

# S.I.T.E.M.S.H

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SKIING TRAUMATOLOGY AND WINTER SPORTS MEDICINE



S.I.T.E.M.S.H



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# Alpine Skiing for Prevention and Therapy of Osteoporosis

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ARACELSUS

MEDIZINISCHE PRIVATUNIVERSITÄT

University Clinic Salzburg, PMR, Prof. Anton Wicker

FEDERAL HOSPITAL SALZBURG

# Is alpine skiing dangerous or safety?



**Alpine skiing  
is one of the  
safetiest sports**





# **Alpine skiing has an extremely positive impact on health**



α

59



**But – this  
cannot be said  
of Alpine Ski Racing!**

# How safe is public or common alpine Skiing



A winter landscape with snow-covered trees and a path leading into the distance under a blue sky. The scene is bright and clear, with a path of footprints and tracks leading from the foreground into the distance. The trees are heavily laden with snow, and the sky is a clear, vibrant blue.

# What studies are saying?

University Clinic Salzburg, PMR  
Prof. Anton Wicker

**In Austria 9 million  
skiers per year**

**90 000 injuries (the most  
of them not severe)**

**100 skiers – one injury**

**Statistically one alpine skier suffers 0,3 injuries in 1000 ski hours**

**The risk of an injury  
is much more lower than  
in the most common ball games  
like soccer, handball, volleyball  
and basketball**

**Since 1979 the number of  
alpine ski accidents is  
reduced about 50% in Austria**



**The absolute number of  
injuries  
in alpine skiing is  
1 to 2 accidents  
in 1000 skiing days**



**Genderspecific  
distribution of injuries  
in alpine skiing in %  
(ÖSV 2010/2011)**

**Head (Men 15, Women 9)**

**Shoulder, Back, Neck (Men 27, Women 11)**

**Arm (Men 6, Women 7)**

**Abdomen, Chest (Men 4, Women 2)**

**Hip and Pelvis (Men 4, Women 3)**

**Femur (Men 5, Women 3)**

**Knee (Men 25, Women 53)**

**Shank (Men 11, Women 8)**

**Ankle (Men 4, Women 4)**



# Carving Ski



- how dangerous?

# **Exercise for prevention and therapy of osteoporosis – what do we know?**

## **Bad balance**

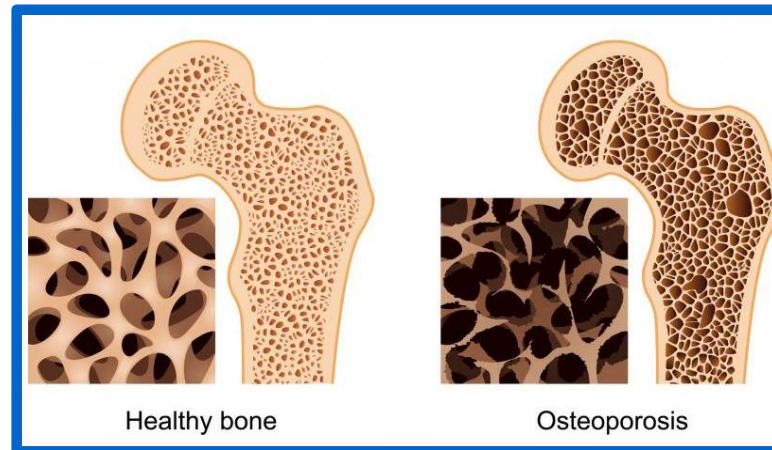
**is obviously associated with decreasing posture – followed by increase of number of falls and fractures**



**There is an interaction of osteoporosis,  
balance,  
power,  
endurance,  
sensomotoric processes and falls**

**(PFEIFER 2004)**

**The following factors  
are associated with a decreasing bone  
mass density:**





**physical inactivity**

**(immobilisation, paralysis, stroke etc.)**

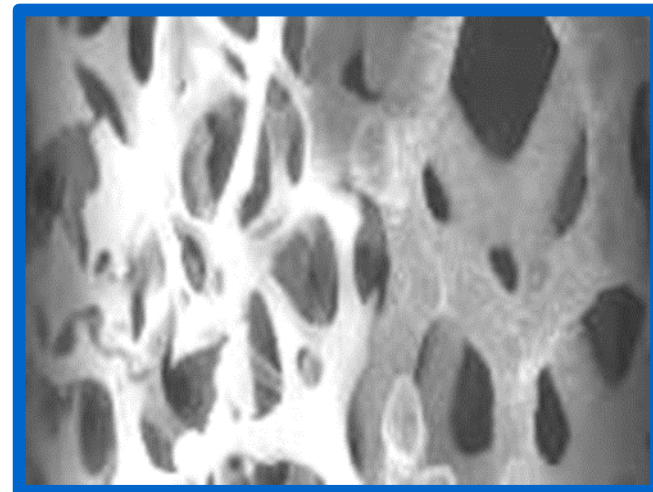
# **In prevention and therapy of osteoporis it is essential to force physical activity beside optimizing nutrition**

