning computer exercise</td>
<td>30 Sec</td>
<td>4 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Listen to radio while driving</td>
<td>1 Min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-2</td>
<td>Track 2 persons talking at same time</td>
<td>2 Min.</td>
<td>1-3 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-3</td>
<td>Visit Clover Mall (9-11am, 2-4pm, Main ent.)</td>
<td>10 min.</td>
<td>1-2 X/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Rationale:** “Like Breaking a Bronco, you can’t learn to ride until you can get in the saddle. You can’t get in the saddle until the horse believes it won’t die if something gets on its back. Similarly, You can’t increase your tolerance for (sounds, etc.) unless your system learns that it can tolerate some level of that (noise, etc.) without great (distress, pain, fatigue, etc.).”

### Increasing Self-Confidence: Graduated Successes

(Decreasing Self-Consciousness, Anxiety, Low Self-Esteem, etc.)

- **Graduated Success Shaping**
  - Noncomplex tasks, successfully completeable
  - Gradual increases in complexity (challenge) following successes
  - Diminishing Cues / Errorless Learning
  - Increasing Accuracy of: a) Self-Monitoring; b) Self-Evaluation and c) Self-Reinforcement (self-delivered praise, etc.)

- **Progress gauged through progression from**:
  - Initial stages: Maximal, Diminishing Cues, Errorless Performance & accurate self-monitoring, self-evaluation & self-reinforcement
  - Middle stages: increasing internal cueing & decreasing need for external assistance for task completion, accurate self-monitoring, self-evaluation & self-reinforcement, to
  - Later stages: independent task completion and independently conducted accurate self-monitoring, self-evaluation & effective self-reinforcement

- Subsequent introduction of slightly more challenging tasks and reintroduction of the above noted process of maximum to gradually diminishing cues (method of diminishing cues)

### AJAX Strategies...Cognitive Cleaning Detergent!

... Stronger than Neurobehavioral Dirt!

**Derived From Task Analyses...**

**Designed to Counter Cognitive Obstacles**

### Attention Regulation:

**Strategies for Habit Retraining**

By: Michael F. Martelli, Ph.D.
Concussion Care Centre of Virginia, and
Tree of Life
10120 West Broad Street, Suites G & H
Richmond / Glen Allen, Virginia 23060
Website: http://villamartelli.com
Email: mikefm@erols.com
ATTENTION REGULATION STRATEGY
Auditory Comprehension & Memory

- To really concentrate, I must look at the person speaking to me.
- I must also necessarily focus on what is being said, not on surrounding sounds or activities or other thoughts which want to intrude.
- Although it is not horrible if I lose track of conversation, I must tell the person to repeat the information if I have not fully attended to it.
- I must concentrate on what I am hearing at any moment by repeating each word in my head as the person speaks.

MEMORY:
Strategies for Habit Retraining

By: Michael F. Martelli, Ph.D.
Concussion Care Centre of Virginia, and
Tree of Life
10120 West Broad Street, Suites G & H
Richmond / Glen Allen, Virginia 23060
Website: http://go.to/MFMartelliPhD
Email: mikedf@erols.com

ATTENTION REGULATION STRATEGY
General Distraction Buster

- To really concentrate, I must look/ focus on the task at hand.
- I must also focus only on what is being done, not on surrounding sounds, sights or activity, or other stresses of thoughts which want to intrude.
- I must concentrate on what I am doing at every moment by focusing on the current step towards task completion.
- It is not horrible if I lose my focus or concentration. I will simply have to repeat and re-focus on the ongoing task at hand, the necessary steps to complete it, and the next step to work on!

Strategies For Remembering Names

- Repeat the name 5 times
  Repeat to yourself and out loud in sentences - “So your name is ____, I know a ____, I like the name ____”, etc.
- Make associations
  Between name & physical features - e.g. Mike & mustache
- Write down the name
  Write name and description (in your head and/or logbook)
- Review your memory immediately afterwards
  Replay introduction in memory and repeat five times
- Use a tape recorder as a memory fail safe aid
**Strategies To Prevent Losing Things**

- Always Review What You Have in Your Possession & Where You Are Going With It & Where You Will Place it Beforehand ...Where are you going & how will you get there & What Do You Have With You and What Are You Going to Do/Where Will You Put It
- Picture Where You Are Going and What You are Taking With You ...See every landmark, item, room, building, etc.
- When You Begin the Activity, Talk to Yourself to Monitor Where You are Going, Where You Place What, etc.

**Strategies To Keep Track of Tasks & Activities**

- Always Review What You Have in Your Possession & Where You Are Going With It & Where You Will Place it Beforehand ...Where are you going & how will you get there & What Do You Have With You and What Are You Going to Do/Where Will You Put It
- Picture Where You Are Going and What You are Taking With You ...See every landmark, item, room, building, etc.
- When You Begin the Activity, Talk to Yourself to Monitor Where You are Going, Where You Place What, etc.

