



# **NATURE IMAGES: Effects On Patients Undergoing Surgery**

Ellen Vincent Ph.D.  
Dina Battisto Ph.D.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---



UNITED STATES  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
www.defense.gov



Spartanburg Regional

Supported in part by a grant from the  
Department of Defense

Through

Spartanburg Regional Health System  
and NXT Health, Inc.

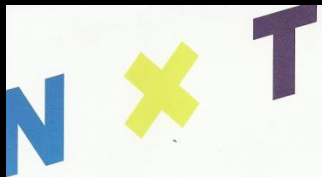


Image selection supported in part by  
a grant from the SC Forestry

Commission's Urban and Community  
Forestry program



# OUTLINE

---

- Introduction & background
    - Literature/research design problems
  - Simulated clinical lab study (2009)
    - Phase I: nature image selection
    - Phase II: experiment
  - Hospital study (2010)
    - Phase I: nature image selection (completed)
    - Phase IIA: outpatient experiment (in process)
    - Phase IIB: inpatient experiment (in process)
-

# INTERDISCIPLINARY LITERATURE

---

## AREAS

Stress and Pain

Therapeutic Environments  
Therapeutic Landscapes  
Healthcare Settings

Evolutional Theory  
Landscape Preference

Virtual Environments  
Therapeutic Art

## FIELDS

Medicine, Psychology, Nursing

Environmental Psychology,  
Landscape Architecture,  
Architecture, Environmental Design,  
Horticulture

Geography, Cultural Geography,  
Biology, Landscape Architecture,  
History

Environmental Psychology,  
Computer Science, Art,  
Photography, Graphics  
Communications

---

# RELATED LITERATURE

---

## **Stress, anxiety, & pain hinder well-being (healing) in the healthcare setting**

(Selye 1976; Johnston & Wallace 1990; Kiecolt-Glaser & Marucha 1995; Kiecolt-Glaser et al. 1998; Frederickson & Levenson 1998)

**Nature views can reduce stress, anxiety, & pain** (Moore 1981; West; Ulrich 1984; West 1985; Verderber 1986; Frumkin, 2001, 2008)

**Architecture affects medical outcomes** (Horsburgh 1995; Verderber 1987, 2000; Frampton et al. 2003)



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# RELATED LITERATURE

---

**Virtual views may serve hospitals whose design prohibits a view**

**Nature art on the wall reduced anxiety or stress among patients**  
(Heerwagen 1990; Ulrich et al. 1993)

**Nature videos reduced stress**  
(Ulrich & Simons 1986; Frederickson & Levenson 1998; Parsons et al. 1998; Laumann et al. 2003; Ulrich et al. 1991, 2003; Sponselee et al. 2004; de Kort et al. 2006)

**Nature videos reduced pain levels**  
(Miller et al. 1992; Tse et al. 2002)





# RELATED LITERATURE

---

**Problems with therapeutic environments (nature and health) research:**

**Multiple variables** (Ruso, Renninger, & Atzwanger, 2003; Dijkstra et al., 2006)

**Poor replication of images** (Stamps, 2004)

**Unclear category titles and descriptions** (Stamps, 2004)

**Investigator preference substituted for sample population** (Stamps, 2004)

**Interdisciplinary research is weak in theory** (RMNO 2004; IJsselsteijn 2004; Dilani 2005 )



Getty images

---

# RELATED LITERATURE

---

PROBLEM	OUR RESPONSE
Multiple variables confuse findings	Use a still image and assess visual preference
Boredom may result from viewing a still image	Assess for presence (experiential realism)
Presence may be difficult to understand	Assess for “influence on thoughts”
Investigator preference in image selection	Conduct controlled sort and rank tasks of study population
Unclear image category definitions	Appleton’s prospect, refuge, and hazard categories
Lack of theory	Appleton’s evolutionary theory of prospect refuge



# PHOTOGRAPHS

---

**Photographs are suitable surrogates for the real experience in research** (Zube, Pitt, & Anderson 1975; Kaplan & Kaplan 1989; Stamps 1990, 2007, 2008; Shang & Bishop 2000; Laumann, Garling, & Stormark 2001; de Kort & IJsselsteijn 2006)

**Photographs need to be reproducible** (Stamps 2004; Singleton and Straits 2005)

**Realism may be preferred by vulnerable people**  
experiential realism (Sponselee et al. 2004; deKort & IJsselsteijn 2006) visual realism (Ulrich & Gilpin 2003)



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PRESENCE

---

**Virtual environment (VE) research specializes in developing mediated environments.**

Presence is experiential realism.

*de Kort & Ijsselsteijn, 2006*

“Is the perceptual illusion of non-mediation.” Feeling as though you are really there.

*Ijsselsteijn, 2004, p. 136, 170*

User (viewer) believes and acts as if the virtual environment is real.

**Non-interactive media** environments may create convincing sense of presence in the physical realm.

---

# PRESENCE

---

**Presence, or a sense of really being there, is key to successful use of VE in mediated environments.**

*de Kort et al., 2006; Sponselee et al., 2004*

VE technology successfully used in psychotherapy for the treatment of phobias.

*Ijsselsteijn, 2004*

Experiential realism (high degrees of presence) may be responsible for effectiveness of VE therapy.

*de Kort & Ijsselsteijn, 2006*

---

# PRESENCE

---

## Measuring presence is difficult.

People may not understand the term.

*Ijsselsteijn, 2004*

Some aspects of emotional experience are not available to subjective awareness.

*Lopez & Snyder, 2004; Gordon, 2004*

The concept of presence and its measurement tools are all in the developmental stage.

*Ijsselsteijn, 2004; de Kort et al., 2006*



*Ellen Vincent*

# INFLUENCE

---

v. “To affect or alter”

*Merriam Webster, 1989, p. 382*

v. “Sway, affect, alter, change, induce, persuade”

*Agnes & Laird, 2002, p. 328*

Influence question added because several pilot participants were puzzled by concept of “presence”.

Influence of image on thoughts may be easier to comprehend than presence.



*Ellen Vincent*

---



# EVOLUTIONARY THEORY

---

Present day landscape preferences stem from our hereditary hunter-gatherer roles in the African savannah.

Human's selection of habitats had serious life and death consequences.

**Evolutionary theory for landscape preference has a distinguished following** (Appleton 1975, 1996, Kaplan and Kaplan 1989, Ulrich 1991, 2008; Heerwagen & Orians 1993; Kellert & Wilson 1993; Frumkin 2001, 2008).



*Ellen Vincent*

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

**Appleton's prospect refuge theory has been used in literature, design** (Wenner 1993; Tetlow, 1996; Hud (Yeates, 1997; Ramanujam 2006; Juras 1997; Herzog & Kutzli 2002; Makhzoumi & Zako 2007 son 1993; Segal 2003) **and research for over 30 years.**

- Offers reproducible category definitions
- Utilizes real and symbolic landscape views





# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## Prospect refuge theory of landscape preference

“To see without being seen.”

*Jay Appleton, 1996*

Categories include:

- Prospect
- Refuge
- Hazard



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

### PROSPECT

An environmental condition, situation, object, or arrangement that presents real or symbolic access to a view.

---

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## PROSPECT: SAMPLE IMAGES



*Getty Image*



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

### REFUGE

An environmental condition, situation, object, or arrangement that presents real or symbolic situations for hiding or sheltering.

Refuges provide protection from hazards.

Hides provide concealment from animate hazards.

Shelters provide concealment from inanimate hazards.

---

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## REFUGE: SAMPLE IMAGES



*Ellen Vincent*



*Getty Image*

---

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

### HAZARD

Incidents or conditions that present real or symbolic threats to life and well-being.

---



# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## HAZARD: SAMPLE IMAGES



*Ellen Vincent*



*Getty Image*

---



# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

### MIXED PROSPECT + REFUGE

An equal balance of each (50%) is shown in image.

