



# Clinical Gait Analysis

## *Biomechanics & Etiology of Common Walking Disorders*

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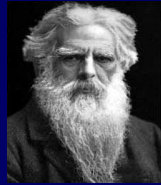
Motion & Gait Analysis Lab  
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

## Teaching Points

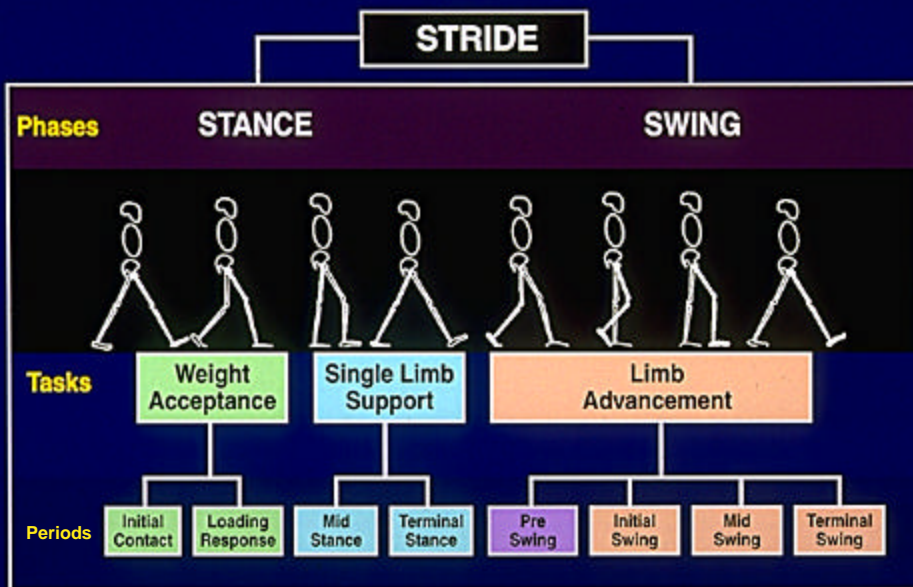
- Phases of the Gait Cycle
- Primary Muscle Actions during Gait
- Common Gait Disorders

