



Dwayne Brunner

Handy rehab Scientists with the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research have developed an in-home, web-based rehabilitation system to help stroke or spinal-cord injury patients to recover basic hand movements. As patient Ginny Bockman demonstrates, a joystick-like device called ReJoyce (short for Rehab Joystick for Computer Exercise) allows users to play video games based on everyday tasks such as turning a key or twisting a jar lid. Recent studies have shown that functional electrical stimulation of paralyzed muscles in conjunction with daily hand exercises over several weeks can significantly improve hand function, according to ReJoyce developer Dr. Arthur Prochazka (PhD).