

WALKING INDIVIDUALS TRAINING IN POWERED WHEELCHAIR

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Studies of training walking individuals with brain dysfunction in powered wheelchair has shown positive effects on cognitive functions. The participants trained in a powered wheelchair designed for unskilled drivers. The training took place in different spaces, from open simple to narrow complicated spaces. Navigation was performed with increasing degree of difficulty and when the driver became more skilled tasks or special exercises were added to the training. The results showed improvement of concentration, attention, simultaneous capacity and memory. The individuals quite soon could sustain concentration on doing for longer whiles; showed a growing ability to attend to two or more things simultaneously; and also could enhance the ability to remember plans for driving or plans for driving combined with tasks or exercises. The conclusion is that a powered wheelchair can be a powerful tool to help walking individuals with brain dysfunction to improve important cognitive functions.