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Discussion forum

Definition: Apraxia

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Apraxia is the inability to perform specific and predefined actions or to carry out learned and purposeful movements, independently of sensory, motor and cognitive deficits that could impair the comprehension of the task, the recognition of the stimulus and the implementation of the response.

Apraxia is due to acquired brain lesions and emerges as a discrepancy in accuracy between the intended action and the actual performance. Apraxia appears in daily activities and in standardized tests requiring actions to-be-performed on command and/or on imitation.

Apraxia is not a unitary disorder with a unique neuropsychological basis. In clinical setting, different forms of apraxia exist. They share the label but reflect independent cognitive and neural mechanisms. Apraxia disorders can be specific to

body parts (limb apraxia, oral apraxia, trunk apraxia), tasks (constructional apraxia, dressing apraxia) or functions (apraxic agraphia, apraxia of speech).

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