



Visual Rehabilitation and Being Mortal

Medicine and What Matters in the End

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A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several interlocking puzzle pieces. The pieces are arranged in a vertical column, with some overlapping. They are rendered in a dark blue color with a white outline, set against a dark blue background. The puzzle pieces are scattered and do not form a complete shape.

Being Mortal



Being Mortal

- Relationship between a doctor and a patient, father and son . . .
- Process of aging and dying
- Dignified voice to the elderly

Atul Gwande

- “Struggle to cope with constraints of our biology, with limits set by genes and cells and flesh and bone.”
- “Medical science . . . power to push against these limits, and the potential value”
- “. . .damage we in medicine do when we fail to acknowledge that such power is finite and always will be.”



“Enable Well Being”

- Our role is not to ensure health and survival
- Quality of life
- Making the last years of life meaningful
- What is the your understanding of the situation and its potential outcomes?

Education

- Death and dying
- Conversation with patient, caregivers
- Aging and losing independence



Discussion

- What are the goals?
- What are the options treatment, observation, combination, palliative care
- How long to pursue treatment?



Patients

- TBI / Post Concussive
- Post – stroke
- Developmental Delays

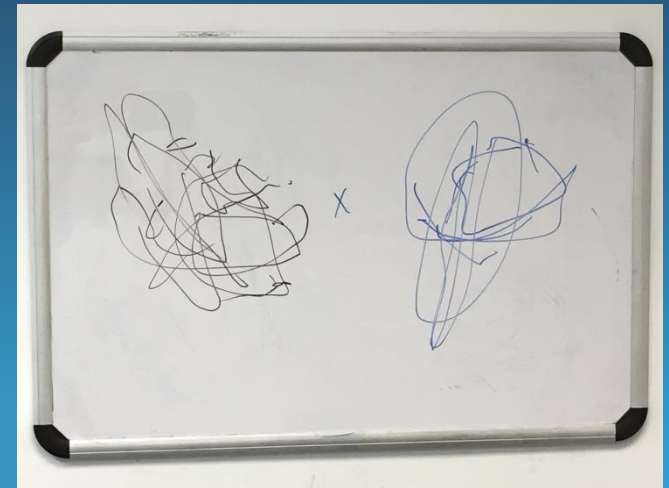
Patient Care

- Diagnosis is enough
- Lenses, prisms, patch
- Therapy



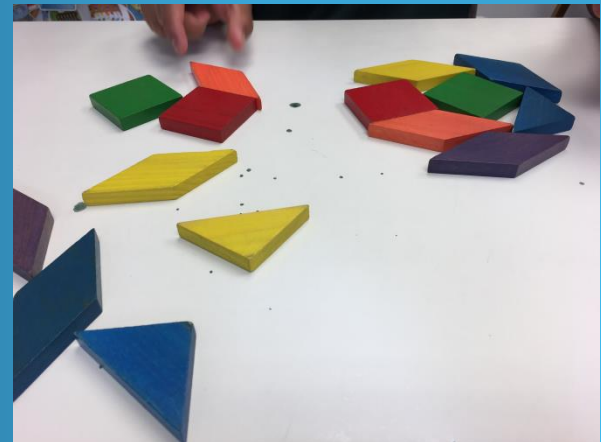
Basis for Care

- Individual
- Brain plasticity
- Room for improvement
- Rate of change



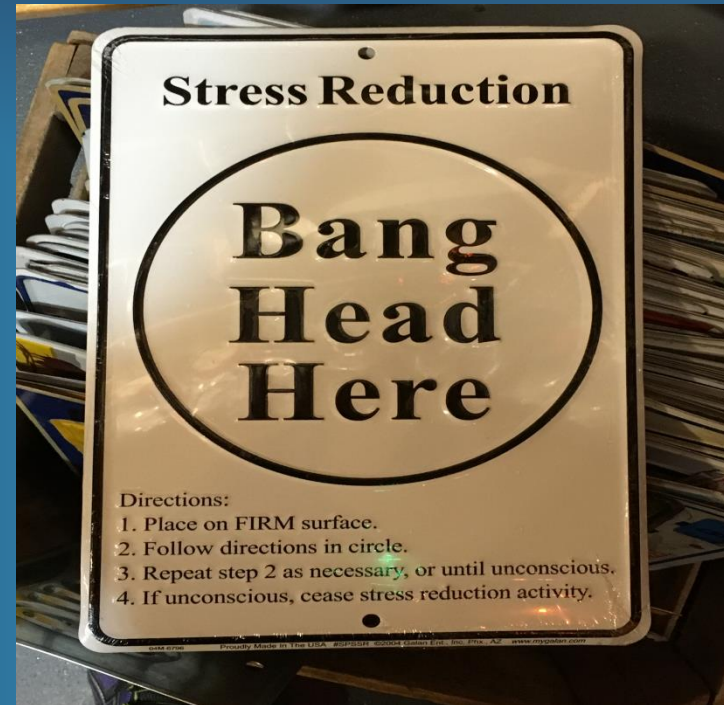
Enough is Enough

- When do we stop therapy?
- Achieve goals or improvement is enough?
- Limits set by time, finances, or caregivers
- Can we continue vs. should we continue



Awareness

- Peers
- Patients
- Caregivers
- Family members
- Teachers





Multi-Disciplinary

- Teachers
- OT / PT
- Rehabilitation specialist
- Physicians - Primary Care, specialist

Take Home Message



Working as a team
to enable the patient's well being

Communicate





Being Mortal
Medicine and What Matters in the End

By Atul Gawande

2014

Metropolitan Books, Henry Holt and Co, LLC



Thank You

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