# Motion Analysis at Stanford

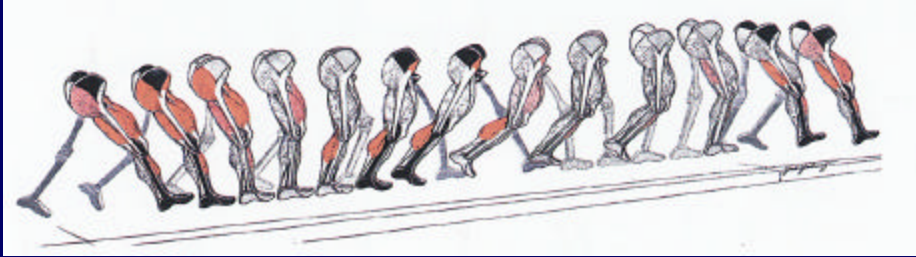
Edward Muybridge & Leland Stanford 1878



## The Gait Cycle

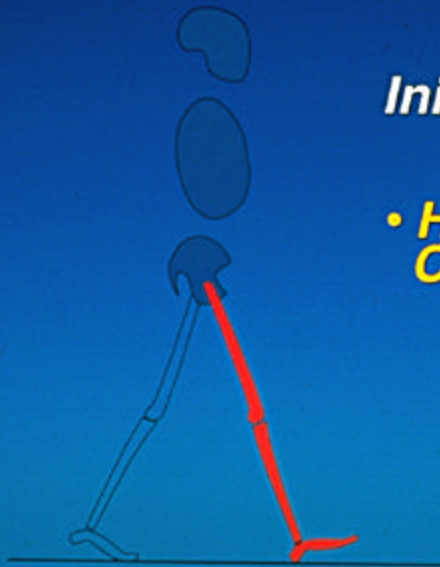


## Muscle Activity During Gait



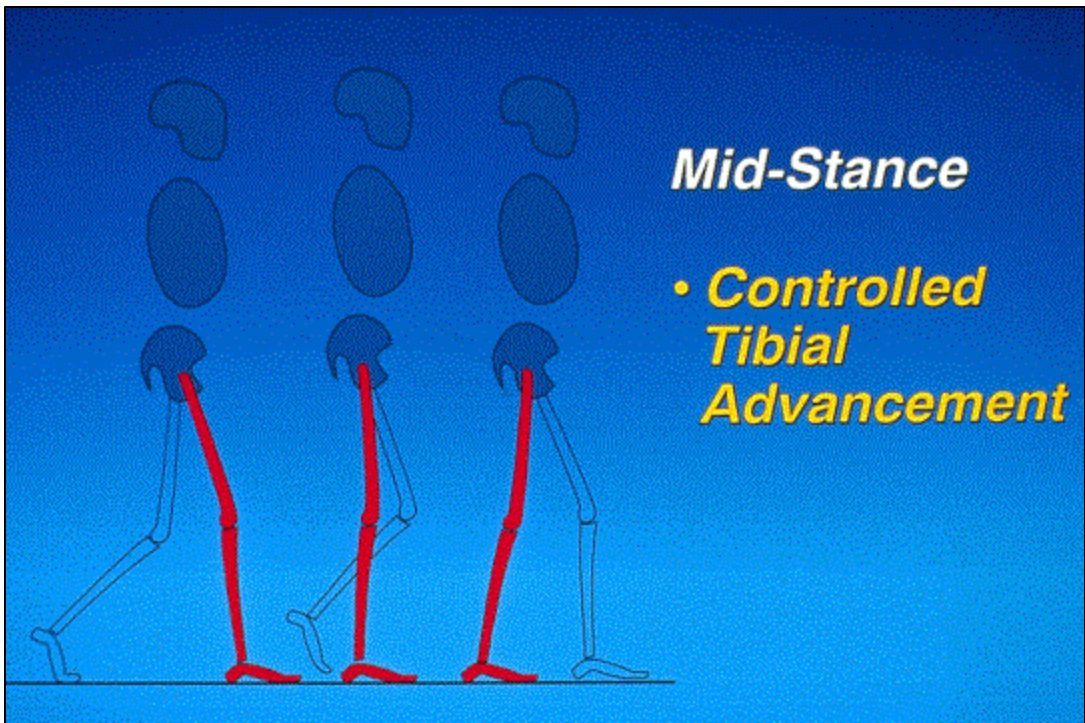
*Initial Contact*

- **Heel First Contact**

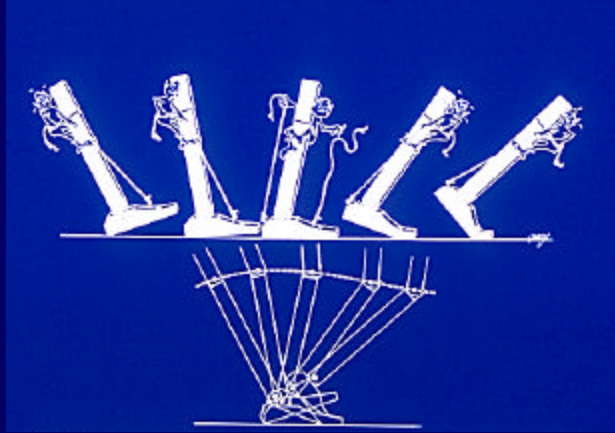


# Toe Walking

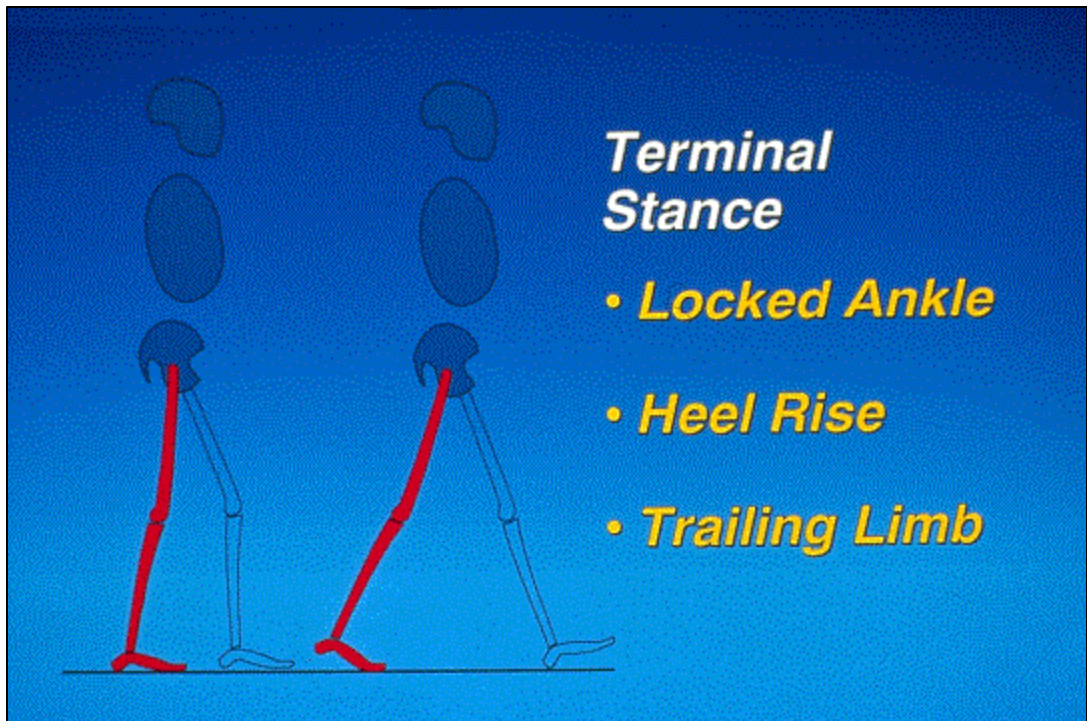
Diplegic Cerebral Palsy



## 3 Foot & Ankle Rockers



Rose J & Gamble JG, Editors. Human Walking 3rd Ed, 2006



### *Terminal Stance*

- *Locked Ankle*
- *Heel Rise*
- *Trailing Limb*

## Calf Muscle Weakness

No Fixed Ankle or Heel Rise  
Spastic Cerebral Palsy



## Swing Phase



Peak knee flexion in initial swing

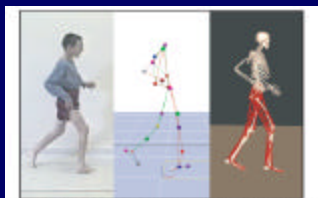
Ankle dorsiflexion to achieve foot clearance



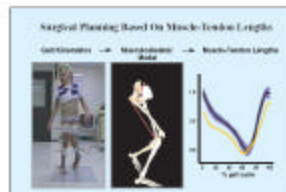
# Gait Analysis

- Video
- Kinematics and Kinetics
- Dynamic EMG
- Postural Balance
- Energy Expenditure

# Musculoskeletal Computer Models of Gait



Computer models are generated from gait kinematics (joint motion) and kinetics (joint forces) and reveal the biomechanical features that influence gait.



The changing muscle lengths during gait are calculated using the computer model. Muscles that are too short and limit gait can be identified and selected for treatment.