**Strategies To Prevent Driving Lapses**

- Review the Travel Route In Your Mind Before Beginning the Trip ...Where are you going & how do you get there? (Include every landmark, exit, turnoff, etc.)
- Picture The Travel Plan and Picture Yourself Driving the Route ...See every landmark, exit, turn off, etc.
- When You Begin the Trip, Talk to Yourself to Monitor Travel Route, Turns, etc
- Consider Making a Map of the Travel Route, Placing it on the Carseat, Marking the Major Exits, Turnoffs, etc. & Following & Checking It While Driving

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**Lisa's Habit Retrainer**

3N's +1 = Necessary Nuisance for iNdependence

**iNventory:** Before you do anything!

- **Set/Check Your Scheduler**
- **Evaluate Your Fatigue and Adjust Activities**
- **Reinterpret Negatives into Positives** (e.g., Convert Curses into Nurses; Focus on what you Can Do Despite Great Obstacles... instead of what you can’t yet do or how big the obstacles are!)
- **Pace (start out slowly, build up slowly!)**

Practice Will Make it Automatic, Like Before

---

**Barb's Habit Retrainer**

3N's +1 = Necessary Nuisance for iNdependence

**iNventory:** Before you leave the house...

- **Get Your Exec. Organizer**
- **Take Your Medications**
- **Get Your Glasses**
- **Get Your Leg Rest**
- **Get Your Watch** (start out slowly and build up slowly!)

Practice Will Make it Automatic, Like Before
Comprehension and Organization:
Strategies for Habit Retraining

Organization Strategy: Comprehension #1
5 W's
WHO
WHAT
WHEN
WHERE
WHY

Organization Strategy: Comprehension #2

SQR3
Survey (Preview Content Areas)
Question (Formulate Questions)
Read (& Answer your Questions)
Recite (Main Points)
Review (and Rehearse)

The Organization Imperative

Bottom Line
- Short, succinct, to the point...
- ...MAIN POINT...BOTTOM LINE!
- ...Give OUTLINE of BOTTOM LINE BEFORE elaborating DETAILS

One Thing at a Time
- STAY FOCUSED on One Thing at a Time & INHIBIT WANDERING
- Monitor Ongoing Activities & Conversations & Demonstrate Ability to TRACK
- Use Multi-Tasking Monitor to Keep Track of other Things

*M.F. Martelli, Ph.D. (1999)
Jim's Executive Self-Control Habit: SOBER

- Every day, and every Two Hours, to make it a habit:

(1) Rate your Current Impulsiveness and Executive Status!

- Have you been Scattered (Been on more than one task or idea or topic at a time) in the last 2 hours?
- Have you been an Open Book (i.e., Talking about You, Your Concerns, Your Life Story...Talking Like a Russian Novelist; Disclosing Too Much, Too Quickly...)
- Have you Felt Excited in any manner in the last two hours?
- Have your Thoughts or Speech Raced in the last two hours? (or are they Now - Don't underestimate)

(2) Adjust your Daily Activities Accordingly!

- If you Have Some Vulnerability ('Yes' to 1 question, or unsure) to Dysexecutive symptoms, Engage in Some Executive Renewing Activities and Closely Monitor and Reduce Executive Taxing Activities
- If you Have High Vulnerability ('Yes' to 2 or more) to Dysexecutive symptoms, Reduce all Executive Taxing Activities (that is, do few, pace and go very slowly) and Engage Mostly or Only in Executive Renewing Activities

Activity Effects on Executive Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executive Renewing Activities</th>
<th>Executive Taxing Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pace / Slow / 1 Thing at a Time</td>
<td>Overactivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning/Organization</td>
<td>Stimulating Situations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relaxation / Power Nap</td>
<td>Stress &amp; Worry / Rumination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q Reflex / Deep Breathing</td>
<td>Working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming / Moderate Exercise</td>
<td>Walking / Prolonged Standing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music/Guitar/Singing Reading</td>
<td>Meeting New Persons / esp. Women</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Anticipated, Unavoidable Executive Taxing Situations, Liberally Engage in Executive Renewers Both Before and After

Piloting: Internal Self-Monitor

- ANTICIPATION
  - How will does this look to others, WORST CRITIC?
  - Will it help or hurt to turn out the way I want?

