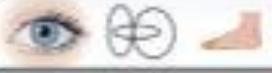


Condition 1



Normal Vision

Fixed Support



Condition 2



Absent Vision

Fixed Support



Condition 3



Sway-Referenced Vision

Fixed Support



Condition 4



Normal Vision

Sway-Referenced Support



Condition 5



Absent Vision

Sway-Referenced Support



Condition 6

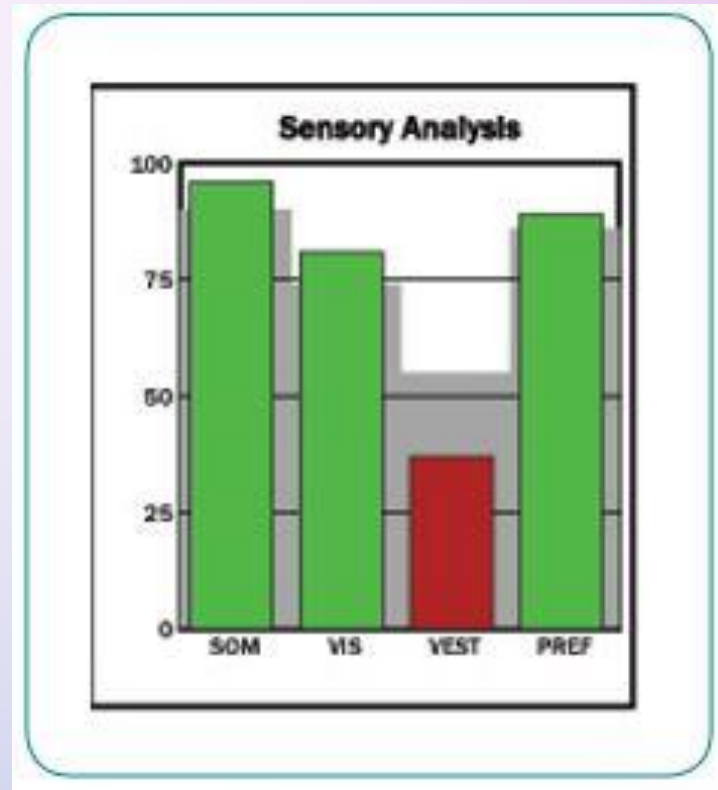
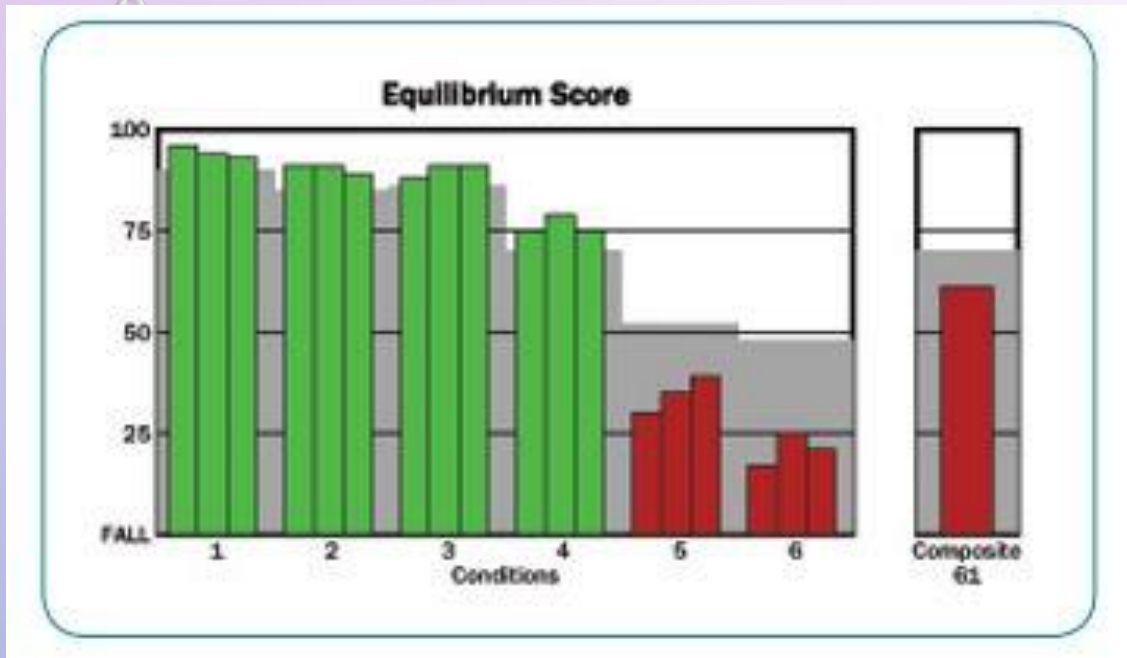