---

# PROSPECT REFUGE THEORY

---

## MIXED PROSPECT+REFUGE: SAMPLE IMAGES



*Ellen Vincent*



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# INTRODUCTION TO 1<sup>st</sup> STUDY: 2009

---

## EFFECTS OF NATURE IMAGES ON PAIN IN A SIMULATED HOSPITAL PATIENT ROOM

---

# INTRODUCTION

# Ph.D. Committee



PERSON	DISCIPLINE	ROLE
Ellen Vincent	Env Design & Planning	Ph.D. candidate
Dr. Dina Battisto	Architecture + Health	Ph.D. committee chair
Dr. Jim McCubbin	Psychology	Ph.D. committee
Dr. Stephen Verderber	Architecture + Health	Ph.D. committee
Dan Nadenicek	Planning & Landscape Architecture	Ph.D. committee
Dr. Larry Grimes	Experimental Statistics	Advisor
Dr. Sam Ingram	Graphics Communications	Advisor
Portia Botchway	Nursing	Advisor
Dr. Deborah Willoughby	Nursing	Advisor

# INTRODUCTION TO LAB STUDY

---

## OBJECTIVE

Measure the therapeutic benefits of nature images for healthcare settings using objective and subjective data

---

# INTRODUCTION TO LAB STUDY

---

## PURPOSE

(Phase I) Establish a methodology to select images

(Phase II) Study how images impact physiological and psychological indicators



*Getty images*

---

# PHASE I: NATURE IMAGE SELECTION

---

	RESEARCH QUESTION
1)	Which photographic image best represents Appleton's categories of prospect, refuge, hazard, and mixed prospect + refuge?



Getty images



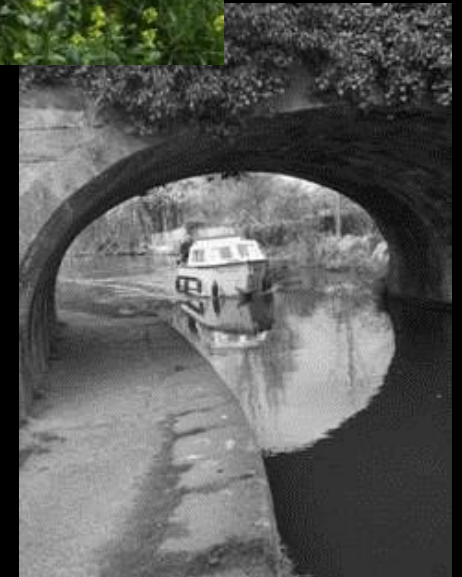
# PHASE I: NATURE IMAGE SELECTION

## METHODS: IMAGE SELECTION CRITERIA

- Horizontal orientation
- Color
- Limited reference to animals, structures, equipment
- Dominant nature over built features
- No distinguishable people
- No national, international landmark places
- Limited number of variables
- Clear category operational definitions (Appleton's words)
- Use royalty free Getty Images and own images (for replication)



Photos  
that  
cannot  
be  
used



*Photos by Ellen Vincent*

# PHASE I: NATURE IMAGE SELECTION

## METHODS: SEQUENTIAL MODEL

	<b>A</b> <b>Investigator select</b>	<b>B</b> <b>Focus groups</b>	<b>C</b> <b>Sorting task</b>	<b>D</b> <b>Content validity</b>
Who	Investigator	55 experts & students	100 students	Subject experts
	informal	informal	controlled	informal
What	Identify images based on theory	Identify preferred category images	Identify preferred category images	Compare findings with category definitions and characteristics
Where	Computer	Classroom	Classroom	Conference room
How	Subjective selection based on Appleton's definitions	Sorting task using "most" to "least" scale	Sorting task using "most" to "least" scale	Content validity rating "most" to "least" scale
Results	300 to 72 images	72 to 20 images (5 per category)	20 to 4 images (1 per category)	20 to 4 images (1 per category) for use in experiment

# PHASE 1 (C) : NATURE IMAGE SELECTION

## METHODS: CATEGORY SORTING TASK

Research question #1	Which images best represent Appleton's categories of prospect refuge theory?
Who	Students (100)
Materials	20 images Consent form Pre-sort surveys Taped audio instructions Instruction sheet Image category operational definition chart Score sheet
What	Complete consent form & surveys Listen to taped instructions; review category definitions Sort photos into four categories; Rank from "most to least"; Record selection on score sheet
Data analysis	Frequency table for each photo to establish "most fit"
Results	The highest rated photograph for each category retained for next stage; 4 images total (1 per category)



# PHASE I (C): NATURE IMAGE SELECTION

P  
R  
O  
S  
P  
E  
C  
T



R  
E  
F  
U  
G  
E



H  
A  
Z  
A  
R  
D



M  
I  
X  
E  
D  
  
P  
+  
R





# PHASE I: NATURE IMAGE SELECTION

---

## RESULTS: CATEGORY IMAGES



Prospect



Refuge



Hazard



Mixed Prospect + Refuge

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

	RESEARCH QUESTION
1)	Which nature image categories are most therapeutic as evidenced by reduced pain and positive mood?



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

	HYPOTHESIS
1)	Nature views are variable in their impact on specific psychological and physiological health status indicators.
2)	Prospect and refuge nature scenes are more therapeutic than hazard nature scenes.

---

## PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

	RESEARCH QUESTIONS FOR PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE
1)	Is there a difference in the level of <b>presence</b> between the selected images?
2)	Is there a difference in the level of <b>influence</b> between the selected images?
3)	Is there a <b>correlation</b> between levels of presence and levels of influence?

---

# PHASE II: EXPERIMENT 2009

---

	HYPOTHESIS PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE
1)	Higher degrees of presence and/or influence in the still photograph make it more effective at holding the viewer's attention, which may then distract the viewer from pain.

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN VARIABLES:

Independent variables	Nature images
Dependent variables	Psychological + physiological responses



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

*Type of view (Appleton, 1975, 1996)*



## DEPENDENT VARIABLES

*Health status & perceived well-being:  
Psychological and physiological responses*

Examples



**(1) Prospect View [clear view]:** distant or close views; multiple vantage or viewing points.



**(2) Refuge View [safety]:** shelters or hides.



**(3) Hazard View [alarming]:** danger; exposure; no place to hide; impediments to movement.



**(4) Prospect/Refuge Mixed [view & safety]:** equal amounts of both prospect and refuge.



**(5) No Image [control]:** The LCD digital screen will be blank.

**Perceived well-being** – therapeutic aspects developed by Cooper Marcus (1995, 1999).

**Health Status – Physiological measures:** continuous vital signs- **blood pressure** + heart rate.

**Health Status – Psychological measures:**

- Short Form McGill Pain Questionnaire
  - Profile of Mood States (POMS)
  - Visual analogue scale for presence
  - Visual analogue scale for influence
  - Hope Scale
  - Success with Life Scale
-

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

THERAPEUTIC ASPECT*	INSTRUMENT
Relief from physical symptoms	Short-Form McGill Pain Questionnaire
Stress reduction	Blood pressures: systolic and diastolic Heart rate
Improvement in overall sense of well-being, hopefulness	Profile of Mood States Hope Scale Success with Life Scale

\* Cooper Marcus and Barnes 1999

---



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

EXPERIENTIAL REALISM*	INSTRUMENT
Presence	Presence Visual Analogue Scale (VAS)
Influence	Influence Visual Analogue Scale (VAS)

\* *Ijsselstein, 2004*

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT DESIGN

---

## METHODS: SEQUENTIAL MODEL

	<b>A Pilot group</b>	<b>B Experiment group</b>
Who	32 students	109 students
	controlled-yet seeking debriefing feedback and advice	controlled
What	Test effect of nature image on perceived pain and mood	Test effect of nature image on perceived pain and mood
Where	Simulated in-patient hospital room	Simulated in-patient hospital room
How	Psychological & physiological health data correlations with nature images	Psychological & physiological health data correlations with nature images
Results	Process refined due to feedback	Preliminary data towards most therapeutic image(s) category

---

# PHASE II: LAB PILOT EXPERIMENT

---



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PHASE II: LAB PILOT EXPERIMENT

---



*Ellen Vincent*



*Ellen Vincent*



*Clemson University*

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## INSTRUMENTS : PSYCHOLOGICAL



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

PSYCH INSTRUMENT	ITEMS	DESCRIPTION
Short Form McGill Pain Questionnaire	15 items 3 scales: sensory (throbbing, shooting), affective (punishing-cruel) and total pain	Check a number from 0 “none” to 3 “severe”
Profile of Mood States (POMS)	65 items 6 subscales (1 positive emotion subscale = vigor)	Circle a number from 0 “not at all” to 4 “extremely”

---



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

PSYCH INSTRUMENT	ITEMS	DESCRIPTION
Visual analogue scale presence <i>How strong is your sense of presence, being there in the image right now?</i>	1	Vertical slash responses were made on a 10 cm. line. Responses were measured with a ruler and assigned a number.
Visual analogue scale for influence <i>How strong is the image at influencing your thoughts, either directly or indirectly, right now?</i>	1	

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## INSTRUMENTS : PSYCHOLOGICAL (PRESENCE)

How strong is your sense of presence, “being there”, in the image, right now?

Please make a vertical mark on the line below.