## Diplegic Cerebral Palsy



## Diplegic Cerebral Palsy





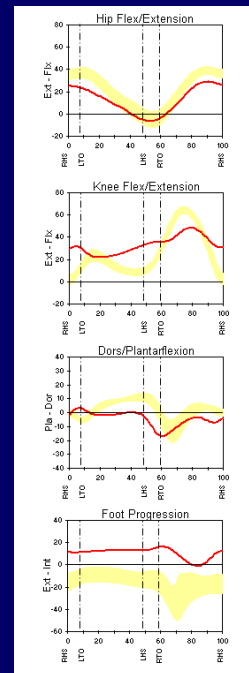
# Kinematics & Kinetics

- Kinematics: 3-D Joint Motion
  - 8 Digital Motion Capture Cameras Record Position of Light Reflective Markers
- Kinetics: Forces Passing Through the Joints
  - Force Plate Embedded in the Floor Records Ground Reaction Force Vectors

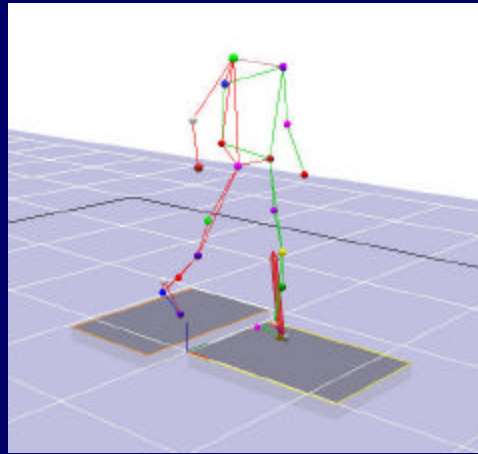


## Kinematics

- Nearly normal hip motion
- Increased knee flexion at IC and stance
- Reduced peak knee flexion in swing
- Increased plantar flexion in terminal stance
- Internally rotated foot progression

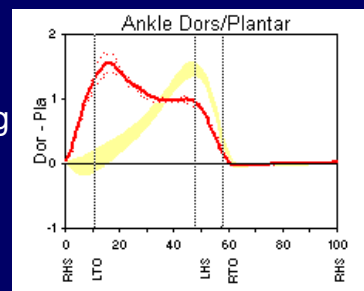


## Kinetics



## Kinetics

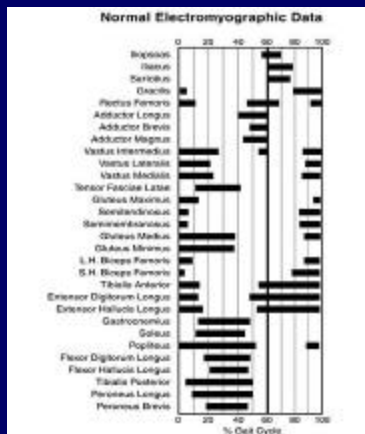
- Normal ankle plantarflexor moment peaks in terminal stance
- Increased plantar flexor moment in loading response “double bump” associated with increased plantar flexion at IC
- Decreased moment in terminal stance associated with a reduced forefoot rocker



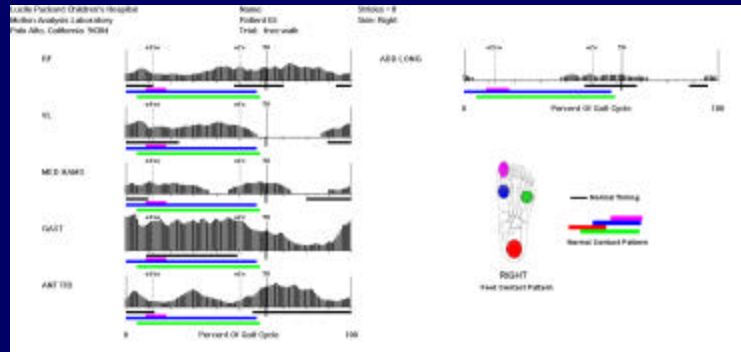
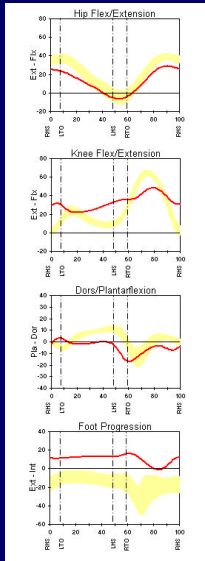
## Dynamic EMG

- Footswitch or Markers
- Electrodes
  - Surface
  - Fine Wire
- Interpretation

## Muscle EMG Timing During Gait

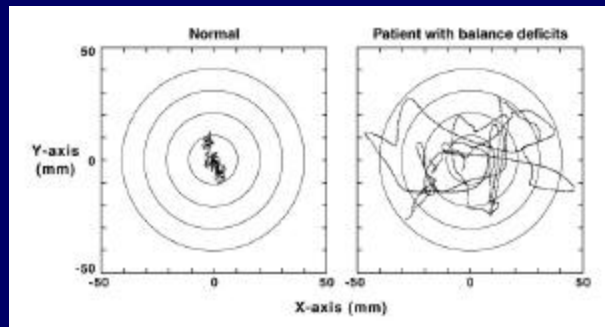


# Dynamic EMG & Kinematics



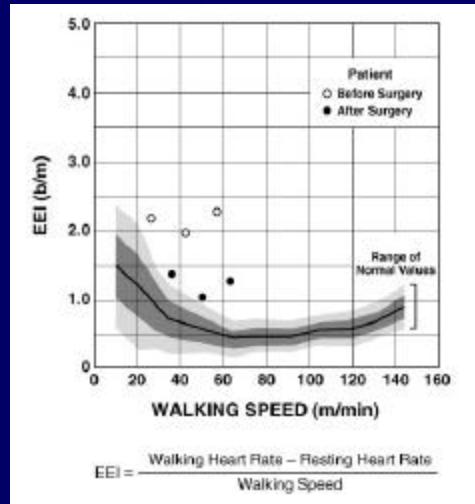
# Postural Balance

- Force Plate Center of Pressure
- Postural Sway with Eyes Open / Closed



# Energy Expenditure

## Energy Expenditure Index



# Pathologic Gait

## Neuromuscular Conditions

- Equinus
- Equinovarus
- Pseudo equinus (knees bent, ankles at neutral, forefoot contact)
- Jumped (knees bent, ankles true equinus)
- Crouch (knees bent, ankles dorsiflexed)
- Stiff-knee gait