Sway-Referenced Vision

Sway-Referenced Support



DATA ANALYSIS



- The 3 scores for each trial were averaged.
- The NeuroCom program performed calculations to provide the composite balance score.

SOM

Condition 2
Condition 1

Patient's ability to use input from **somatosensory** system to maintain balance

VIS

Condition 4
Condition 1

Patient's ability to use input from **visual** system to maintain balance

VEST

Condition 5
Condition 1

Patient's ability to use input from **vestibular** system to maintain balance



SAMPLE (N=28)

Mean age	75
Range	66-91
Gender	
Female	23 (82)
Male	5 (18)
Marital Status	n (%)
Never Married	3 (11)
Married/partner	16 (57)
Divorced/separated	3 (11)
Widowed	6 (21)
Education	n (%)
High School/ GED	3 (11)
Some college	7 (25)
College Graduate	8 (29)
Some graduate work	4 (14)
Graduate degree or higher	6 (21)
Income	n (%)
<\$20k	1 (4)
\$20k - <\$35k	3 (11)
\$35k - <\$55k	2 (7)
\$55k - < \$75k	5 (18)
\$75k +	11 (39)

Self-reported Health	n (%)
Physical Health	
Excellent	7 (25)
Very Good	12 (43)
Good	8 (29)
Fair	1 (4)
Mental Health	
Excellent	13 (46)
Very Good	10 (36)
Good	5 (18)
Exercise	
None	2 (7)
Mild	7 (25)
Moderate/Strenuous	19 (68)

FALL RESULTS (N=28)

First Assessment	n (%)
Fall in past year	
No falls	11 (39)
One fall	11 (39)
>1 fall	6 (21)
Fall in past 5 years	
No falls	7 (25)
One fall	6 (21)
>1 fall	15 (54)
Where fall occurred	
Indoors	2 (7)
Outdoors	12 (43)
Both	6 (21)
Cause of fall	
Dizziness	1 (4)
Tripping	13 (46)
Slipping	11 (39)
Injury Occurred	
Yes	11 (39)
Serious Injury	
Yes	5 (18)

Second Assessment	n (%)
Fall since program	
No falls	17 (61)
One fall	4 (14)
>1 fall	1 (4)
Where fall occurred	
Indoors	2 (7)
Outdoors	2 (7)
Both	1 (4)
Cause of fall	
Dizziness	0 (0)
Tripping	2 (7)
Slipping	3 (11)
Injury Occurred	
Yes	1 (4)
Serious Injury	
Yes	1 (4)



T-TESTS RESULTS

	Composite Score	Somatosensory	Visual	Vestibular	Balance Confidence
Overall Sample (N=28)					
1 st assessment	64.38	97.26	79.35	45.17	3.35
2 nd assessment	66.62	96.65	82.80	46.70	4.0*
Yoga (n=8)					
1 st assessment	65.38	97.42	78.42	46.96	3.67
2 nd assessment	70	98.88	85.33*	54.25	4.17
Tai Chi (n=7)					
1 st assessment	61.14	95.78	77.14	36.90	3.33
2 nd assessment	61.86	94.40	85.16	31.70	4.0*
MOB (n=6)					
1 st assessment	66.83	98.78	83.15	52.43	3.0
2 nd assessment	67.67	96.31	76.66	54.14	3.8

Note: *p < .05



DISCUSSION

Limitations

- Small sample size, with no diversity
- Large drop-out due to time commitment and scheduling issues
- Not random assignment
- NeuroCom had no comparative norms for 80+
- No way to tell specific cause of improvements made
 - Too many variables (in the study and outside of

Strengths

- Community engagement and feedback was positive
- MOB discussions helped participants learn about themselves and reduce FOF
- Connections and friendship were formed
 - Combats social isolation
- Established protocol to complete on an annual basis, open to the community.