**(BONAIUTI 2002 – Cochrane Database)**

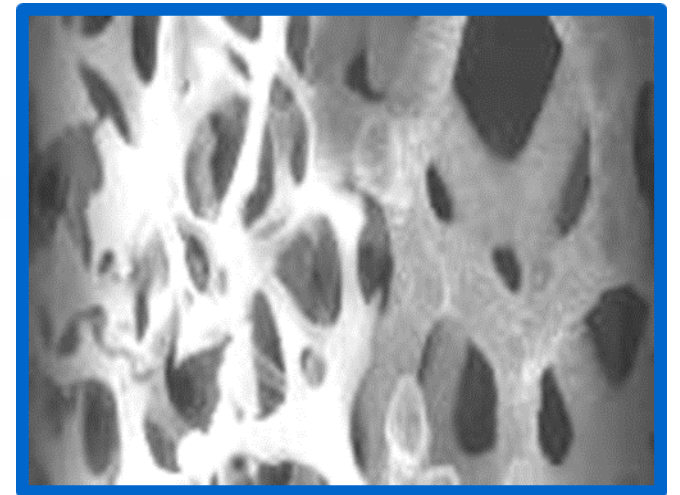


# The peak bone mass is **genetical determined** but is **strong influenced by lifestyle**

**(PLATEN 1998)**



**The development of bone mass density comes up to a maximum in the third decennium**



# Physical activity influences the development of bone mass density in a very positive manner

(UUSI-RASI 2005,  
Osteoporosis Int.)



