

RESILIENCE

...through partnership

...through **dance!**



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<http://www.dance-mag.com/index.php/2015/10/luzern-lanzl-tanzl-mit-uns-in-den-fruehling-2016/>

Crazy or Resilient?



Why ...not?

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/08/11/elderly-couple-dance-wolverhampton-busker_n_5667452.html

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Psychological Resilience

- individuals ability to successfully adapt to
 - highly adverse life tasks or social disadvantages (Pezillo 2016)
- psychological resources of overcoming adversity, regaining of functioning and development after stressful situations (Fontes & Neri 2015)

Stressful life events in age

- death of loved ones
- accidents (e.g. falls), illness and disability
- poverty, loneliness
- family conflicts
- victim of violence



http://www.cbsnews.com/news/busy-minds-may-be-better-at-fighting-dementia/?hpid=hp-viewer&soc_jl=pi

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Resilience and Elderly

Why is it important?

- aging population!
- aging is demanding!
- «normal»/usual aging means mental and physical losses (Hsu & Jones 2012)



- **successful aging** is true for about 1/3 => **not true for 2/3!** (Hsu & Jones 2012)
- **resilience supports physically & mentally healthy aging** (Ieste et al. 2013; Fontes & Nerri 2015)

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Aging in Switzerland

Mental difficulties

- ≥ 65 years: up to 25% suffer from mental difficulties e.g. depression, anxiety, substance abuse/dependences
- **social isolation, depression**
- **inactivity (physical, mental, social)**

Dementia

- dementia (e.g. Alzheimers disease) = **13% ≥ 80 years, 30% ≥ 90 years**
- **each year: 25'000 new cases**



(Gesundheitsförderung CH, 2016)

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WHO (2015)

- 47 million cases of dementia → 130 million until 2050!
- **no cure**
- **focus on risk & preventive factors** (Prince et al., 2015)

Risc factors

- smoking
- **low early education**
- **low cognitive activities**
- **obesity; diabetes**
- **sedentary behavior**
- **increased blood pressure/hypertension**



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Prevention

Regular physical exercising

- reduces risk for dementia for about 10%
- prolongs dementia about 2-3 years
- promotes self-supported lifestyle around 50%
- ✓ best effects by **combination of movement & socializing!**

Keep mentally active

(Krell-Roesch et al. 2017; Stern 2012; Stine-Morrow & Chui 2012; Wilson 2002)

e.g. in Switzerland

- **one year less in care => saves 100'000 sfr/person**
- **reducing years in care saves 40% of expected increase in health-costs** (related to aging population)!



(Gesundheitsförderung CH, 2016)

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...She Might Did Right?



101-year old dancer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxrtEgwz8SS>

Focus: Cognitive Reserve

Mind's resistance to damage of the brain

- way the brain uses its damaged resources
- measured behaviorally → as mind's resilience
- differences between individuals in susceptibility to age-related brain changes or pathology related to Alzheimer's disease
- some people can tolerate more of these changes than others and maintain function (see: Katzman et al. 1988)

Efficiency-model

- ability to optimize/maximize performance through flexible recruitment of brain networks and/or alternative strategies (Benett et al. 2014; Stern 2012)



Focus: Cognitive Reserve

- higher cognitive reserve decreases risk of dementia up to 50%
- important concept of resilience in age

(Review: Valenzuela & Sachdev 2006)



What Builds Cognitive Reserve?

- Physical exercise
 - movement based therapy – against cognitive decline in age (Review & MA: Blondell et al. 2014)
- Cognitive demands
 - mental demands protects – even when predisposed! (e.g. Krell-Roesch et al. 2017)
- Socializing
 - social networking – prevents dementia (Crooks et al. 2008; Ertel et al. 2008)



https://s-media-cache-ak.pinnimg.com/736x637/0/0/63760028007d4d78653fda8c3d479058b--save-the-last-dance-just-dance.jpg

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<http://data.whicdn.com/images/1807144/eige.jpg>

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Resilience Through Dance

Dance related aspects of resilience

- **body**-focused
- **emotion**-focused
- **social/cultural**-focused
(Allen et al., 2011)

→ **dancing = combines = chance**
→ **helpful for the elderly**



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/73kx20/a0/3b/2a03b439be1575b6a612caed232daa6-oid-couples-elderly-couples.jpg>

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What's Missing?