Extremely Weak

Extremely Strong



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## INSTRUMENTS : PHYSIOLOGICAL



*Ellen Vincent*



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

Name	Description
1. Systolic blood pressure	Systolic pressure is the maximum arterial pressure of the heart. Measurements were taken using an arm cuff and a continuous vital sign tracker and are in millimeters of mercury (mmHg). 15 readings were used for comparison.
2. Diastolic blood pressure	The relaxed state of the heart beat. Measured in millimeters of mercury (mmHg).
3. Heart rate	Heart rate is measured in beats per minute (BPM).
4. Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP)	Describes a notational average blood pressure in an individual. Defined as an average arterial pressure taken during a single cardiac cycle.

---

# PHASE II : LAB EXPERIMENT

---

RESEARCH DESIGN PAIN  
STRESSOR

COLD PRESSOR (INDEPENDENT VARIABLE)

Used in experimental psychology  
research

Used in cardiovascular research  
(McClelland & McCubbin, 2008).

Immerse hand in cooler of ice water  
(0°C = 32°F) for up to 120 seconds.

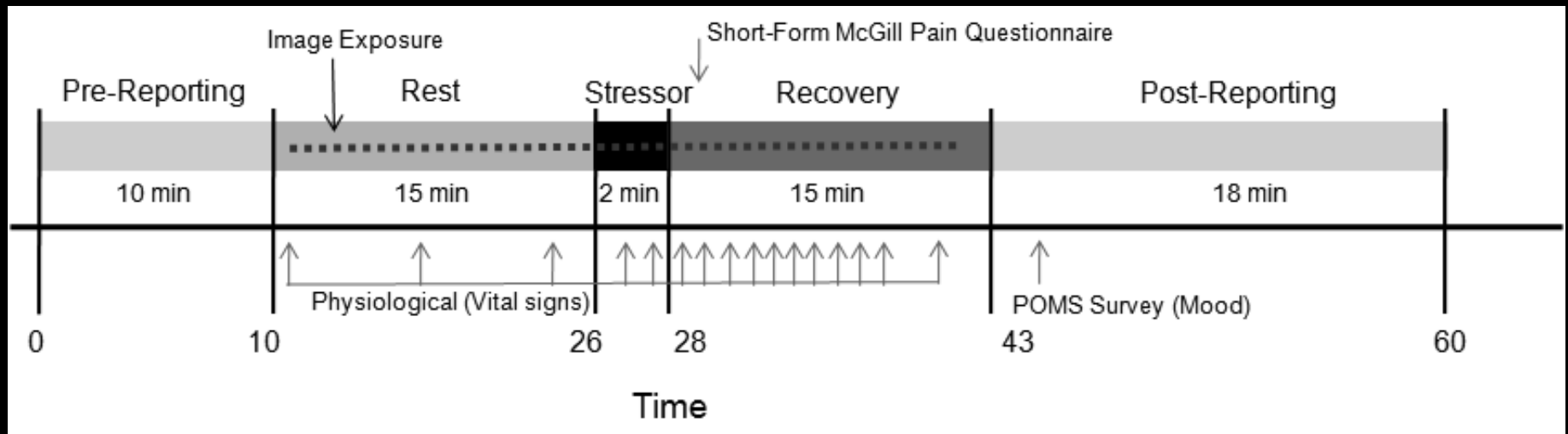
If pain is intolerable remove hand  
early and say “done”.



*Ellen Vincent*

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



*Dina Battisto*



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT RESULTS

---

## RESULTS : PSYCHOLOGICAL



*Ellen Vincent*

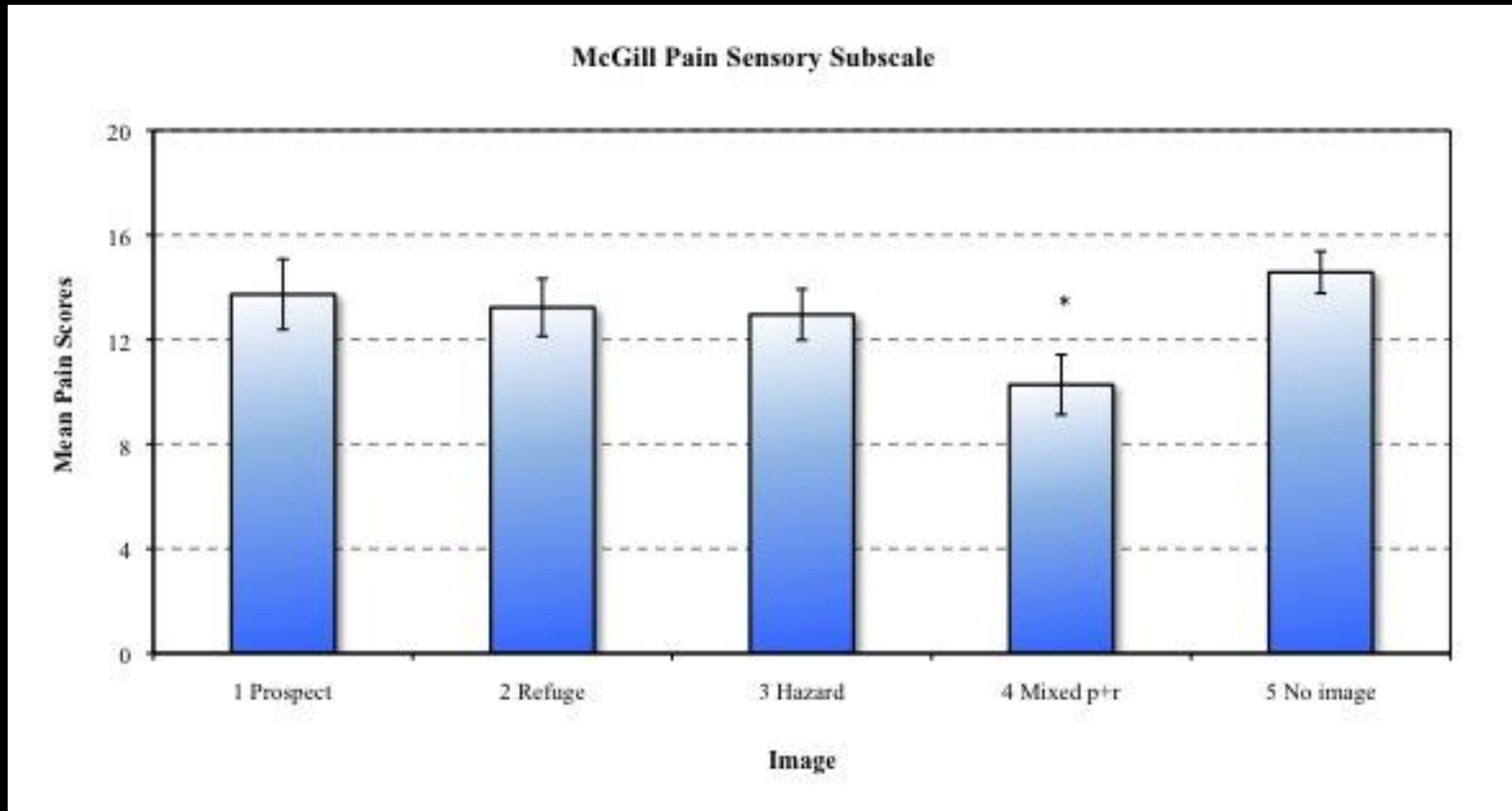


*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS: MCGILL SENSORY PAIN SUBSCALE (e.g. throbbing, shooting)