# Osteoporosis

- a problem of childhood



**The bone mass density  
is controlled by mechanical  
forces loading the bone**

**(UTAH PARADIGM 1999)**



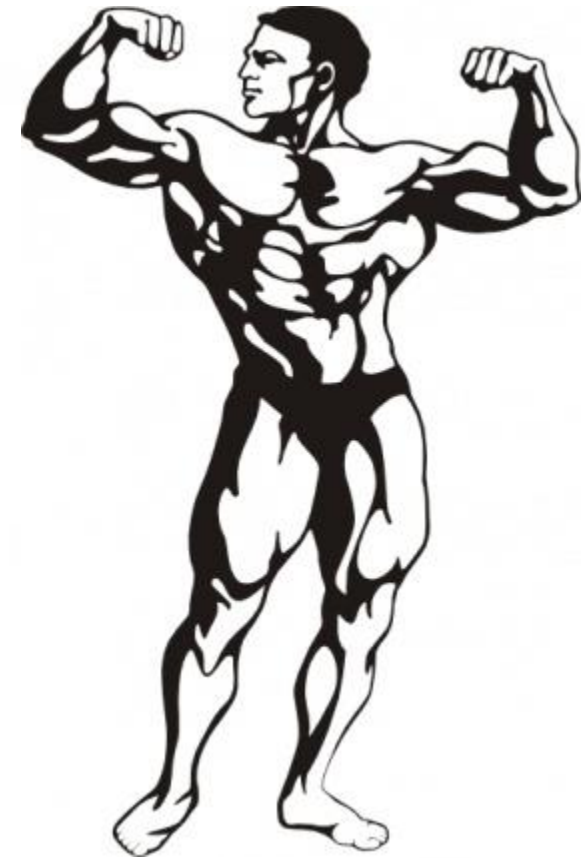


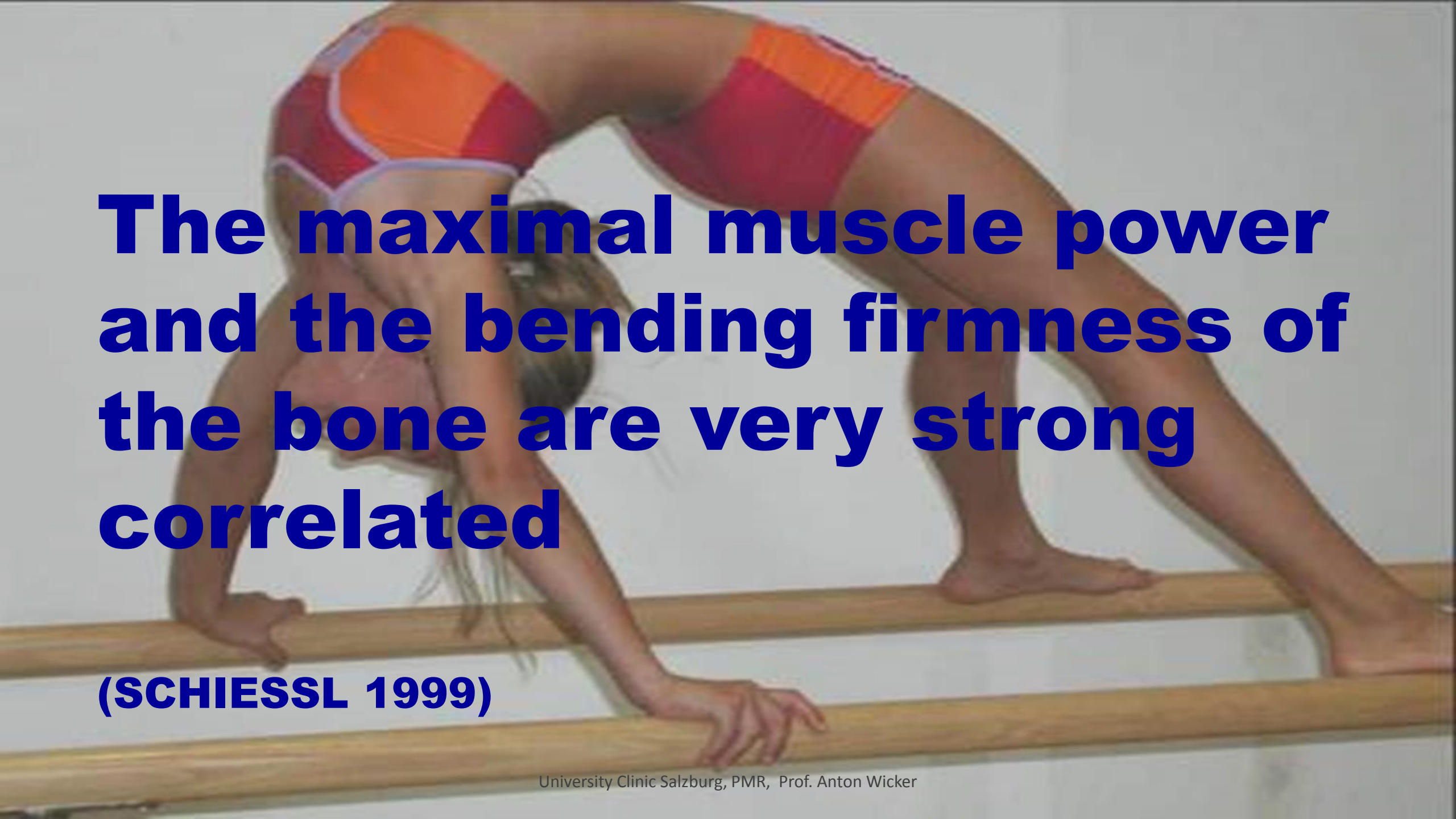
**These forces  
are generated in an  
essential way by muscles  
and not by body weight**

**(UMEMURA 1997)**

# **Muscle power and bone stability are correlated**

**(WOLFF 1998)**



A woman in a red and orange leotard is performing a backbend on a ballet barre. She is leaning forward with her hands on the barre and her feet on the floor. The text is overlaid on the image.

**The maximal muscle power  
and the bending firmness of  
the bone are very strong  
correlated**

**(SCHISSL 1999)**

**If the bone is loaded by force  
a change of the length  
is induced**

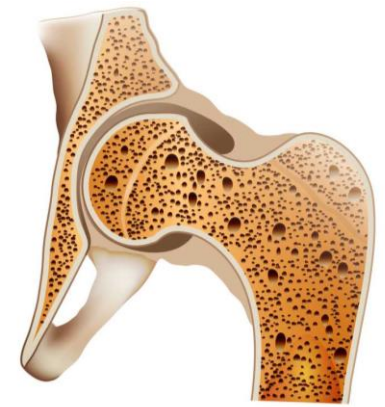
**The change of his length  
parted by his length before the  
loading is named “STRAIN”**

