



Individuality

How knowledge of body perception disturbance can inform treatment

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Body perception disturbances in CRPS

Thoughts about the painful limb



HATE HATE
HATE HATE
HATE HATE
HATE HATE

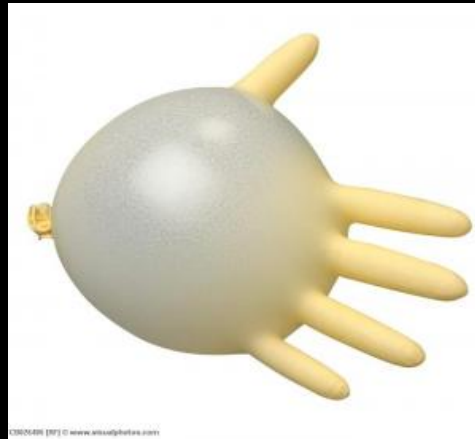
“it”

“It looks
disgusting”

Body perception disturbances in CRPS

Altered perceptions

....in limb size and shape



..... weight, pressure

& temperature



Lewis JS et al. 2007

Why is body perception disturbance important?

54.4% - 84% of those with CRPS report disturbances in body perception ^{1,2}

- Subtle symptoms, often only become apparent via direct questioning and assessment
- Those that present with BPD often having difficulty in engaging with limb affecting rehabilitation outcomes
- Suggestive of an impact on function³

¹ Forderreuther S, et al. Pain 2004;110:756-761.

² Galer BS & Jensen M. J Pain Sympt. Manag 1999;18:213-217

³ Lewis JS et al. Pain 2010;149:463-469

Sensory discrimination training- (Desensitisation)

- Magnitude of body perception disturbance is associated with worsening tactile acuity and poor stimulus localisation (Förderreuther 2004, Lewis & Schweinhardt 2012)
- Somatosensory blurring (Haggard 2013)
- Tactile stimulation **sharpens** cortical representation of the painful body in S1 (Flor et al. 2001)
- Somatosensory sharpening (Haggard 2013)
- Effectiveness of training is enhanced by viewing the limb (Moseley & Wiech 2009, Lewis et al 2010)