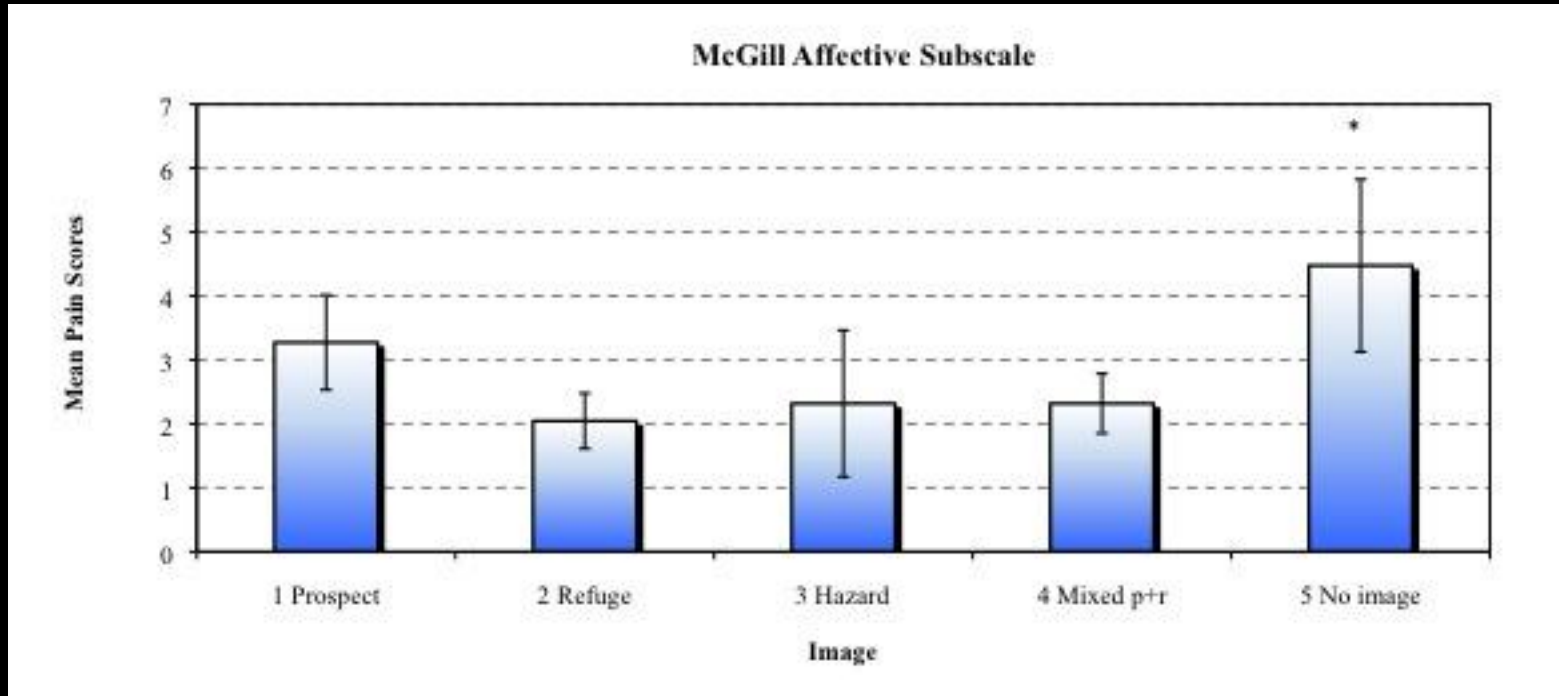
\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$ , F Value = 2.22, df = 4, 104,  $P = 0.0715$

**Mixed prospect refuge image shows lowest pain levels**

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

**RESULTS: MCGILL AFFECTIVE PAIN SUBSCALE (e.g. sickening, punishing-cruel)**



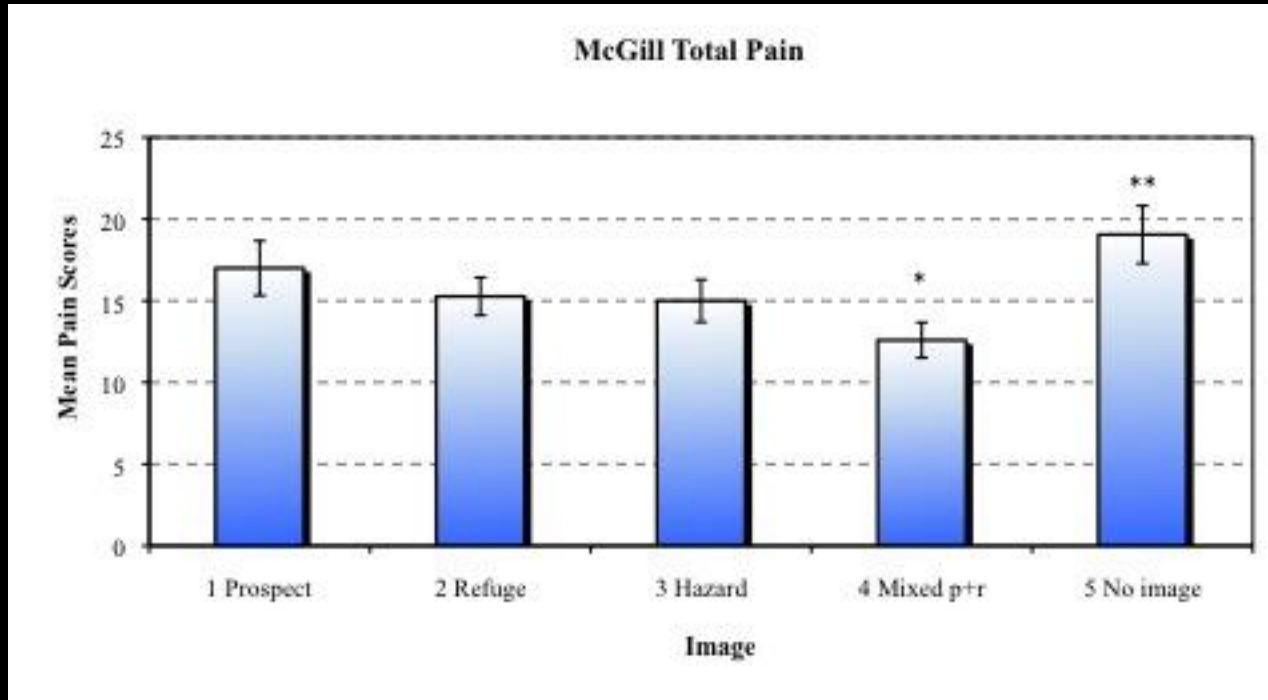
\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$ , F Value = 2.98, df = 4, 104.  $P = 0.0226$

**No Image treatment shows highest pain but prospect is not statistically different from any other treatment.**

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS: MCGILL TOTAL PAIN



\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$  , F Value = 2.87, df = 4, 104,  $P = 0.0265$

**No image treatment is higher than mixed prospect + refuge**



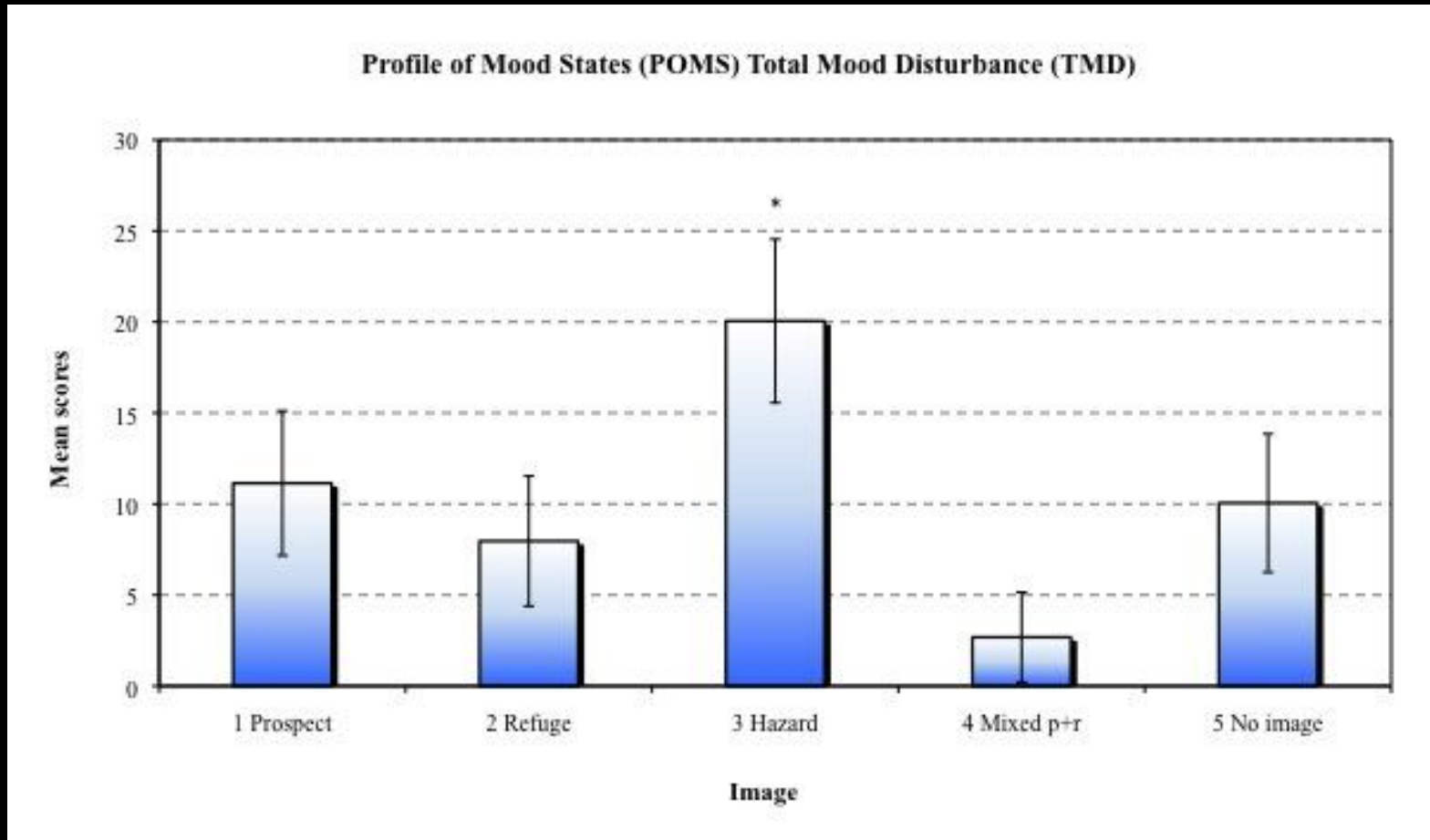


Mixed prospect + refuge

*Ellen Vincent*

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS: POMS TOTAL MOOD DISTURBANCE (TMD)