## Pathologic Gait

### Musculoskeletal Conditions

Polio, Dislocation, Arthritis, Muscular Dystrophy

- Pain
- Muscle weakness
- Structural abnormalities (joint instability, short limb)
- Loss of motion
- ***Combinations of above***

## Antalgic Gait

Pain

- Any gait that reduces loading on an affected extremity by decreasing stance phase time or joint forces
- Examples
  - “stone in your shoe”
  - Painful hip, knee, foot, etc



# Pathologic Hip Gait

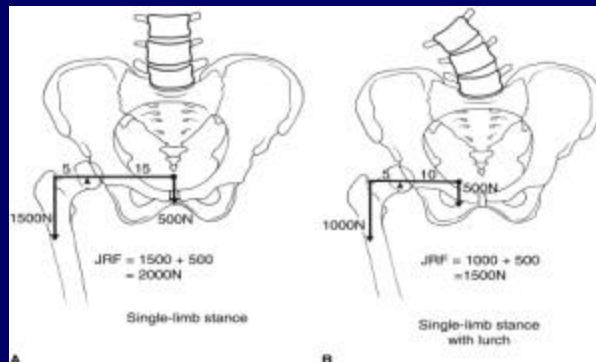
Painful due to Arthritis

- Coxalgic gait
  - Intact hip abductors; structural stability
  - Lateral shift, hip compression, abductor load
  - Contralateral pelvic elevation



# Hip Biomechanics

Single-limb Stance Lurch Shifts Center of Mass



Hip Joint is Fulcrum: Hip Joint Reaction Force = pull of abductors + body weight



## Antalgic Gait

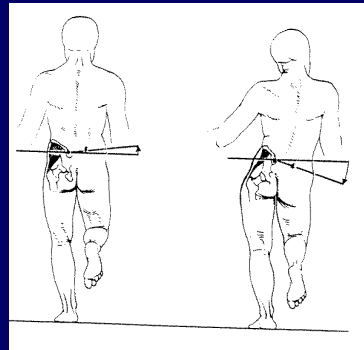
Painful Side:

- Shorten stance phase time
- Lengthen swing phase time
- Lengthen step length

## Pathologic Hip Gait

Weakness

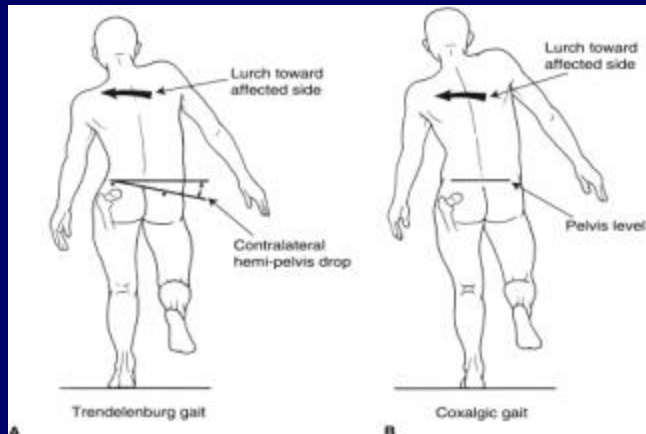
- Trendelenburg Gait
  - Weak hip abductors
  - Contralateral pelvic drop



# Pathologic Hip Gait

Trendelenburg

Coxalgic Gait



# Pathologic Hip Gait Weakness

**Gluteus Maximus Lurch** muscular dystrophy

- Weak gluteus max no pain
- Lean backwards to prevent falling forward

**Quadriceps Avoidance** polio, SCI, ACL

- Weak quadriceps no pain
- Increased knee extension

**Drop Foot** polio, stroke, SCI

- Weak dorsiflexors no pain
- Increased ankle plantarflexion



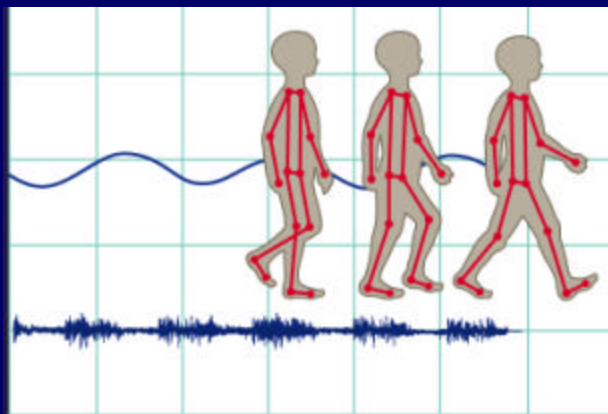
## Cane & Able

**Cane** is used on **able** side - contralateral side

1. Allows for reciprocal arm swing
2. Widens base of support
3. Reduces demand on affected side - long lever arm



## Motion & Gait Analysis Lab Research



## Spastic Cerebral Palsy

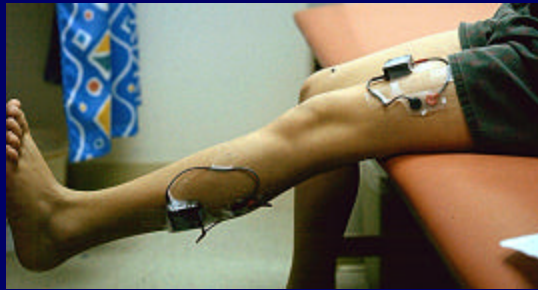
- Loss of Selective Motor Control
- Short Muscle-tendon Length & Joint Contracture
- Muscle Weakness
- Muscle Spasticity
  