- BRAKE ON ALL RED FLAGS
  - Perceptions of Inequality, Unfairness, Mistreatment
  - Perceptions of "Stupidity" in others
  - Perceptions of Being Ridiculed
  - Feeling Lonely or Horney
  - Anger / Frustration / Excitement

- COMPENSATION
  - Inner Running Dialogue with constant Red Flag review
  - Practice inhibiting and braking responses during all Red Flags!
Before Good Friends and Relationships

The Future
Patience
Persistence
Cool It Out Gently
Build Yourself Up
(& Never Beat Yourself Up)
Read & Re-read the "Five"
Commandments of Rehab
Look to the Future (Not the Past)
No Friends or Social Skills or Frustration
Control
Very Little Social Skills & Little Socialization and Self-Control / No Friends
Better Social Skills & Socialization & Self-Control & Friends But Unsuccessful Dating
Some Successful Dating / Clean Apt
Girlfriend
A Little More Social Skills, Self-Control & Socialization / Few Friends / Messy Apartment, etc.
Very Little Social Skills & Little Socialization and Self-Control / No Friends
No Friends or Social Skills or Frustration

Compensatory Habit Retraining

The use of strategies, self-talk, notes, log books, breaking things down into small steps, doing things one step at a time, using checklists, etc.

It Feels Like a Pain in the Butt!

Not Remembering, however, is a Colossal and Gigantic Pain in the Butt!

So be aware, When Habit Retraining Strategies become Habitualized, they become Automatic and produce good memory and other skills, and are No Longer a Pain in the Butt!

Think of Retraining with Strategies As a Temporary Pain in the Butt that is really an Opportunity to Get Rid of Permanently Gigantic Pains in the Butt.

A Protocol for Rebuilding Life and Self Satisfaction and Identity After Brain Injury

The Rehabilitation Progress Imperative

Attack Incremental Rehab Goals, One Tiny Step at a Time! ...Remember, the Quality of Your Life Depends on it!

Do Nothing HALF-BUTT! ...That is, use strategies or do things half way, and then say "but..." *

But I used to could...But I didn't use to have to...
But it's hard... But he said...But they don't understand
...But, What If...?...But my Butt hurts (from excessive butting)....

P.S.
Every Butt Leads to... Crap!

Stairway to Love Heaven

Rule #1: Don't Touch Anyone or Get Too Close or Friendly Before you take them out for a 2nd Date. This means Anyone!

Rule #2: Never Attempt to Date, get fresh, flirt with, or Touch Any Possible New Friends you meet.. Grow these friends to increase your contacts with friends. Only their friends should be considered for dates.

Rule #3: Compliment anyone you think you might want to date. Compliment everyone for practice to learn how to compliment unselfishly. Some things to compliment people about, include: Are Nice; are Bright; are Attractive Have a Nice Personality; Are Fun to Be With Are Witty / Funny; are Pleasant, etc.

Rule #4: Don't go out looking for dates. The best dates sneak up unexpectedly when you are just trying to have fun.

Rule #5: Learn to Fast Dance, and dance more. Look for people to dance with and go out and dance with. Ask your friends out on a friendly basis. Ask What They Like to Do and then ask them to do something they like to do.

Rule #6: Take chances asking others out on dates - let them say no. Don't be too afraid of rejections. It takes three rejections before you learn that it won't kill you, and before you can build up courage. And in the long term, it takes three severe heartbreaks before you are courageous enough to stay out of, or get out of bad relationships.

The future
Marriage!
Girlfriend
More Successful Dating
Some Successful Dating / Clean Apt
Better Social Skills & Socialization & Self-Control & Friends But Unsuccessful Dating
A Little More Social Skills, Self-Control & Socialization / Few Friends / Messy Apartment, etc.
Very Little Social Skills & Little Socialization and Self-Control / No Friends
No Friends or Social Skills or Frustration Control
Rehabilitation

*Derived from Task Analysis

M.F. Martelli, Ph.D.: 1999

Concussion Care Centre of Virginia
10120 West Broad Street, Suites G - I
Richmond / Glen Allen, Virginia 23060
http://villaMartelli.com

Michael F. Martelli, Ph.D.
Concussion Care Centre of Virginia
10120 West Broad Street, Suites G - I
Richmond / Glen Allen, Virginia 23060
http://villaMartelli.com

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Concussion Care Centre
Medical Psychology

1. Complete Life Analysis Form (i.e., follow instructions to rate each area, Love, Work and Play, according to your current satisfaction level from 0 or couldn’t be worse, to 10, or couldn’t be better) to get a baseline starting point for comparison farther down the road, as you work toward and make progress in each area.

2. Complete Life Satisfaction & Self Esteem Form Ratings (i.e., follow instructions to rate each goal area according to your current satisfaction, from 0 to 10; when completed, divide the total score by the number of goals, to get your "Self Satisfaction") to get a baseline starting point for comparison farther down the road, as you work toward and make progress in each area.

3. Continue working on identifying strategies and objectives to work toward Each Goal on your Master Life Organizer Task List. On the small calendar on page 1, please mark with a checkmark for any day for which work is done toward a goal (if more than once in that day, put more than one check).