\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$ , F Value = 2.90, df = 4, 104,  $P = 0.253$

**Hazard image has highest total mood disturbance responses**



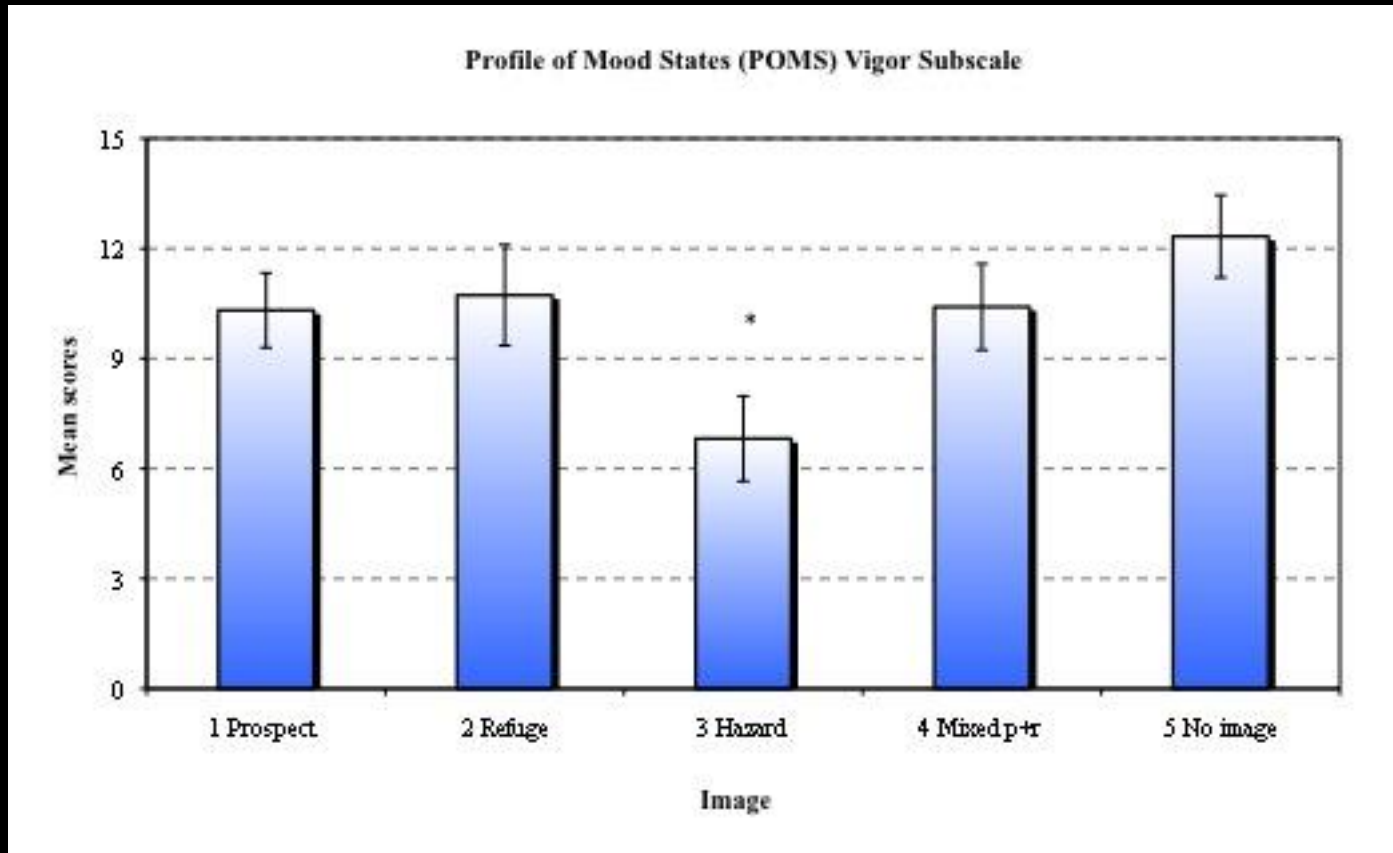


*Getty Image*

Hazard

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS: PROFILE OF MOOD STATES (POMS) VIGOR SUBSCALE

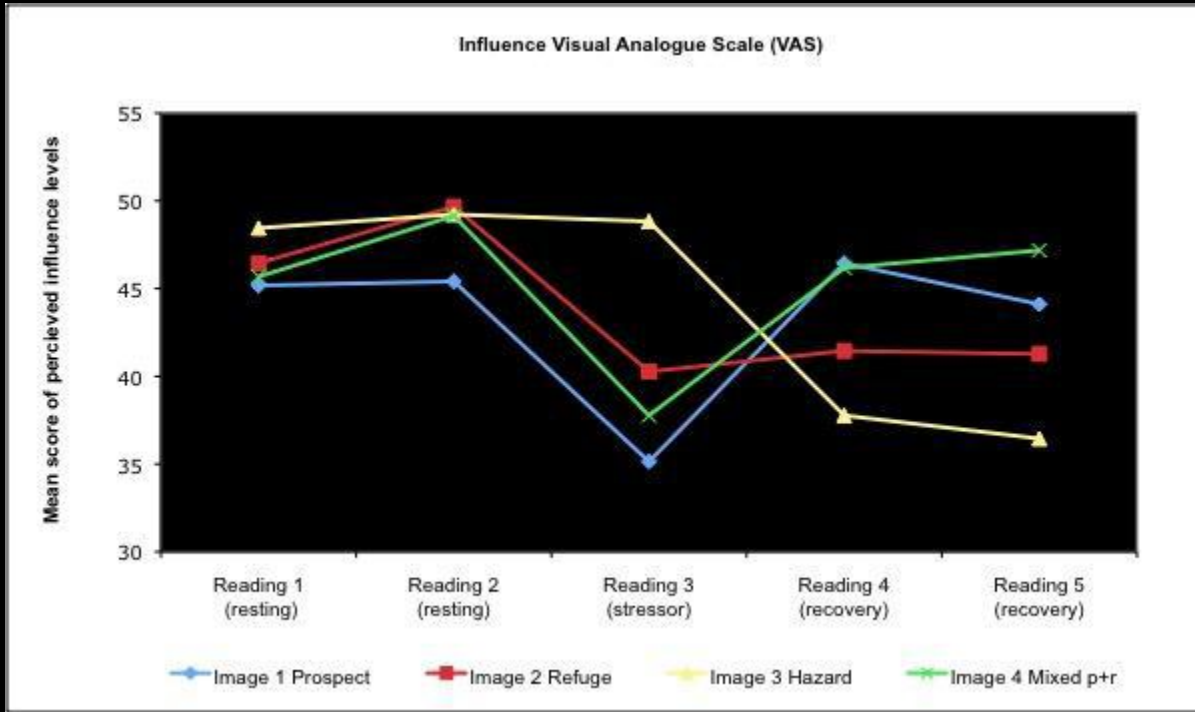


\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$ , F Value = 2.93, df = 4, 104,  $P = 0.0244$

**Hazard image shows lowest positive mood responses**

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS: PROFILE OF INFLUENCE VISUAL ANALOG SCALE



\*\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$  for changes among images by reading effect over time.

**Hazard image shows highest influence responses during pain treatment and least during recovery.**

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

---

## RESULTS : STATISTICS OF INFLUENCE RESPONSE FOR IMAGE & READING

Effect	Numerator DF	Denominator DF	F Value	Probability F
Image	3	83.9	0.07	0.9745
Reading	4	332.0	4.29	0.0021**
Image *Reading	12	332.0	1.95	0.0277**

\*\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$  to assess for trends over time.