- Mixed CP: Ataxia, Dystonia, Chorea, Athetosis

## Neuromuscular Mechanisms underlying Motor Deficits in Spastic Cerebral Palsy

- *EMG Test of Obligatory Muscle Co-activation in Spastic CP*
- *Muscle Pathology in Spastic CP*
- *Neuromuscular Activation & Motor-unit Firing Characteristics in CP*
- Neonatal Brain Abnormalities & Gait Deficits in Preterm Children

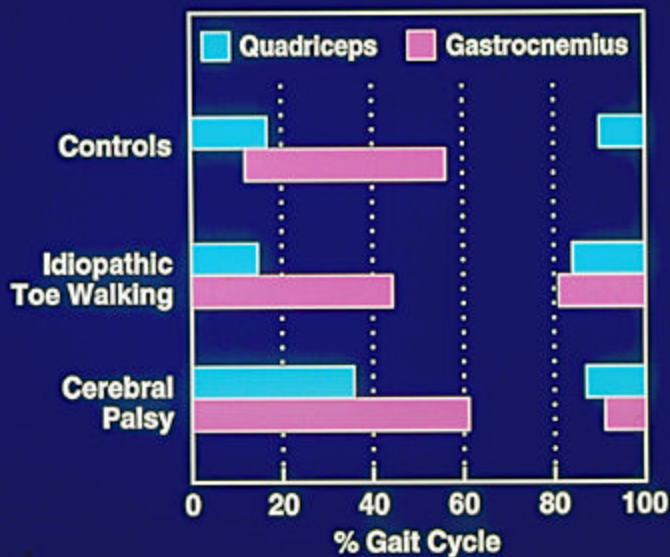
# EMG Test to Differentiate Mild Diplegic Cerebral Palsy & Idiopathic Toe Walking

Obligatory Co-activation of Quadriceps & Gastrocnemius

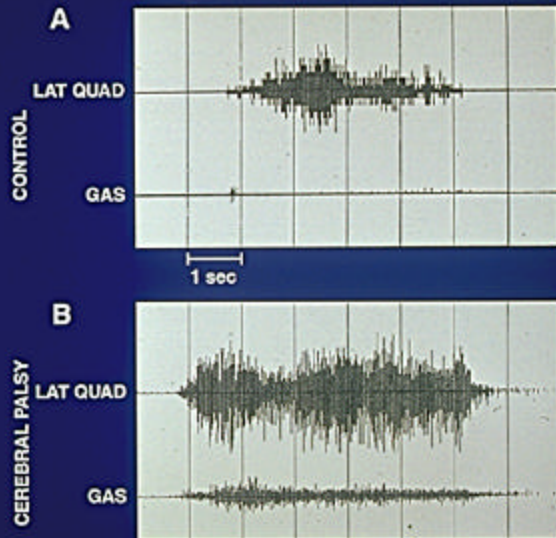
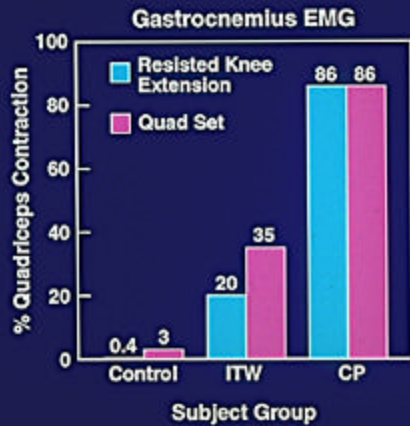


Rose et al. *J Pediatric Orthopaedics* (1999)  
Policy et al. *J Pediatric Orthopaedics* (2001)

## Gait EMG



## Knee Extension EMG

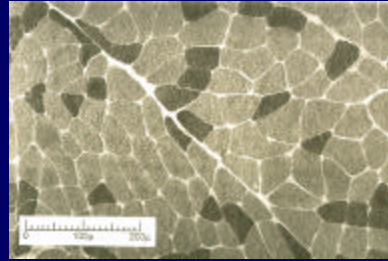
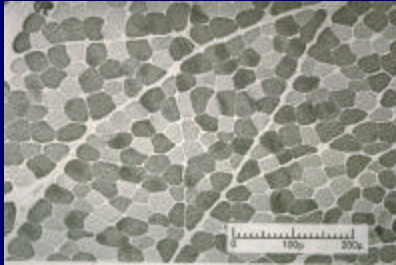


Obligatory Co-activation Quads & Gastrocnemius contributes to Toe-walking & Loss of Selective Motor Control in Cerebral Palsy



# Muscle Pathology in Spastic Cerebral Palsy

Rose et al. *J Orthopaedic Research* (1994)



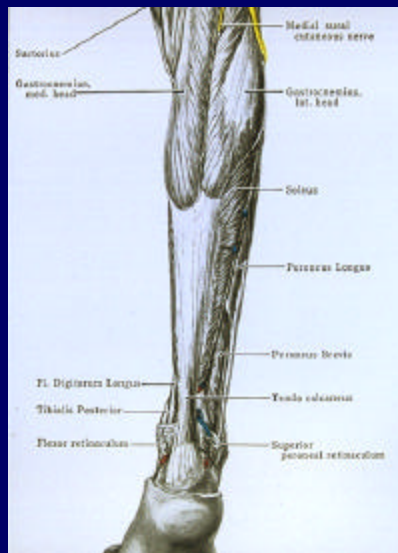
Increased proportion of type-1: type-2 muscle fibers

