Virtual reality as a therapeutic tool in rehabilitation

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ABSTRACT

The virtual reality is a technology that has about 50 years of evolution, but it’s in the last two decades that instances have been generated for its development in the medical scope, especially in cognitive and motor rehabilitation. It has made great advances in this field, for example at Laboratory of Innovations in Rehabilitation Technology (LIRT), University of Haifa, Israel, at the IREX® platform. This paper provides an approach to this emergent technology; identify their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, giving some simple technical considerations, in order to promote its application and investigation.

Key words: Virtual reality, IREX, rehabilitation, SWOT analysis.