

bioDensity™ and Power Plate® for Amplification of Motor Neuron Function

Greater the Force Production = Greater Motor Neuron Activation

The "Henneman size principle" (1965) is a widely-accepted law in neurology dictating the order in which muscle fibers are recruited. As movement of the body demands greater force, more motor neuron activation occurs calling muscle fibers to action. The activation moves from small motor units to larger motor units as more force is called upon.

Force Production in Functional Movement

Sprinting/explosive-running has traditionally been seen to activate the highest amounts of motor neuron units. Neuromuscular EMG testing shows that even the most highly trained athlete activates 80% of potential muscle fiber while sprinting, with the majority of individuals activating less than 50% (Wiemann and Tidow, 1995). In an effort to increase motor neuron activation as well as practicality of use, researchers have attempted to isolate positions of the greatest force potential. In these positions, individuals can comfortably produce forces that can equal multiples of bodyweight (Jaquish, et al. 2012).

bioDensity™ Enables the Greatest Force Production and Maximizes Motor Neuron Activation

bioDensity™ provides a method for maximizing activation of motor neuron units in a safe and controlled environment. **Over a weekly use protocol, research shows the level of activation is far higher than with the sprinting example.** The movements used in bioDensity™ are all movements designed around natural multi-joint action, isolated in positions of optimal biomechanics. **Previous literature shows optimal biomechanical positions to allow for the highest levels of human force production** (Wakim, et al. 1950; Ismail & Ranatunga, 1978; Gandevia et al. 1983). Specific neurological studies, performed by McKenzie & Gandevia (1987, 1988) analyzed muscular performance of this specific action confirming the greatest force production and motor neuron activity in the specific positions. Immediately upon use, the bioDensity™ stimulation engages maximum levels of motor neuron activation. Bhem (2004) illustrated an increase in short-term explosive force neural potentiation (increase in neurological activation) with short-duration and high resistance maximal voluntary contractions.

Power Plate® for Building Proprioception and Fine Motor Neuron Control

Upon activation with bioDensity™ the neural potentiation effect can last for approximately 10 minutes (Jaquish, et al. 2012), and in that window motor neurons can be used to stimulate long term increases in fine motor control by challenging coordination and balance. The use of Power Plate® destabilizes the body through dynamic movement, so that performing a balance protocol post-bioDensity™ session can amplify the neurological activity in balancing the body. As the body is destabilized on the Power Plate® platform, reflexes engage activating other supporting muscles automatically. By doing this repeatedly the effect becomes a part of motor learning. Thus the permanency of the extra balance and control from the use of Power Plate® can enable individuals to perform activities of daily living with far greater speed, balance, proprioception, and control. Neuromuscular effects that have already been seen with Power Plate® use (Bautmans, et al. 2005), can now be amplified to a far greater degree when used in conjunction with bioDensity™.

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5. Henneman, E. Somjenand, G. Carpenter, D. (1965). Functional significance of cell size in spinal motoneurons. Journal of Neurophysiology 28:560-580.
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8. Wakim, K. G., Gersten, J. W., Elkins, C. E. & Martin, G. M. (1950). Objective recording of muscle strength. Archives of Physical Medicine 31, 90-100.
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The logo for bioDensity, featuring the word "bioDensity" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. The "i" in "Density" has a dot above it, and the "y" has a tail that curves to the right. The trademark symbol (TM) is located at the end of the word.