Increased fiber size variation

Type-1 fiber proportion vs. EMG prolongation ( $r=.77, p=.03$ )

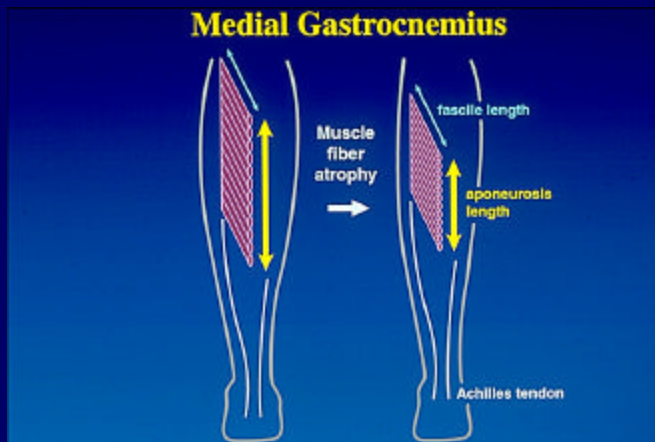
Fiber size variability vs. energy expenditure ( $r=.69, p=.05$ )

## Muscle Fiber Architecture



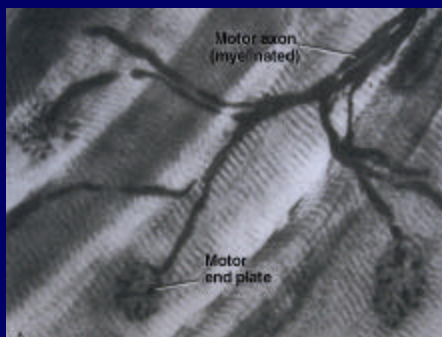


# Muscle Atrophy

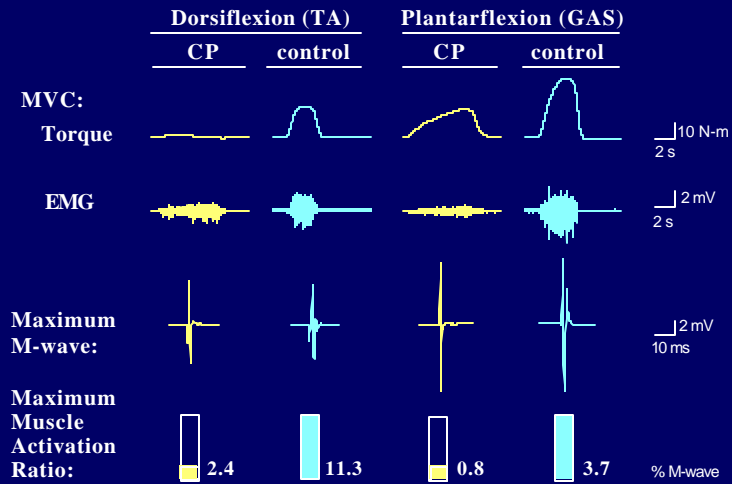


# Neuromuscular Activation & Motor-Unit Firing in Spastic Cerebral Palsy

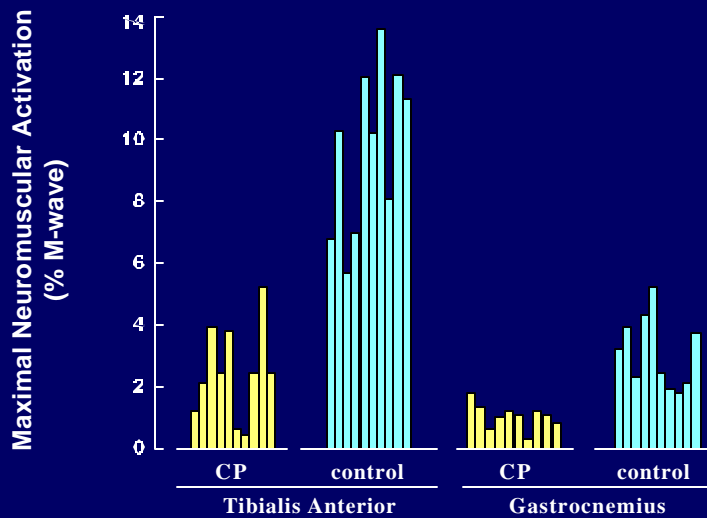
Rose J & McGill KC. *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology* (2005)