Music

- stimulates reward system (e.g. dopamin)
→ what helps in **establishing & maintaining behavior!**
(Boso et al., 2006; Lin et al., 2011; Foster et al., 2013; Menon & Levitin, 2005)
- improves cognitive functions, mood & behavior (e.g. Alzheimers disease)
(Cevasco & Grant, 2003; dancing in care homes/review: Gutzman et al., 2013)



Dance: Music, Moves, Cognition & Socializing

Cognition

- dancing (e.g. Tango) not only needs the body
→ **working memory, control of attention, multitasking**
(Foster et al., 2013; Romenets et al., 2015)



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Verghese et al. (2003)

What recreational activity effects mental functioning?

- *21year longterm-study (1980–2001) / N = 469; ≥ 75–85 years old*
- *Follow-up: 2703 person-years/Ø5.1 years => 124 cases of dementia*

6 cognitive activities

- reading books, writing for pleasure, crossword puzzles, playing cards, playing musical instruments
- 11 physical activities
 - housework, baby-sitting, walking, climbing stairs, tennis, golf, swimming, bicycling, team games, group exercises, dancing

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Verghese et al. (2003)

Reported = frequency

- **rare** = once per week (1P.) or less (0P.)
 - **frequent** = several times per week (4P.) daily (7P.)
- time spent not recorded
→ report verified by spouse/family member

Covariates = effects cleared of

- sex, age
- influences of illnesses
- educational level
- base-line of memory & concentration



Subjects with Dementia
All Subjects

Leisure Activity and Frequency
Cognitive activities

| Leisure Activity and Frequency | Subjects with Dementia | All Subjects | Hazard Ratio for Dementia (95% CI) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Playing board games | 108 | 366 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 16 | 103 | 0.26 (0.17–0.57) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Reading | 40 | 87 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 84 | 382 | 0.65 (0.43–0.97) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Playing a musical instrument | 120 | 452 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 4 | 17 | 0.31 (0.11–0.90) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Doing crossword puzzles | 117 | 407 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 7 | 62 | 0.59 (0.34–1.01) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Writing | 104 | 382 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 20 | 87 | 1.00 (0.61–1.67) |
| Frequent | | | |

Physical activities



| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|------------------|
| Dancing | 99 | 339 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 25 | 130 | 0.24 (0.06–0.99) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Doing housework | 39 | 106 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 85 | 363 | 0.88 (0.60–1.20) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Walking | 19 | 65 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 105 | 404 | 0.67 (0.45–1.05) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Climbing stairs | 44 | 153 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 80 | 316 | 1.55 (0.96–2.38) |
| Frequent | | | |
| Bicycling | 116 | 443 | 1.00 |
| Rare | 8 | 26 | 2.09 (0.97–4.49) |
| Frequent | | | |

Verghese et al. (2003)

Results

- physical activities: cardiovascular effects
- cases of dementia:
↓ cognitive activities; ≈ physical activities (although: drop in physical activities prior to dementia)

↓ Risk of dementia (∅ 5.1 years)

- reading 35% / crosswords 47% / instrument 69%
- physical activities (e.g. bicycling, golf, ...) 0%
- frequent dancing 76% / > 1P. (cogn. activity) => 7% < risk

→ (!) no controlled-trial-group; no randomization
→ (!) longterm but still: correlational study (no cause-consequences)



Dance Interventions

Successful aging through dance?

N = 35 (60–94; Ø70y.); 6 mth. dance-intervention 1x/w (n = 15) vs. no intervention: benefits in cognition (attention), reaction time, hand motor performance, tactile perception, posture and **subjective well-being!**

→ **single-dance**: Agilando™-Programm (classical dances) (kattenstroth et al., 2013)

N = 35 (Ø64y.) with Parkinson's disease; 3mth. 2x/w; (argentine tango (n = 18) vs. home exercising): tango-group = better balance, functional mobility / > enjoyable / > **life satisfaction**

→ **partnered-dance** (Romenets et al., 2015)



http://volingplanet.net/galindo-der-etwas-ander-lang-uer-koerper-und-gedaechtnis/

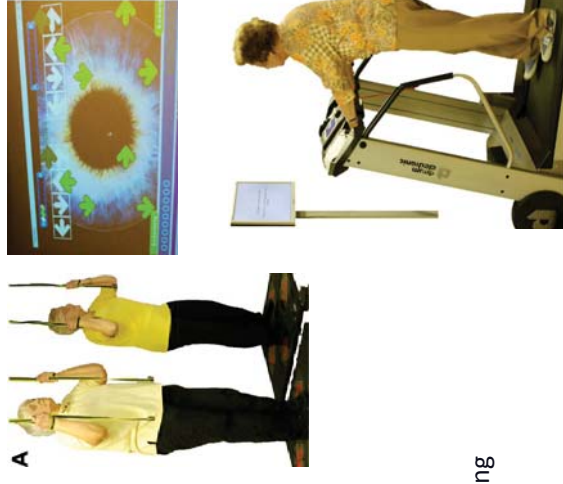
Dance Interventions



Eggenberger et al. (2015)

