

BAREFOOT AND ITS ROLE IN PROPRIOCEPTION

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 @barefoot_belgium



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WHAT COMES TO MIND WHEN
YOU HEAR THE WORDS
PROPRIOCEPTIVE TRAINING?





MUST WE ASSOCIATE
UNSTABLE SURFACES WITH
PROPRIOCEPTIVE TRAINING?



GET READY TO **CHALLENGE**
YOUR CURRENT APPROACH TO
PROPRIOCEPTION TRAINING!



WHAT IS PROPRIOCEPTION?

PROPRIOCEPTION REFERS TO THE INTERNAL MESSAGING (THE NERVOUS SYSTEM) THAT DRIVES OUR MOVEMENTS – OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH **JOINT POSITION SENSE**.

VS.

KINESTHETIC AWARENESS REFERS TO OUR ABILITY TO NAVIGATE SPACE AND THE AWARENESS OF HOW WE MOVE.



WHAT PROVIDES **JOINT POSITION SENSE**?

- Joint capsule
- Ligaments
- Retinaculum
- Fascia
- Myotendon junction
- Skin

**All create a nervous system response.
But not all responses are the same!**



WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT
CONCERN WHEN IT COMES TO
THE **NERVOUS SYSTEM** &
MOVEMENT?



- **TIME!**



Nervous System

Sensory Nerves vs. Motor Nerves

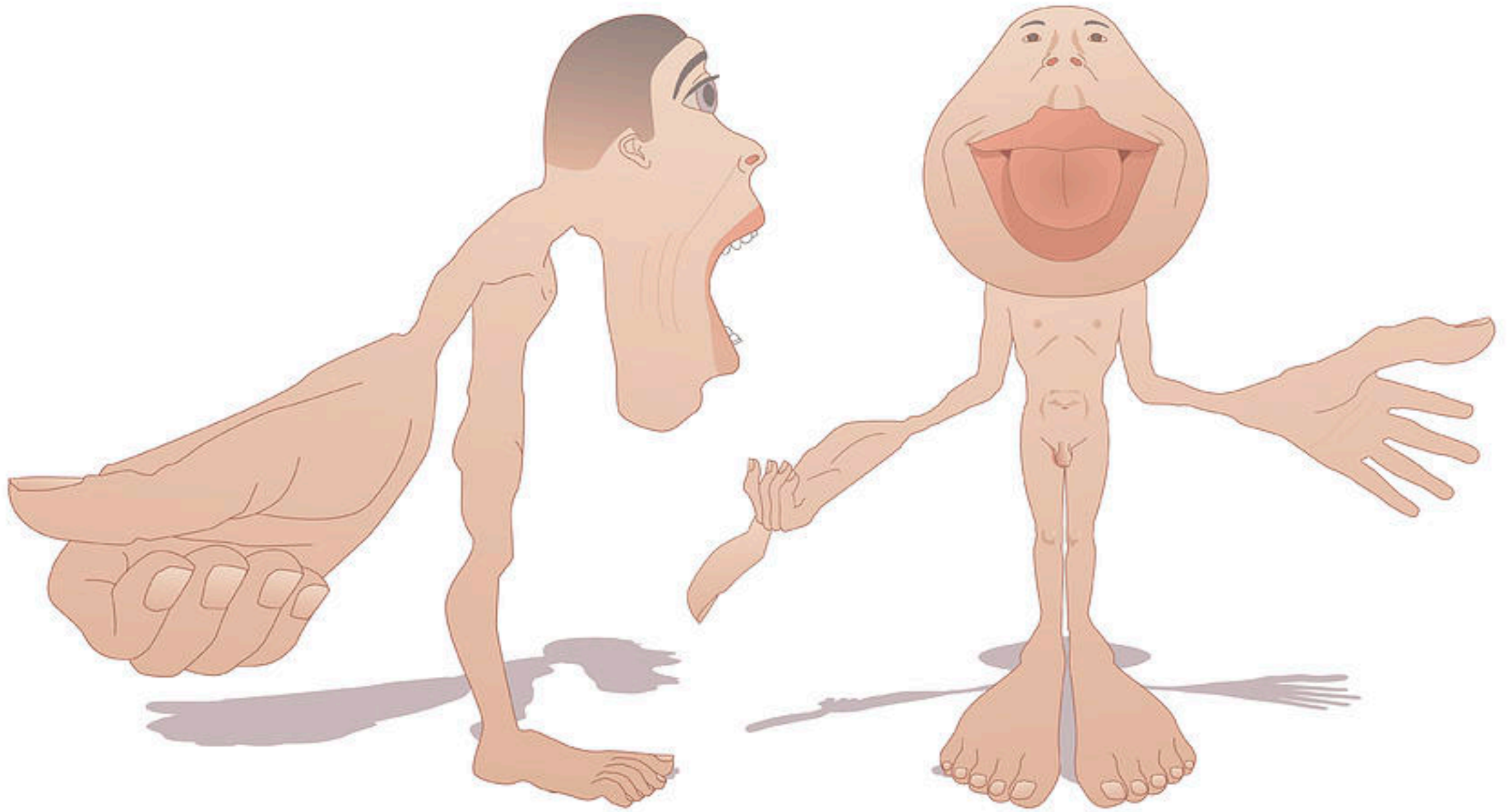
Small Nerves vs. Large Nerves



TIBIAL NERVE BRANCHES

- 3X AS MANY **SENSORY** VS. MOTOR
- 4X AS MANY **SMALL NERVE** VS LARGE NERVE





Higher afferent input = Higher representation in the cortex

HANDS VS. FEET

- 13 different kinds of afferent fibers
- 17,000 mechanoreceptors in hands
- Lower threshold of sensitivity
- Orientation nerves to acquire information
- during manipulation of object

- 13 different kinds of afferent fibers
- 104 mechanoreceptors in foot
- Higher threshold of sensitivity
- 70% are rapidly adapting
- Receptor field 3x greater in foot
- Lateral border foot increased sensitivity
- Decreased distribution in the medial arch



wiseGEEK



Types of Sensory Nerves

- Nociceptors – Sharp vs. Dull
- Thermoceptors – Hot vs. Cold
- **Mechano (haptic) ceptors** – Shape, Texture, Vibration
- **Proprioceptors** – Stretch



Types of Sensory Nerves

- **Mechanoreceptors (myelinated)**

Proprioceptors (myelinated)

In fitness and rehab we focus on the myelinated mechanoreceptors and proprioceptors.