## Torque, EMG, Max M-wave & Neuromuscular Activation



## Maximum Neuromuscular Activation

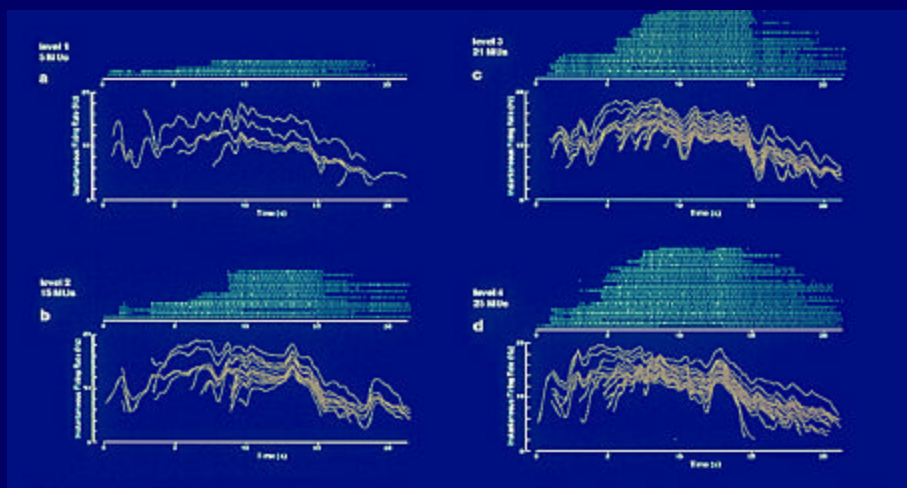


# Sub-maximal Voluntary Isometric Contractions

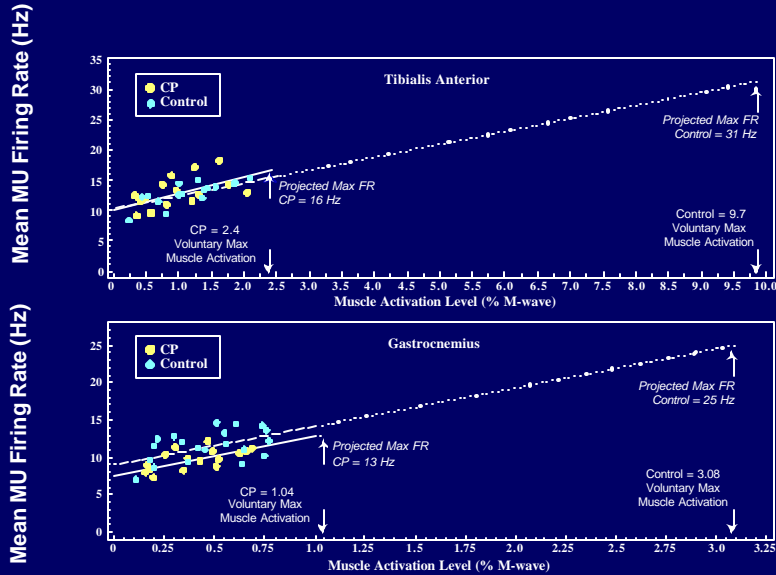
## Neuromuscular Activation Feedback



## Motor-Unit Firing Submaximal isometric contractions

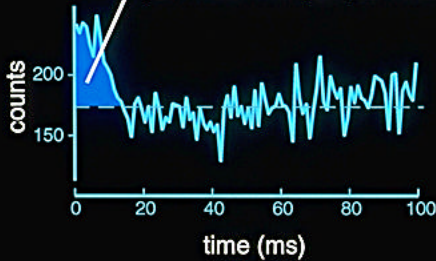


# Maximum Motor-Unit Firing Rates in CP



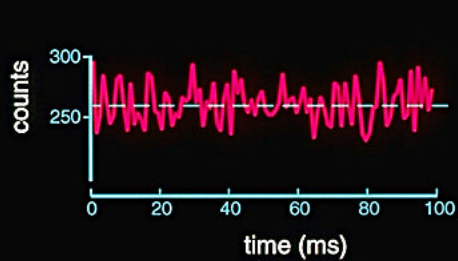
## Short-term Synchronization

0.14 extra synchronous firings per motor unit pair per second



Control subject

no extra synchronous firings



CP subject

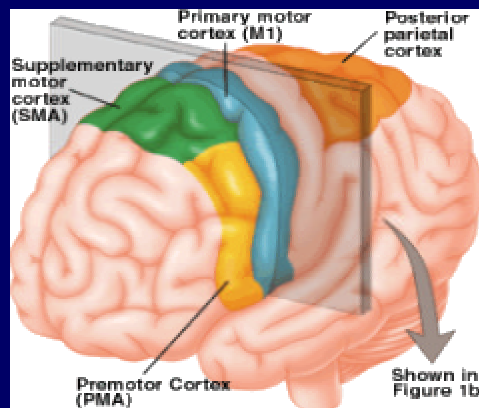
## Neonatal Microstructural Development of Internal Capsule on DTI correlates to Severity of Gait & Motor Deficits in Preterms

J Rose\*, M Mirmiran', EE Butler\*, CY Lin\*, PD Barnes°, R Kermoian\* & DK Stevenson'  
*Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology (2007)*

VLBW preterm infants < 32 wks GA, <1500g; 15% have motor deficits

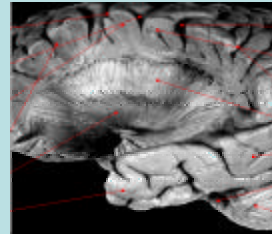
- Neonatal brain MRI-DTI (37 wks PGA)
- Gait analysis at 4 yrs: Gillette Gait Index (NI)

## Motor Cortex



© 1999-2008 Scientific Learning  
© Brain Connection.com

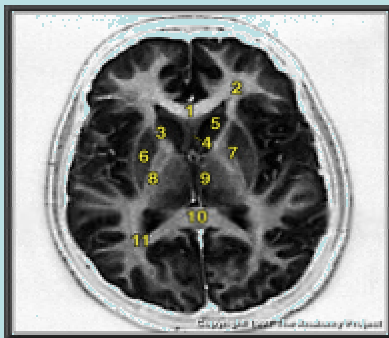
# Sagittal Views of the Brain



Internal Capsule

# Axial View of the Brain

Anterior

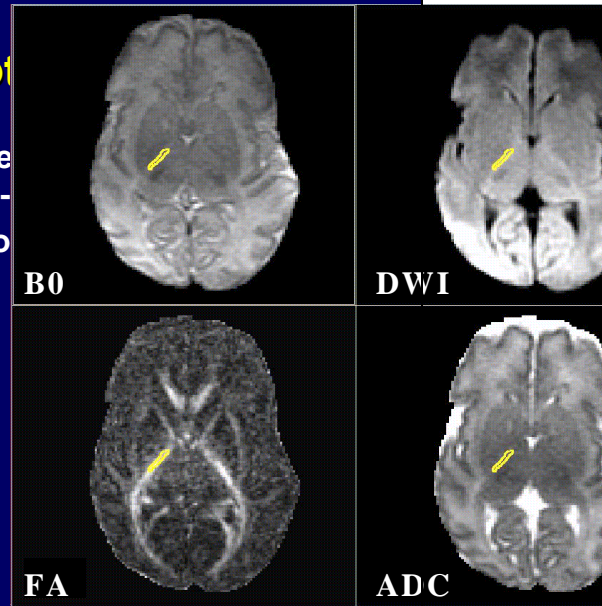


Posterior

1. Genu of corpus callosum
2. Forceps minor
3. Internal capsule, anterior limb
4. Septum pellucidum
5. Caudate nucleus
6. Putamen
7. Globus pallidus
8. Internal capsule, posterior limb
9. Thalamus
10. Splenium of corpus callosum
11. Forceps major