**Hazard image shows highest influence responses during pain treatment and least during recovery.**

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT RESULTS

---

## RESULTS: PHYSIOLOGICAL



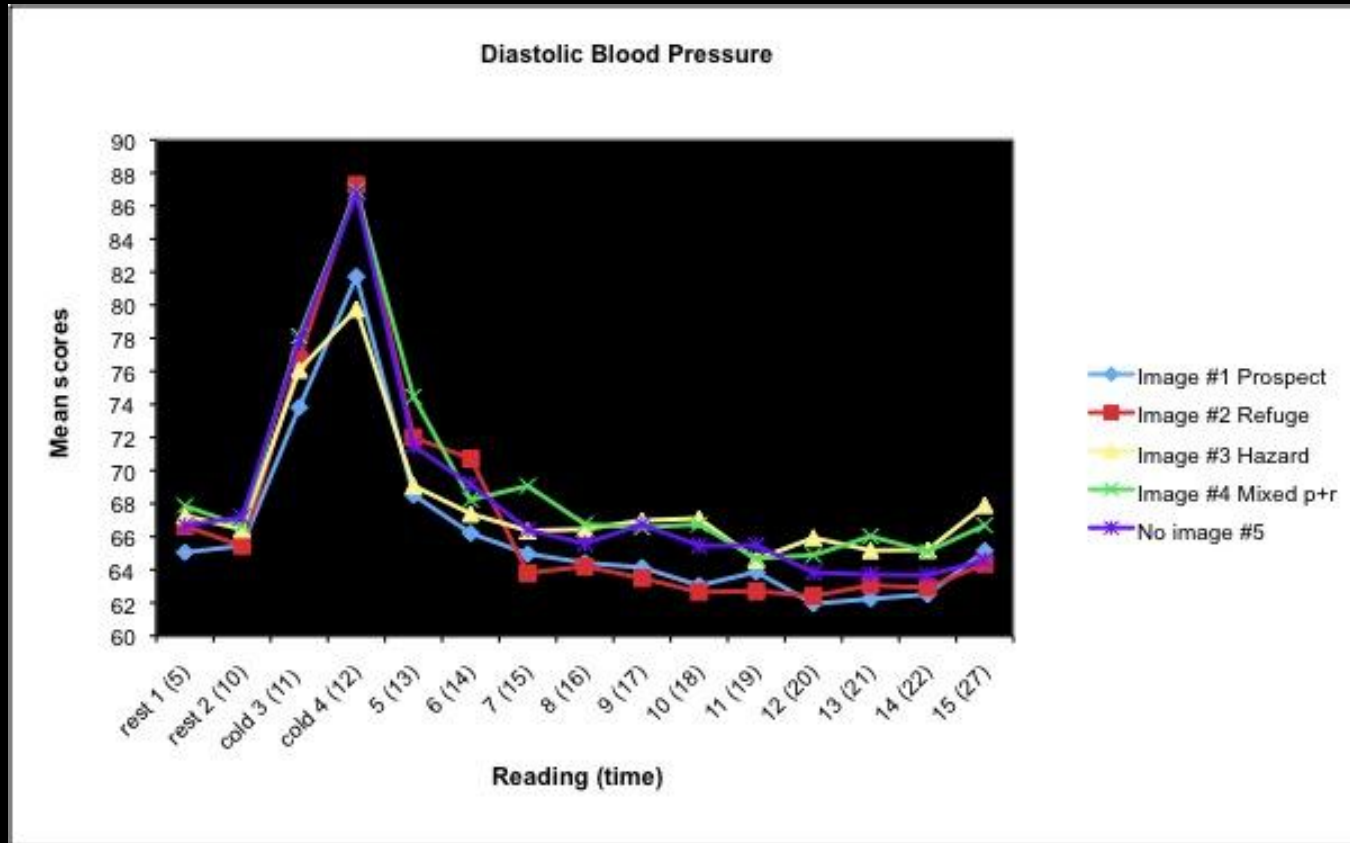
*Ellen Vincent*

---



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS : Diastolic Blood Pressure



\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$  for changes in readings over time

**Hazard image is lowest during pain stressor then rises during recovery**



# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT 2009

---

## RESULTS : DIASTOLIC BLOOD PRESSURE

Statistics of interaction between reading and image group

Effect	Numerator DF	Denominator DF	F Value	Probability F
Image	4	104	0.57	0.6884
Reading	14	1245	118.88	<.0001**
Image *Reading	56	1245	1.33	0.0561**

\*\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$ , to assess trends for changes over time

**Hazard image is lowest during pain stressor then rises during recovery**

---

# PHASE II: LAB EXPERIMENT

## RESULTS : EFFECTIVE STRESSOR

Measurement	Difference	Pr > [ t ]
Systolic	13.7628*	< .0001
Diastolic	14.0398*	<.0001
Heart rate BPM	7.6703*	<.0001
Mean arterial pressure (MAP)	15.6177*	<.0001

\*Statistically significant  $\alpha = 0.1$

**Stressor was very effective**



Ellen Vincent

# PHASE II: PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE

---

	RESEARCH QUESTIONS & RESULTS
1)	Is there a difference in the level of <b>presence</b> between the selected images?
Results	No statistically significant differences were seen.
Discussion	This may have been due to participants' unfamiliarity with the concept of 'presence' or perhaps due to equal levels of presence among images.

---

## PHASE II: PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE

---

	RESEARCH QUESTIONS & RESULTS
2)	Is there a difference in the level of <b>influence</b> between the selected images?
Results	Yes. Effects of the Hazard image were significantly higher during the pain treatment and dropped significantly afterwards.
Discussion	Influence may have been caused by the dramatic qualities of the scene (arousal, fear?) or by it's ability to be used in this particular situation (fire/heat) to mediate cold/pain. Further studies are warranted.

---

# PHASE II: PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE

---

	RESEARCH QUESTIONS & RESULTS
3)	Is there a <b>correlation</b> between levels of presence and levels of influence?
Results	Yes. Correlation analysis showed a moderate to strong correlation ( $r = 0.62$ . $P < 0.0001$ ). Presence and influence rose and fell together a significant portion of the time.
Discussion	This relationship could be coincidental. Replication is needed to firmly prove correlation.

---

# PHASE II: PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE

---

	HYPOTHESIS
1)	Higher degrees of presence and/or influence in the still photograph make it more effective at holding the viewer's attention, which may then distract the viewer from pain.
Result	No statistical significance occurred among images for presence. Influence for the Hazard image was significantly higher during the pain treatment then dropped during recovery.
Discussion	Influence levels were high at the same time that diastolic blood pressure was low. This may indicate the image was successful at distracting people from pain. Further study is warranted.



# PHASE II: CONTROLLED EXPERIMENT

---

	RESEARCH QUESTION & RESULTS
1)	Which nature image categories are most therapeutic as evidenced by reduced pain and positive mood?
Result	Mixed prospect + refuge showed significantly lower sensory pain responses.  Hazard received lowest diastolic blood pressure and highest influence responses.
Discussion	No one image clearly was “most” therapeutic.  Hazard was not therapeutic due to low level mood responses.

---

# PHASE II: CONTROLLED EXPERIMENT

---

	FUTURE RESEARCH QUESTION
Question	Why was hazard successful at distracting people from pain?
Discussion	Imagery effect of heat (fire) and cold (ice water) confounding variable (Turk 2002, Syrjala and Abrams (2002) . Will not be issue in hospital.

---

# PHASE II: EXPERIMENT 2009

---

	RESEARCH HYPOTHESES & RESULTS
1)	Nature views are variable in their impact on specific psychological and physiological health status indicators.
Results	<p>Perceived pain levels did vary. “No image” treatment had higher affective pain levels than all but prospect viewers.</p> <p>Sensory pain was lowest for mixed prospect and refuge.</p> <p>Mixed category of prospect + refuge images will be taken into hospital research study.</p>

---

# PHASE II: EXPERIMENT 2009

---

	RESEARCH HYPOTHESES & RESULTS
2)	Prospect and refuge nature scenes are more therapeutic than hazard nature scenes.
Results	<p>Yes-regarding mood.</p> <p>Mixed prospect + refuge shows potential for reducing sensory pain level perceptions.</p> <p>Mixed prospect + refuge images will move into the hospital research study.</p>

---

# INTRODUCTION TO 2<sup>ND</sup> STUDY: 2010

---

## EFFECTS OF NATURE IMAGES ON PAIN IN HOSPITAL SURGERY PATIENTS

---

# HOSPITAL RESEARCH DESIGN

---

PERSON	DISCIPLINE	INSTITUTION
Dr. Ellen Vincent	Env Horticulture	Clemson University
Dr. Dina Battisto	Arch + Health	Clemson University
Dr. Jim McCubbin	Psychology	Clemson University
Dr. Larry Grimes	Experimental Statistics	Clemson University
Dr. Sarah White	Env. Horticulture	Clemson University
	Nursing	Hospital
	Anesthesiologist	Hospital
	Orthopedic surgeon	Hospital

---



# HOSPITAL RESEARCH DESIGN 2010

---

	STUDY PROCEDURES
1)	A sort and rank task will be used to select the most appropriate images for phase II experiment.
2)	Mixed methods (psychological and physiological data) will be used to investigate the health effects of the mixed prospect and refuge image category.