Mechanoreceptors (Haptic) - Touch

Slow Adapting: Responding throughout the stimulus

SAI (Merkel Disc) – Two point discrimination 1mm apart

SAII (Ruffini Endings) – Not found in primates – Skin stretch

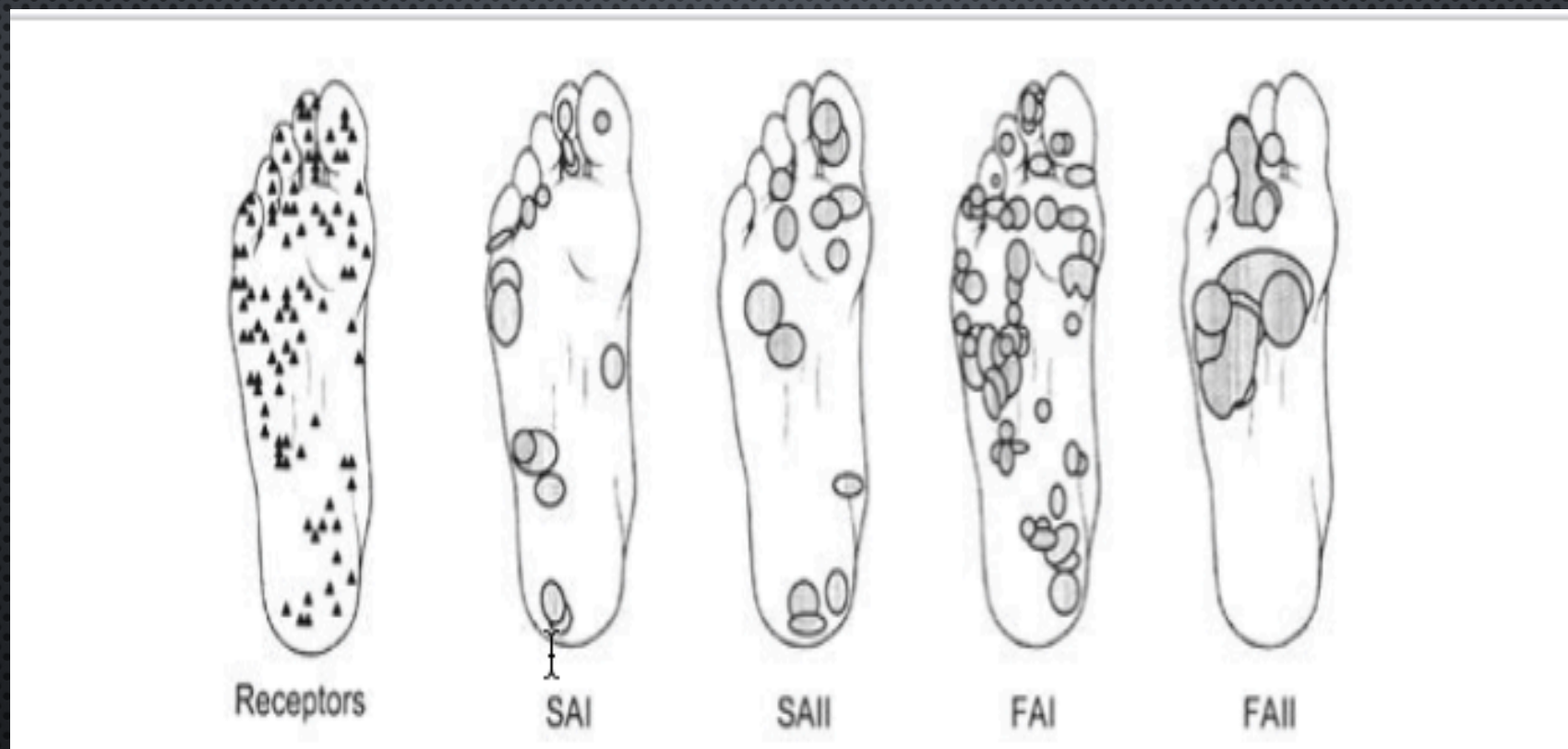