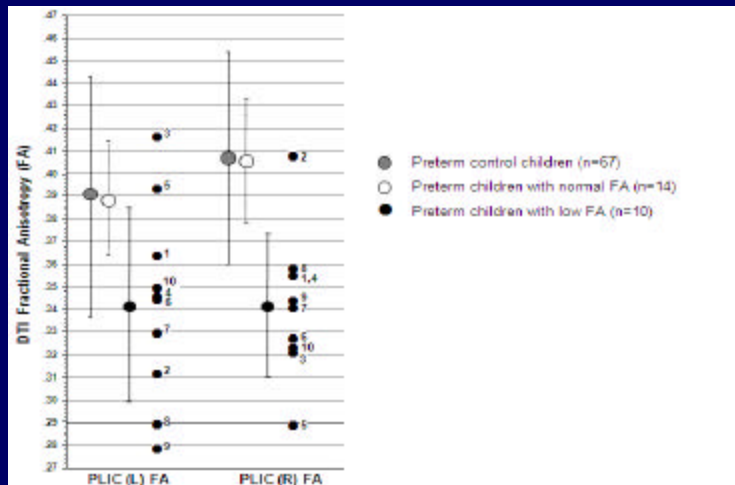
## DTI Fractional Anisotropy

- Measures directionality of water molecule diffusion relative to neuronal fibers in units, 0-1 (e.g., CSF approaches 0, corpus callosum approaches 1)
- Decreased FA in internal capsule
  - Fewer nerve fibers
  - Decrease in thickness of fibers
  - Less myelination
  - Reduced Development



Posterior Limbs of the Internal Capsule (PLIC)

## Neonatal DTI Fractional Anisotropy (FA) of PLIC





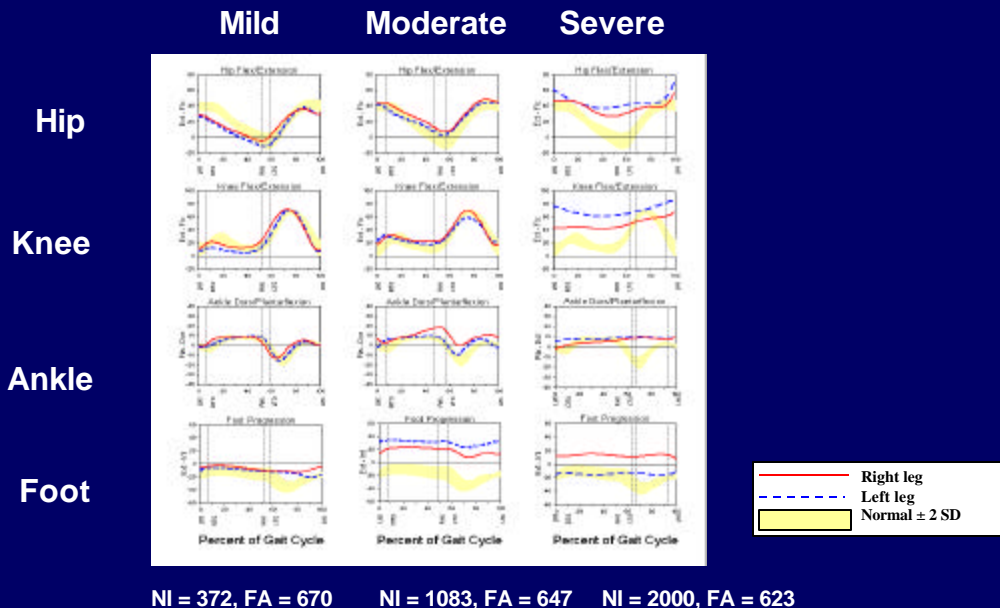
## Preterm Child with Moderate Gait Abnormalities



## Gillette Gait Index (NI)

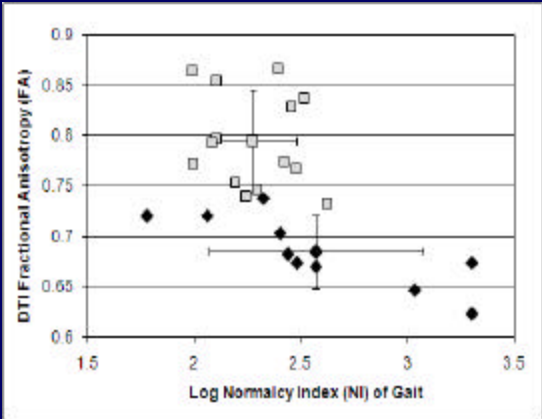
- **3D Kinematics** - single score for severity of gait deficits
- Principal Component Analysis:
  - 16 kinematic measures of pelvis, hip, knee & ankle
- Quantifies amount gait deviates from normal
- A higher value indicates more severe gait deficits

# Gait Graphs for Three Children



## Neonatal Brain MRI-DTI Internal Capsule Posterior Limbs & Gait NI at 4 years of Age

Normal FA (n=14)  
 Low FA (n=10)



## Acknowledgments

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## Thank You