- N = 75, n = 25 (>70y.)
- intervention: 26 weeks/2x weekly
- 20min:

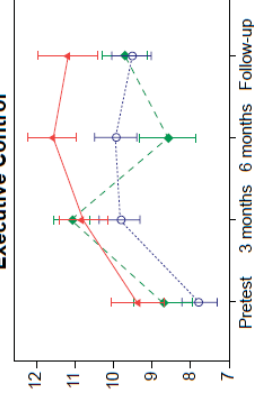
- A) virtual reality dancing
- B) treadmill with verbal memory training vs. C) physical training (treadmill)
- 20min: strength & balance (all groups)



Dance Interventions

Results

- simultaneous cognitive-physical training improves executive functions (e.g. attention-shift, working memory) – compared to physical training only
- **only 'dance-group'**: improves **working memory** (transfer-effect!) – whereas verbal-memory-training-group declines



ATTENTION!

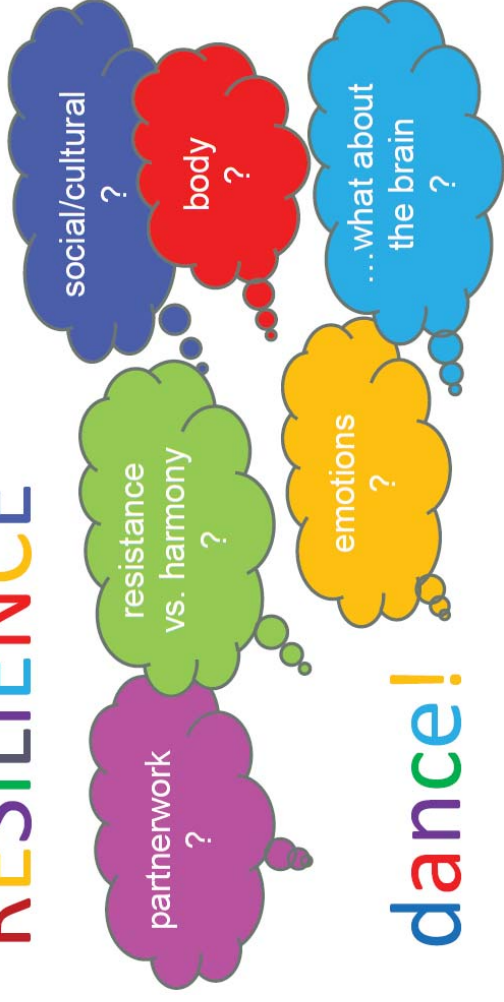
dance & study-critics.... please!!!



http://www.sexseniors.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Best-Years-Seniors-Dancing.jpg

Let's Do It!

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Dance for Elderly & Psychomotricity?

Dance offers

- highly social activity; fun, > life satisfaction/sense of live; effects of music
- physical activity; > body-awareness and perception
- cognitive demands (e.g. Kathenstroth et al., 2013; Lovatt, 2017; Romenets et al., 2015)

Chance for psychomotricity!

- we focus on **body-perception** / **body-feeling** / **body-expression** in regard & interaction with **emotional well-being**
- regard to personal abilities, feelings => work on access to individual resources!

- (!) **value the long life spent!** (take 'their' music = cultural focus! => sense of life)
- (+) **dance ≠ play** → **no infantilization**

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Be Careful – Challenges

4th age (> 80) 'isn't easy': social isolation and perceived decline in everyday functioning

- refuse 'sports'; nothing 'new' => **dance as 'old' cultural/social activity they already know**
- motor decline (loss of reactivity, balance, muscles) => < speed; **work on standing leg, weight-transfer & body-center**
- chronic pain; < motor activity => **duration/breaks, correct/comfortable position, warm-up (muscles and perception)**
- sensory decline (visual sight; hearing) => **room position / talking vs. music**
- mental challenges (executive functions, e.g. attention-shift; memory-loss; anxiety; depression) => **short clusters only / > repetitions / small changes & support room for improvisation/choices (fast cogn. decisions)**

(e.g. Büla et al., 2014; Ryu et al., 2016)

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Not the End – Let's Dance!



<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4409524/Dancing-elderly-couple-dazzle-crowds-new-routine.html>

Dietmar (70) & Nelly (64) Ehrentraud; Dürmersheim, Germany (published: 13.4.2017)

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Further Reading

No differential effects of dance-intervention on cognition

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