**We are working with the term  
“MICROSTRAIN”**



**Below 800 Microstrain  
it comes to a remodeling  
of the bone**

**Between 800 to  
1600 Microstrain  
there is no change  
in the bone**



**By loading forces of more  
than 1600 Microstrain  
there is a modeling  
of the bone**

# **These forces and limitation factors are influenced and limited by:**

- ❖ Hormones
- ❖ Cytokines
- ❖ Calcium

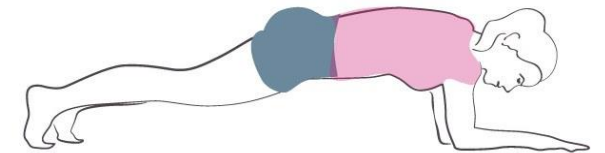
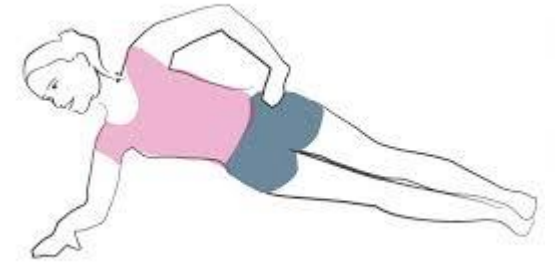
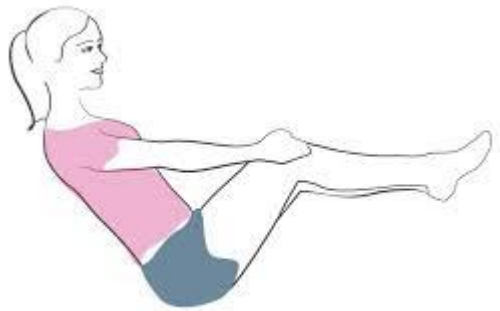
- ❖ Vitamines
- ❖ Growing factors
- ❖ Life style

**For bone health  
physical activity must be dosed  
in that manner that the zone of  
conservation is crossed  
– more than 1600 Microstrain –  
is crossed over**

# High impact loading – fast walking, running, stepping up and down



# Strengthening the muscles power training





**most important in daily life**

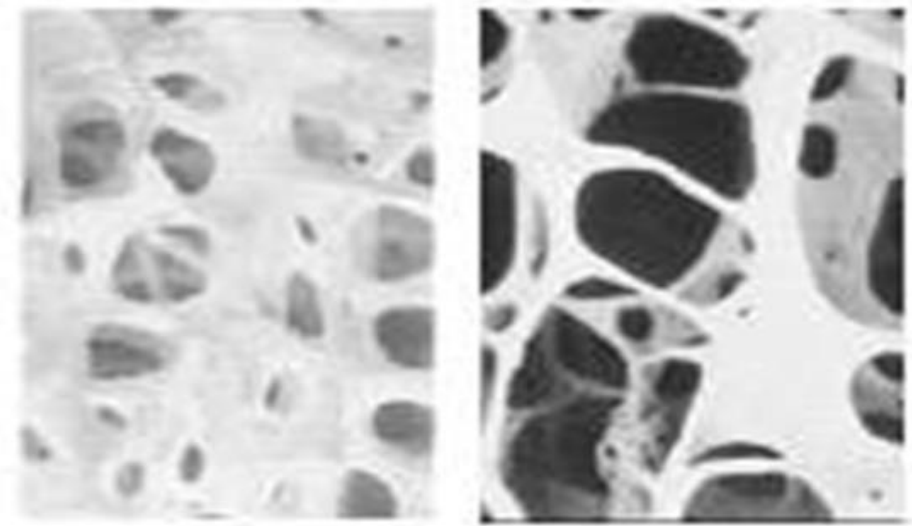
**KEEP ON  
IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**



