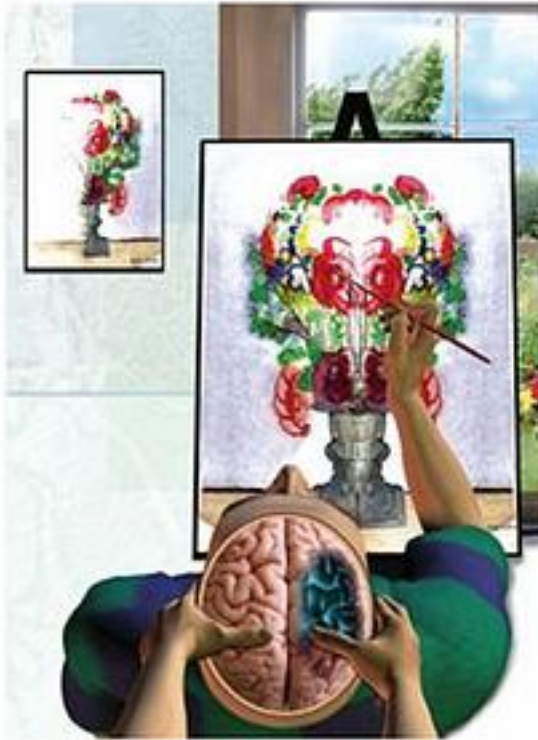


The Effectiveness of Rehabilitation for Cognitive Deficits

Effectiveness of Rehabilitation for Cognitive Deficits

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出版者:Oxford Univ Pr

出版时间:2005-11

装帧:Pap

isbn:9780198526544

Many patients with brain damage are left with a range of neuropsychological deficits that impair normal cognitive process. It is generally recognised that these less obvious cognitive deficits (including memory, language, perception, attention and executive disorders) militate against full recovery often to a greater extent than more traditional medical deficits (e.g. paralysis, sensory loss, etc). Recognition of this has helped fuel the exponential growth in cognitive neuropsychology and neuroscience over the past 30 years. In turn, this theoretical approach has been used to guide and inform the development of cognitive therapies designed to remediate cognitive impairments and their functional consequences. Cognitive rehabilitation has over the last decade grown to become an established and influential therapeutic approach. There is now a considerable body of knowledge describing the principles and theoretical basis for analysing and directing treatments to selective cognitive deficits. Despite this, the clinical effectiveness and extent to which cognitive theory can inform therapeutic treatment has been questioned. It is timely, therefore, to evaluate and discuss the type and quality of evidence used in support of cognitive rehabilitation. In this book, some of the most influential clinicians and cognitive neuroscientists in the world critically review and discuss the effectiveness of rehabilitation methods currently used to treat patients with cognitive impairments following acquired brain damage. It provides a much needed critique and consensus about what should constitute best practice. The book will be valuable for all those who have to deal with the neuropsychological and neurological effects of brain damage, including, neuropsychologists, neuropsychiatrists, neurologists, experimental psychologists, and neuroscientists.

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