Future recommendations

- Limited research on balance yoga. More studies should be conducted targeting the older population
- This pilot study shows promise, so should be replicated on a larger scale and with a more diverse population
- NeuroCom needs to extend database for comparative norms for 80+

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- We established a protocol for the Fall risk assessment clinic.
- The next annual clinic will be the weekend of September 29th, 2018.
- Based on our limited sample, it appears that MOB does help improve Balance Confidence, which reduces the risk of falling. However, the impact could be strengthened when combined with a balance-specific exercise program, such as balance yoga.

REFERENCES

- Alexander, J. L., Sartor-Glittenberg, C., Bordenave, E., & Bordenave, L. (2015). Effect of the matter of balance program on balance confidence in older adults. *GeroPsych: The Journal of Gerontopsychology and Geriatric Psychiatry*, 28(4), 183.
- Balance. (n.d.). Retrieved December 06, 2016, from <http://www.physio-pedia.com/Balance>
- Bergen, G., Stevens, M. R., & Burns, E. R. (2016). Falls and fall injuries among adults aged ≥ 65 years—United States, 2014. *MMWR. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 65.
- CDC, STEADI. (n.d.). *Risk Factors for Falls* [Brochure]. Author. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/steady/pdf/risk_factors_for_falls-a.pdf
- Hakim, R. M., Kotroba, E., Cours, J., Teel, S., & Leininger, P. M. (2010). A cross-sectional study of balance-related measures with older adults who participated in tai chi, yoga, or no exercise. *Physical & Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics*, 28(1), 63-74. doi:10.3109/02703181003605861
- Haynes, M., League, P., & Neault, G. (2015). A Matter of Balance: Older adults taking control of falls by building confidence. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 2. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2014.00274
- Hu, Y., Chung, Y., Yu, H., Chen, Y., Tsai, C., & Hu, G. (2016). Effect of tai chi exercise on fall prevention in older adults: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *International Journal of Gerontology*, 10(3), 131-136. doi:10.1016/j.ijge.2016.06.002
- A Matter of Balance - Falls Prevention Program. (n.d.). Retrieved June 09, 2017, from <https://www.ncoa.org/resources/program-summary-a-matter-of-balance/>
- Nick, N., Petramfar, P., Ghodsbin, F., Keshavarzi, S., & Jahanbin, I. (2016). The effect of yoga on balance and fear of falling in older adults. *PM&R: The Journal of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 8(2), 145-151. doi:10.1016/j.pmrj.2015.06.442
- Patel, N. K., Akkihebbalu, S., Espinoza, S. E., & Chiodo, L. K. (2011). Perceptions of a community-based yoga intervention for older adults. *Activities, Adaptation & Aging*, 35(2), 151-163. doi:10.1080/01924788.2011.574256
- Watson, Mary Ann, F. Owen Black, and Matthew Crowson. "The Human Balance System." *Vestibular Disorders Association*. N.p., 2016. Web. 06 Dec. 2016.
- Wu, Y., Macdonald, H. V., & Pescatello, L. S. (2016). Evaluating exercise prescription and instructional methods used in tai chi studies aimed at improving balance in older adults: a systematic review. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 64(10), 2074-2080. doi:10.1111/jgs.14242
- Youkhana, S., Dean, C. M., Wolff, M., Sherrington, C., & Tiedemann, A. (2015). Yoga-based exercise improves balance and mobility in people aged 60 and over: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Age and Ageing*, 45(1), 21-29. doi:10.1093/ageing/afv175