

Editorial Note

Improving Functional Ability of Neurologically Disabled Patients

Dear Colleges,

We are very pleased to present the third Indonesian Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. This journal represents the practice of neuro-rehabilitation in managing rehabilitation problems of central and peripheral nervous systems of injured patients.

Researchers have been discovering the extent to which injured adult nervous systems can undergo a remarkable functional and structural rearrangement, commonly termed as neural plasticity. We believe that the nervous system is a highly plastic structure in which the structure and function of synapses are continually being modified. An important principle of reorganization is “**Use It or Lose It**”. If a limb is not used, the cortical representation shrinks; on the contrary, when the limb is increasingly used in learning new motor skills, the representation increases too. Many researchers have therefore increasingly become focused on the synaptic mechanism underlying this plasticity in order to apply the finding on the rehabilitation of stroke and other neurological disorders.

The success of stroke rehabilitation, is not merely depending on the need of interventional therapy methods, but also influenced by other factors such as, learning capability, motivation of the patients, facilities, skilled therapists and a team management approach.

These interesting issues will be discussed in this journal.

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