Fast Adapting: Responding at onset of stimulus

FAI (Meissner Corpuscle) – Low frequency vibration (flutter)

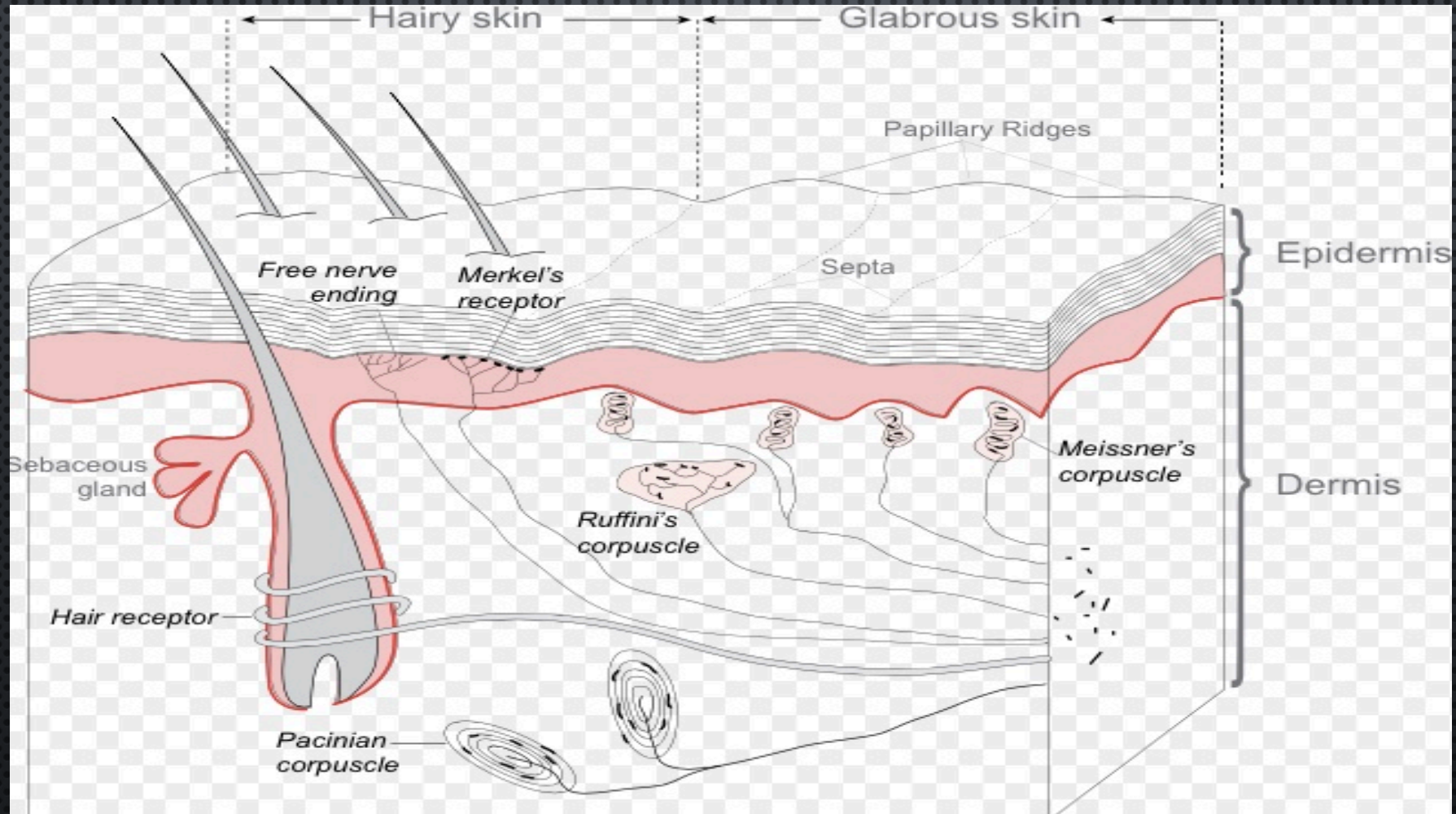
FAII (Pacinian Corpuscle) – High frequency vibration < 300 Hz



