

Rehabilitation of an electrical burn patient using thermal biofeedback.

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A sailor received severe damage to his wrist and hand caused by an electrical accident which rendered him unable to do small grasping movement. He was particularly frustrated by his inability to handle the lines of his sailing boat and thus, not be able to participate in his favorite sport.

For 14 sessions he practiced temperature biofeedback and was able to increase his hand temperature from 77 degrees F to over 98 degrees F. He reported being able to increase hand temperature at will after training. The planned surgery to repair damage and remove scar tissue was cancelled as his recovery was such that he no longer required the surgery. That spring, he was out sailing on the lake holding the line in his 'damaged' hand.