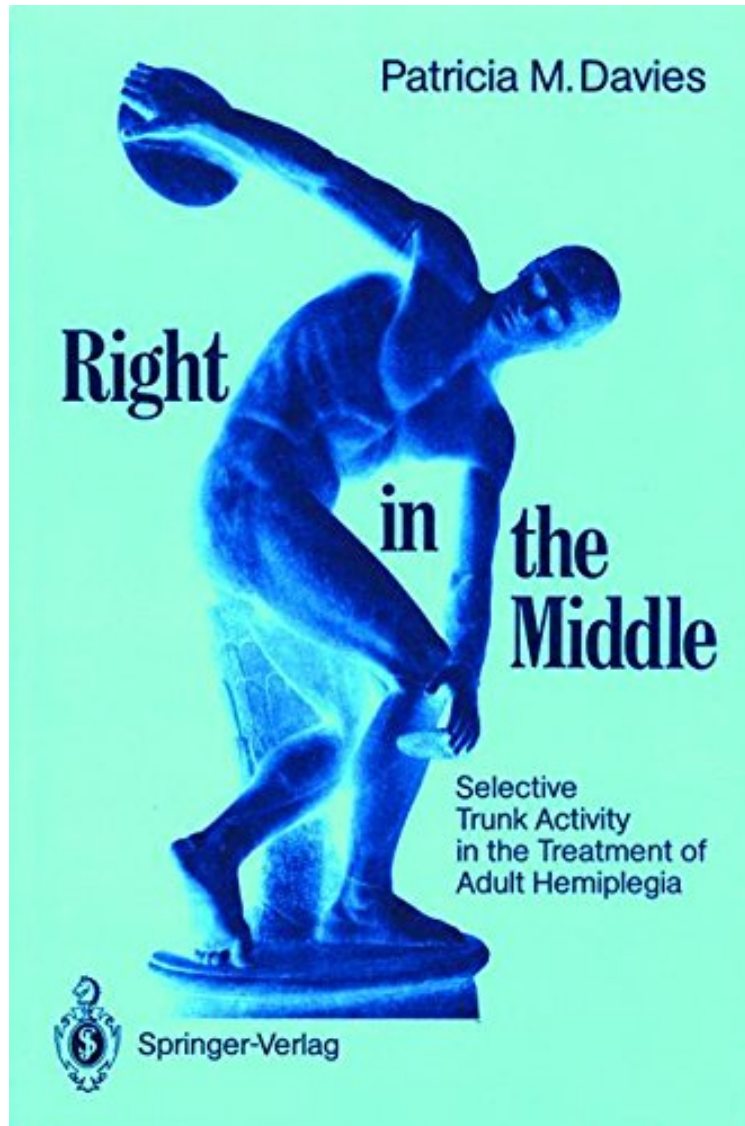


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## Right in the Middle: Selective Trunk Activity in the Treatment of Adult Hemiplegia

Patricia M. Davies

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What is it that characterises Pat Davies' second book about hemi plegia and makes it so special? It is a book which committed ther apists can really use in their practical work with patients. We ther apists need such books. The engagement and enthusiasm must come from us. It is similar to a good cookbook. Admittedly one has to know something about cooking but when learning the secrets of haute cuisine - not just the expensive frills but the real refinement- then theoretical dissertations are not very helpful. In practice com ments like "you just have to have the right touch" are useless. Many books are disappointing because the reader cannot learn how to put theory into practice, as the author does not disclose the true secrets of his success, perhaps not really wanting the eager stu dents to "bake a good cake" for example. Such is not the case with this book. In the first theoretical chap ter "The Normal Trunk - Evolutionary and Anatomical Consider ations" the reader is given information about the significance of the normal anatomical relationships in the development of the body segments: the pelvis, thorax and head. The second chapter, "Aspects of Trunk Control", deals with the muscular control of movement within each of these inherently mobile segments. In the terminology of "Functional Kinetics" the different types of muscle activities are described, defining the importance of the selective use of the musculature in reaction to the pull of gravity.

"This book is Pat Davies's second on hemiplegia. Her original book, Steps to Follow, was a must ... Right in the Middle does not replace her first book but adds extra information to it." British Journal of Occupational Therapy It focuses on a subject that has been all but ignored up to now in rehabilitation literature: selective trunk activity. The book gives clear, concise instruction, illustrated by a wealth of photographs, to help therapists learn how to observe and improve selective trunk activity. "... packed with clinical suggestions for handling the patient ... I strongly recommend Right in the Middle..." Physical Therapy (J.of the Americ. Physical Therapy Assoc.)