Receptor placement in the foot



Mechanoreceptors in the foot



**What is the sensory stimulation
of locomotion?**



VIBRATIONS



Vibrations

1 – 1.5x our body weight in
potential energy enters the
body at a rate < 50ms



Why you can't rely on your reaction response

- IT TAKES 54 MSECS FOR YOUR PERONEAL MUSCLE PROPRIOCEPTORS TO DETECT THE STRETCH OF AN INVERSION ANKLE SPRAIN.
- IT TAKES ANOTHER 72 MSECS FOR THE PERONEALS TO REACTIVELY CONTRACT TO TRY AND PREVENT THE ANKLE SPRAIN.
- TOGETHER THAT'S 126 MSECS.
- IT TAKES ONLY 80 MSECS TO INVERT AND SPRAIN YOUR ANKLE.



Plantar receptors stats

- 80% of plantar receptors are sensitive to vibration.
- **Plantar receptor density decreases and sensitivity threshold increases as we age.**



What's the functional impact of **cushion** in footwear?



How do we damp vibrations?

Isometric contractions allow potential energy to go to the fascia and tendons



How do we damp quickly?

React vs. Anticipate

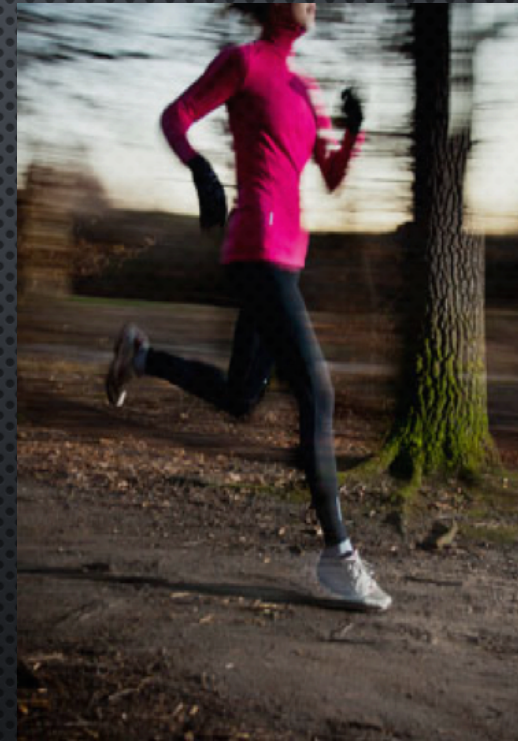
- Pre-activation responses before foot contact
- Feed forward responses of cerebellum dictated by the accuracy of previous experiences



Neuromuscular responses

**BAREFOOT
STRONG**

Reactive vs Pre-active



Initiate Loading Response Faster

- Training the pre-activation system
- Improving proprioceptive awareness



How do you train the (faster)
pre-active system?