---

# PHASE I : HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

	RESEARCH QUESTION IMAGE SELECTION
1)	Which images best represent : (1) the therapeutic aspects (2) presence and influence (experiential realism) (3) the mixed prospect /refuge theory experience

# PHASE IIA : HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

	RESEARCH QUESTION OUTPATIENT
1)	Does viewing mixed prospect and refuge images reduce stress and or pain in surgical patients in outpatient and post-operative surgical environments?

# PHASE IIB : HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

	RESEARCH QUESTION INPATIENT
1)	Does viewing mixed prospect and refuge images reduce stress and or pain in surgical patients in the inpatient hospital room?

# PHASE II: HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

	HYPOTHESES
1)	Patients viewing mixed prospect refuge nature images have higher psychological and physiological measures of health status than do those patients viewing no image.
2)	There are no statistical differences between patients viewing the three different images that represent the mixed prospect refuge image category.

---

# HOSPITAL RESEARCH DESIGN 2010

## METHODS: SEQUENTIAL MODEL

	<b>Sorting task 2008/2009</b>	<b>Phase I Sorting task 2010</b>	<b>Phase II A Experiment 2010</b>	<b>Phase II B Experiment 2010</b>
<b>Who</b>	100 students	30 incoming surgery patients	40 surgery outpatients	20 surgery inpatients
	controlled	controlled	controlled	controlled
<b>What</b>	Identify preferred category images	Identify preferred images	Randomly assigned to 1 of 4 treatments	Randomly assigned to 1 of 4 treatments
<b>Where</b>	Classroom	Classroom	Perioperative room	Patient room
<b>How</b>	Sorting task using “most” to “least” scale	Sorting task using “most” to “least” scale	Physiological & psychological health status indicators	Physiological & psychological health status indicators
<b>Results</b>	12 most frequently selected for “mixed prospect refuge” category	12 to 3 images for use in experiment	Compare image groups data with control (no image)	Compare image groups data with control (no image)

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

12 mixed prospect + refuge images are sorted and ranked (by people registering for surgery) according to 10 situations/questions that represent:

- Therapeutic aspects
- Presence and influence
- Theory confirmation



*Ellen Vincent*

---



# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION PILOT

---



Ellen Vincent

Results:

*“Oh! My back hurts.”* –Nurse participant

*“You need a bigger space and a real table that a wheel chair can pull up to.”* -Nurse observer

---

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION PILOT

---



Results: Process now occurs in a nearby classroom/conference room.

---

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

Process	Task
<b>Step 1</b>	Consent to participate form read and signed.
<b>Step 2</b>	Demographic questionnaire completed.
<b>Step 3</b>	“Spread the 12 images out in front of you on the table.”
<b>Step 4: Sort</b>	“After I read a certain situation to you please select all the images that you think fit the situation and place them in a stack by themselves.”
<b>Step 5: Rank</b>	“Now please sort the pile from most to least fits the situation with ‘most’ at the top of the pile and ‘least’ at the bottom.”
<b>Step 6: Record</b>	“Now please record the image numbers on the back of the photos onto your score sheet.”
This process is repeated 10 times.	
Participant is thanked and given \$10.00 remuneration.	

---

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

THERAPEUTIC ASPECT*	QUESTION/SITUATION
Stress reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I feel safe and protected in this landscape.</li><li>• I feel relaxed when I look at this landscape.</li></ul>
Improvement in overall sense of well-being, hopefulness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I feel hopeful when I look at this landscape.</li></ul>

\* Cooper Marcus and Barnes, 1999

---

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

PRESENCE/VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS*	QUESTION/SITUATION
Degree of “being there” in the image	I can easily imaging myself in this landscape, as though I were really there.
Not feeling bored with a still image	I could look at this landscape image for hours and not feel bored.

\* *Ijsselsteijn, 2004; deKort et al., 2006*

---

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

THEORY* CONFIRMATION	QUESTION/SITUATION
Prospect: a view, exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This landscape offers me a clear view of my surroundings.</li><li>• This landscape would be easy to move about in, to explore.</li></ul>
Refuge: safety, shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I can find shelter from harmful weather, or hide from harmful people or animals in this landscape.</li><li>• I feel safe and protected in this landscape.</li></ul>
Prospect/refuge mixed: Image contains equal amounts of both prospect and refuge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In this landscape I feel safe and sheltered yet I can see my surroundings clearly.</li><li>• In this landscape I can see both a place I want to explore and a place where I can hide if I wanted to.</li></ul>

---

\* *Appleton, J. 1996*



# PHASE I MIXED PROSPECT REFUGE IMAGES

---





# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

1. This landscape offers me a clear view of my surroundings:



PIC #1

*Ellen Vincent*

---

N = 17 Sum = 58

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

2. I can find shelter from harmful weather, or hide from harmful people or animals in this landscape:



PIC #8

N = 19 Sum = 52



PIC #10

N = 14 Sum = 54

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

3. This landscape would be easy to move about in, to explore:



PIC #10

*Ellen Vincent*

---

N = 18 Sum = 59



# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

4. I feel safe and protected in this landscape:



PIC #10

Ellen Vincent

---

N = 20 Sum = 61

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

5. In this landscape I feel safe and sheltered yet I can also see my surroundings clearly:



PIC #10

Ellen Vincent



# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

6. I can easily imagine myself in this landscape, as though I were really there:



PIC #2

Getty Images

---

N = 14 Sum = 42



# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

7. I feel hopeful when I look at this landscape:



PIC #6

*Ellen Vincent*

---

N = 16 Sum = 47

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

8. In this landscape I can see both a place I want to explore and a place where I can hide if I wanted to:

PIC #3



Getty images

N = 12 Sum = 39

PIC #7



Ellen Vincent

N = 14 Sum = 37

PIC #8



Ellen Vincent

N = 13 Sum = 37

---



# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

9. I feel relaxed when I look at this landscape:



*Ellen Vincent*

PIC #6

---

N = 18 Sum = 57

# PHASE I: IMAGE SELECTION

---

10. I could look at this landscape for hours and not feel bored:



Getty images

PIC #4



Getty images

PIC #2

---

N = 13 Sum = 42

N = 12 Sum = 40



# RESULTS IMAGE SELECTION

---



PIC #10

Situations 2, 3,4, 5



PIC #6

Situations 7,9



PIC #2

Situations 6, 10 (close  
2<sup>nd</sup>)

---

# RESULTS IMAGE SELECTION

---

PIC #10



Ellen Vincent

2. I can find shelter from harmful weather, or hide from harmful people or animals in this landscape. **Theory confirmation**
  3. This landscape would be easy to move about in, to explore. **Theory confirmation**
  4. I feel safe and protected in this landscape. **Theory confirmation; therapeutic aspect (stress reduction)**
  5. In this landscape I feel safe and sheltered yet I can also see my surroundings clearly. **Theory confirmation**
-

# RESULTS IMAGE SELECTION

---



PIC #6

Ellen Vincent

7. I feel hopeful when I look at this landscape. **Therapeutic aspect (well-being, hopeful)**
  9. I feel relaxed when I look at this landscape. **Therapeutic aspect (stress reduction)**
-