# Avoid IMMOBILITY

**Immobile patients are loosing more bone mass in one month than normally in one year**

**(DELMAS Osteoporosis International)**



# Prevention of falls



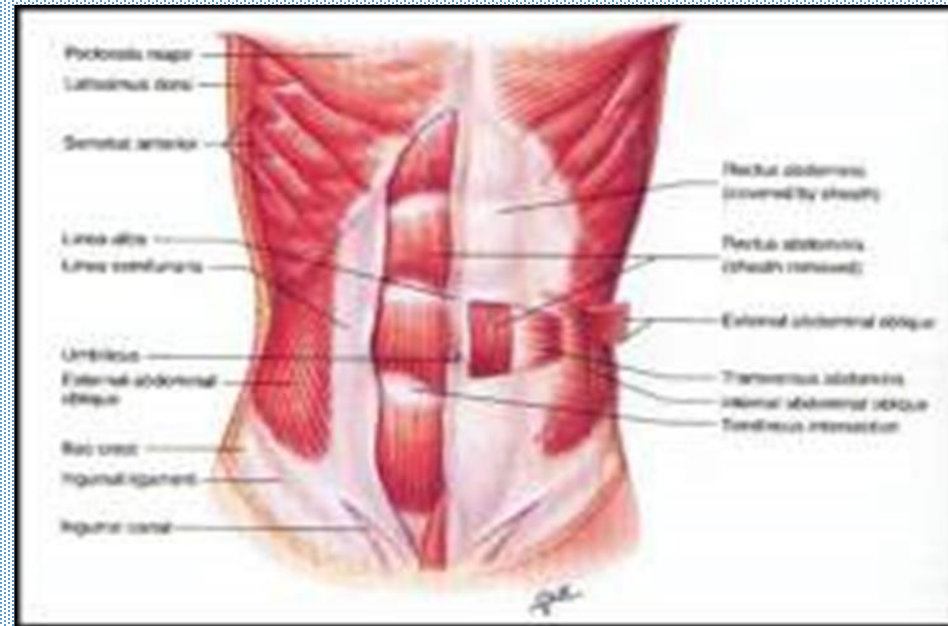
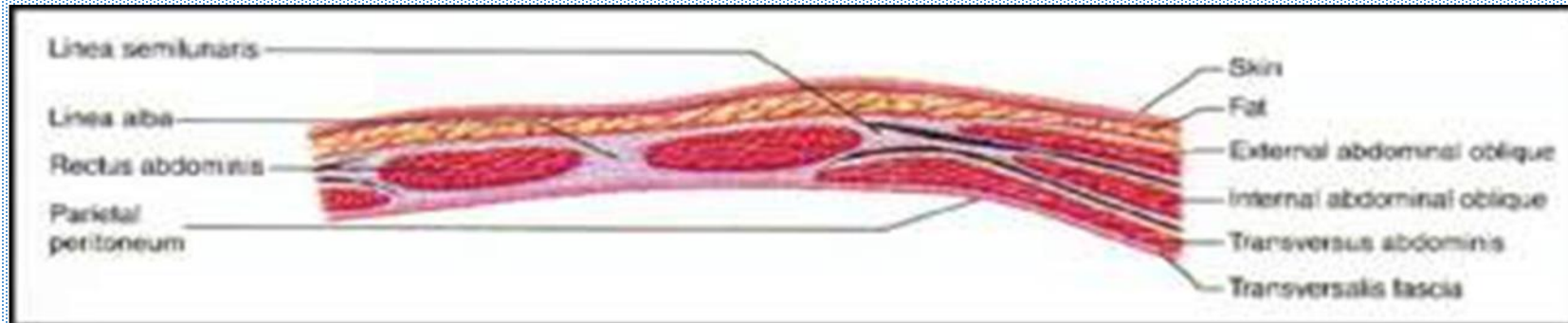
# balance





***fear of movement***

# *trunk stabilisation*





# ***trunk stabilisation***

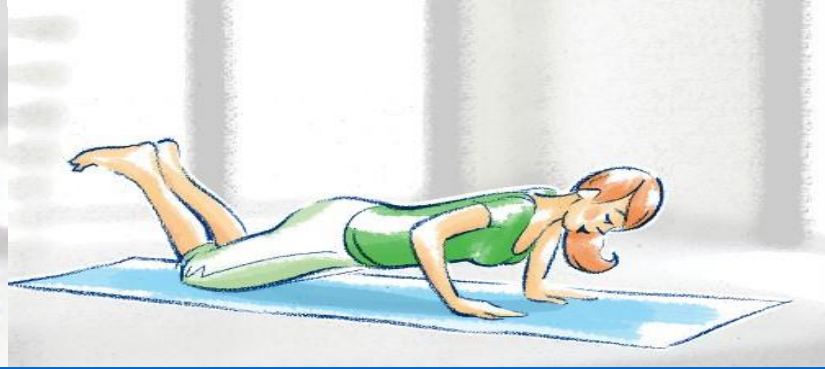
# balance training





***vibration***  
***„Galileo“***





**Alpine Skiing offers everything from balance, koordination, strength, power, flexibility, vibration and speed**



**Alpine skiing is a multi-tasking sport  
and so also important  
for the health  
of the brain**



**For prevention of osteoporosis alpine skiing is a very safe and pleasure tool**



**For therapy of osteoporosis it is required that the patient is experienced in alpine skiing**



A scenic winter landscape featuring a snow-covered mountain slope. In the foreground, a path of footprints leads up the hill. To the left, a cluster of evergreen trees stands against a clear blue sky. The sun is positioned in the upper right, creating a bright lens flare and casting long shadows across the snow.

**Thanks for your attention**

University Clinic Salzburg, PMR  
Prof. Anton Wicker