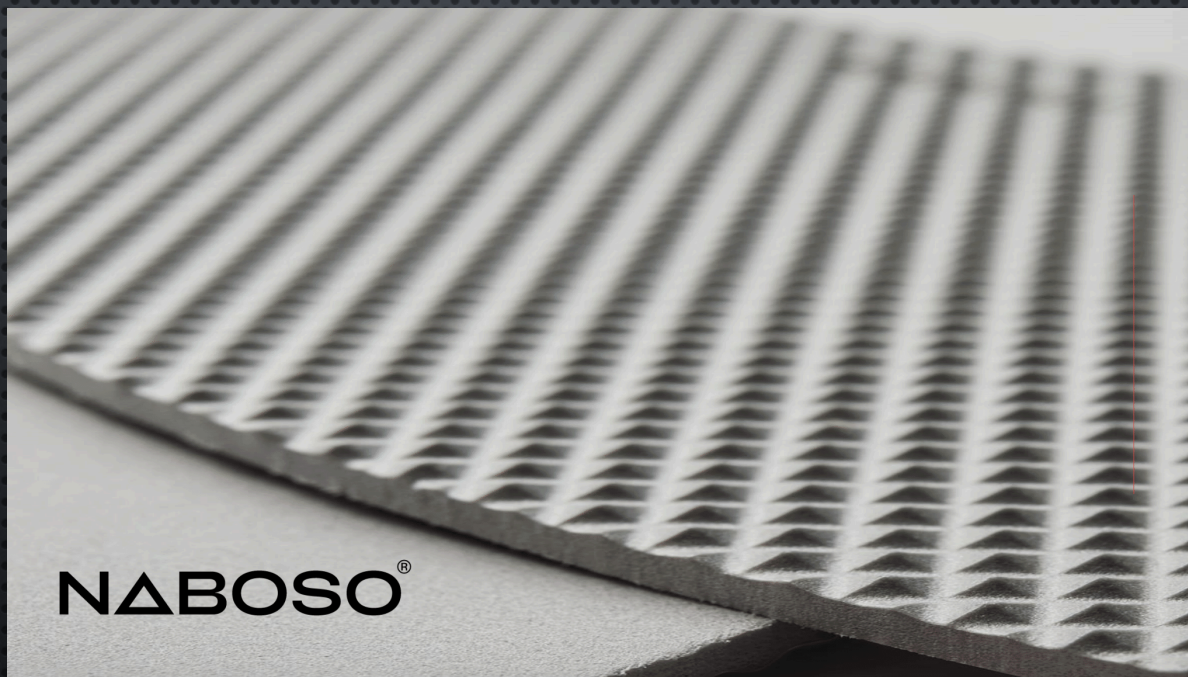


BAREFOOT!



Naboso Proprioceptive Training

SAI (Merkel Disc) – Two point discrimination 1mm apart



Barefoot before shod



Small nerve



Large nerve



Intrinsic Strength & Stability



Increased intrinsic muscle strength led to
faster response time of ankle stabilizers



Let's move



KEY POINTS ON HOW TO TRAIN PROPRIOCEPTION DURING REHAB?

- Barefoot Training
- Optimal feedback in your sensory system by using Naboso stimulation
- Intrinsic foot strength
- Training the preactivation



KEY POINTS ON HOW TO TRAIN PROPRIOCEPTION DURING REHAB?

- From the ground up
- Foot to core
- Vary in ground surface
- Add in eye movement training



UPCOMING SEMINARS IN 2022

- Barefoot Training Specialist in leuven 9-10 SEPTEMBER
- Naboso Neurosensory Certification in Antwerpen 19 NOVEMBER
- Barehand Training Specialist in Gent 25-26 NOVEMBER
- Pelvic Balance in Gent 26-27 NOVEMBER

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REACH OUT

- MORE INFO ABOUT OUR UPCOMING SEMINARS ON WWW.BAREFOOTBELGIUM.COM
- MORE INFO ON NABOSO AT WWW.NABOSO.COM
- FOR QUESTIONS, FIND ME ON **@BAREFOOT_BELGIUM**  OR **ANTON@PROACTIVEKINE.BE**