Life Analysis

Procedure
1. Rate each Domain (Love, Work, Play) From 0 (Nothing, Zilch) Through 5 (Mixed) to 10 (Couldn’t be better; Ideal)
2. Interpret Data:
   - If Overall Score is 15 or Less, or if Score for either of your two highest categories is less than 6, then action is needed!
3. As needed, Employ the Rehab Imperative #4:
   - First - Want to Be More Satisfied
   - Second - Believe that You Can Be More Satisfied
   - Third - Set a Series of Gradual, Incremental Goals so that You Can Increase Satisfaction in Small Steps!

Dena’s Life Satisfaction & Self-Esteem

- 1) Devise a list of important Life Areas
- 2) Rate Satisfaction in each area (0=None; 10=Ideal)
- 3) Add Area Satisfaction Score.  Divide by 8 for “Average Life Satisfaction”
- 4) Complete Goal Attainment Scales (GAS) with steps for Increasing Satisfaction in each Life Area
- 5) Devise Plans for Moving Toward a More Desirable Future & Improving Status in relevant Life Areas.  Focus on one area at a time and small steps in each area (use Life Task Organizer)

Prescription for Achieving a Stable and Satisfactory Self / Identity

- 1) Devise a list of important Life Areas
- 2) Rate Satisfaction in each area (0=None; 10=Ideal)
- 3) Add Area Satisfaction Score.  Divide by 8 for “Average Life Satisfaction”
- 4) Complete Goal Attainment Scales (GAS) with steps for Increasing Satisfaction in each Life Area
- 5) Devise Plans for Moving Toward a More Desirable Future & Improving Status in relevant Life Areas.  Focus on one area at a time and small steps in each area (use Life Task Organizer)
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CRISIS SURVIVAL RULES: Emotional Control Strategies

Mirroring

- **Sponging**: absorbing/ catching others negative emotions; allowing them to control your emotions, reactions.
- **Mirroring**: reflecting negative emotions, with factual comment and without emotional reaction or obligation to “catch” the emotion or respond with it.
  - involves a slow, deliberate and open look at the others statements while **Under reacting**: prevents escalation, allows self control through control of response, allows keeping a cool head to help calm the situation, not let another persons problem become your own.

**RX**: Be a Mirror (not a Sponge). Contract with partners to allow mistakes, not beat each other up when mistakes are made... learning and taking into account the “Rules of Crisis” can help...!
**Rules of Crisis**

- Everyone will be at their worst!
- Our/Their behavior and communication will reflect our/their worst!
- We/They will hold others accountable and Excuse ourselves/ themselves!
- When we are hurting, we fail to appreciate other's hurt!
- Things will get better or worse after a crisis, but will not stay the same!

**EMOTION CONTROL HEADQUARTERS**

**HOMEWORK**

- Look for Opportunities to Think Suspicious Thoughts, Think Someone is Screwing You, and Get Angry, and then:
  - Practice re-interpreting them in a harmless, non-threatening, non-angering way!
  - Practice Saying "So What", "Who Cares" and "Who Says"
  - And, Remember the Stress Buster Rules:  
    - Rule#1: Don't Sweat the Little Stuff!
    - Rule#2: It's All Little Stiff!
  
- (It's just that your injury makes it seem bigger than it really is!)

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**CRISIS SURVIVAL RULES:**

**Emotional Control Strategies**

**Mirroring**

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RX: Be a Mirror (not a Sponge). Contract with partners to allow mistakes, not beat each other up when mistakes are made... learning and taking into account the "Rules of Crisis" can help...!

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**Chris’s Mission Impossible**

**HOMEWORK**

Your Mission, Should you decide to accept it:

- Look for Opportunities to Feel Urgency Or Need for Immediate Fulfillment and Convert it to Strategic Under-Reaction
  - Practice Countering Urgency via the Stress Buster Rules
  - Practice Building up Tolerance to Need/ Stress Frustration (i.e., Become More Stress Resistant, More Under-Reactive, and More Strategic)
  - Remind Yourself that Strategic Behavior is the Key to Influencing Important People (e.g. Dad) and Desirable Persons (e.g., girlfriends)
**Rehab N Pacing Imperative**

*Neurogenic Fatigue*

- Remember to Leave Enough Reserve Energy For Brain Recovery, Strengthening & Building of Resilience/Increased Capacity in Brain Cells....
- ....If You Go as far as Tolerance or Energy Will Let You (i.e., until fatigued and/or sick), you will Not Allow Continued Recovery and Brain Strengthening (...instead, energy will go toward recovery from sickness, which only returns you to where you were...without progressing!)

Pace it...Don't Race it!
Progress is a series of small Steps...Celebrate each one patiently!

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THE END

That's all Folks!!