# RESULTS IMAGE SELECTION

---



PIC #2

Getty images

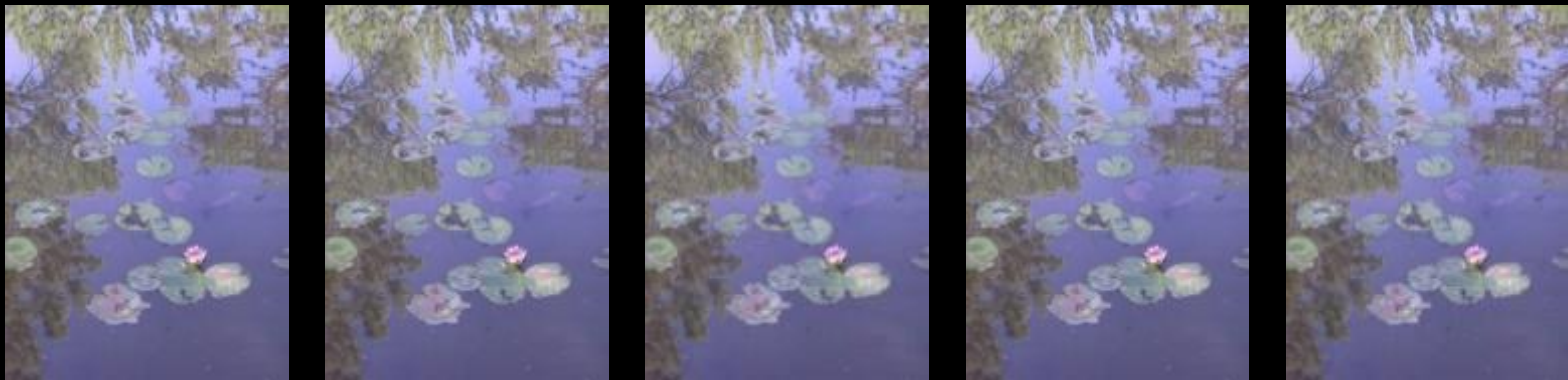
6. I can easily imagine myself in this landscape, as though I were really there. **Experiential realism (presence)**
  10. I could look at this landscape for hours and not feel bored. **Experiential realism (virtual environments)**
-

# PHASE IIA&B: HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

## RESEARCH DESIGN VARIABLES:

Independent variables	Nature images
Dependent variables	Psychological + physiological responses



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# PHASE IIA & B: HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

## INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

*View (Appleton, 1975, 1996)*

Examples



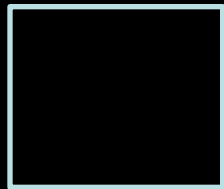
**(1) Mixed Prospect + Refuge View**



**(2) Mixed Prospect + Refuge View**



**(3) Mixed Prospect + Refuge View**



**(4) No Image [control]**



## DEPENDENT VARIABLES

*Health status & perceived well-being:  
Psychological and physiological responses*

**Perceived well-being** – therapeutic aspects developed by Cooper Marcus (1995, 1999).

**Health Status – Physiological measures:**

- Continuous vital signs-
- Blood pressures + heart rate

**Health Status – Psychological measures:**

- Short Form McGill Pain Questionnaire
- Profile of Mood States (POMS)
- Visual analogue scale for presence
- Visual analogue scale for influence

# PHASE I A&B: HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

## OUTPATIENT:

Image attached to bed side rail

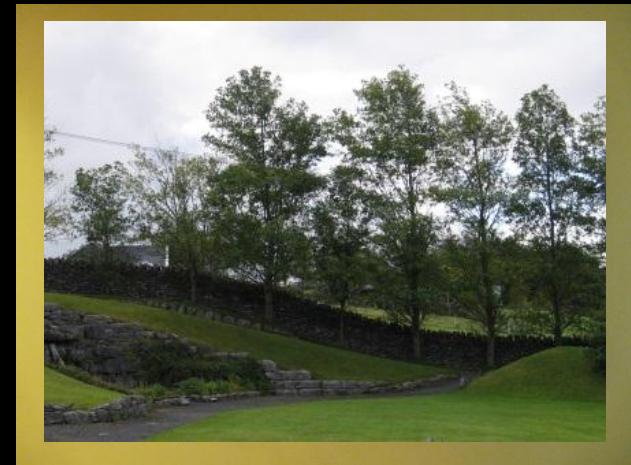


*Kathy Dalton*

N = 40 participants  
10 in each group  
3 groups one image  
1 group no image (control)

## INPATIENT:

Image attached to wall



*Ellen Vincent*

N = 20 participants  
5 in each group  
3 groups one image  
1 group no image (control)

---

# PHASE I A&B: EXPERIMENT

<b>PSYCH TOOLS</b>	<b>PAIN</b>	<b>MOOD</b>	<b>PRESENCE/ INFLUENCE</b>
<b>Instrument</b>	Short Form McGill Pain Questionnaire	Profile of Mood States (POMS) Brief Form	Visual analogue
<b>Items</b>	15 items 3 scales: sensory (throbbing, shooting), affective (punishing-cruel) and total	30 items 6 subscales	One for presence One for influence
<b>Description</b>	Check a number from 0 “none” to 3 “severe”	Circle a number from 0 “not at all” to 4 “extremely”	Slash mark on a line anchored by choices “extremely weak” and “extremely strong”

# PHASE IIA & B: EXPERIMENT

---

<b>PHYSIOLOGICAL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Systolic blood pressure</b>	Systolic pressure is the maximum arterial pressure of the heart. Measurements are in millimeters of mercury (mmHg).
<b>Diastolic blood pressure</b>	The relaxed state of the heart beat. Measured in millimeters of mercury (mmHg).
<b>Heart rate</b>	Heart rate is measured in beats per minute (BPM).

---



# PHASE IIA: HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS OUTPATIENT

Image exposure

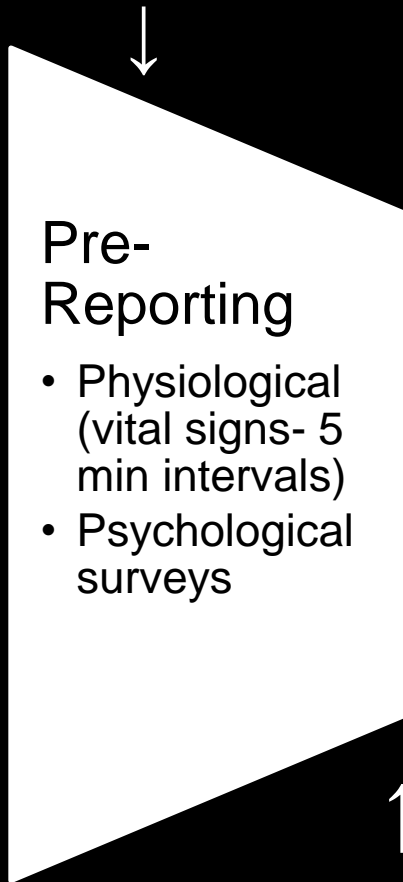


Image exposure

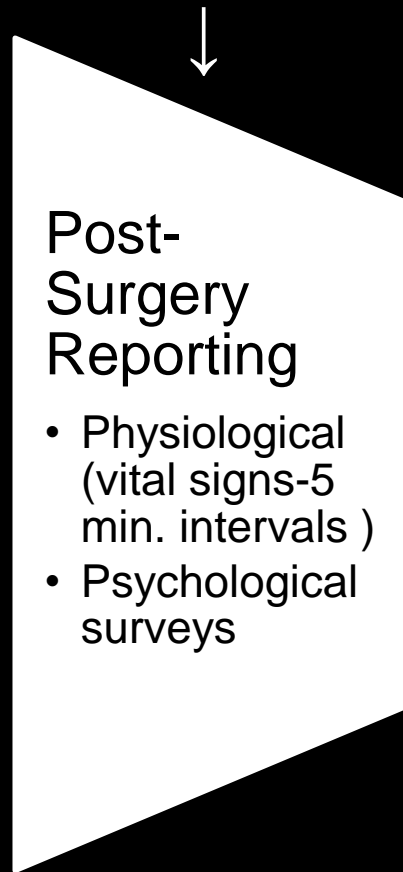
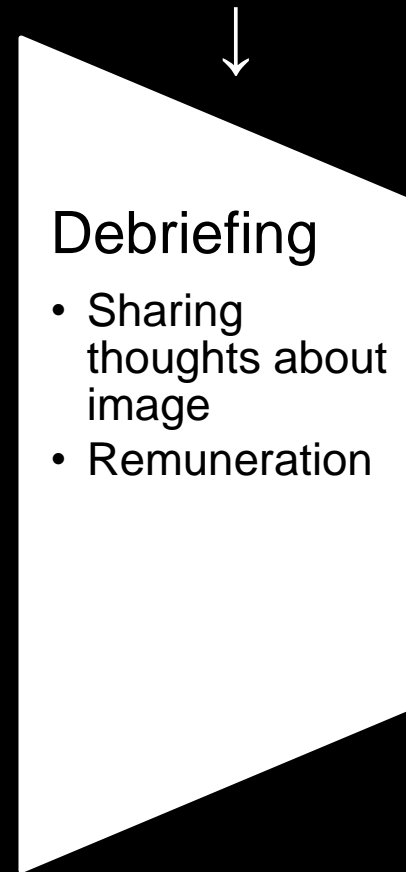


Image exposure



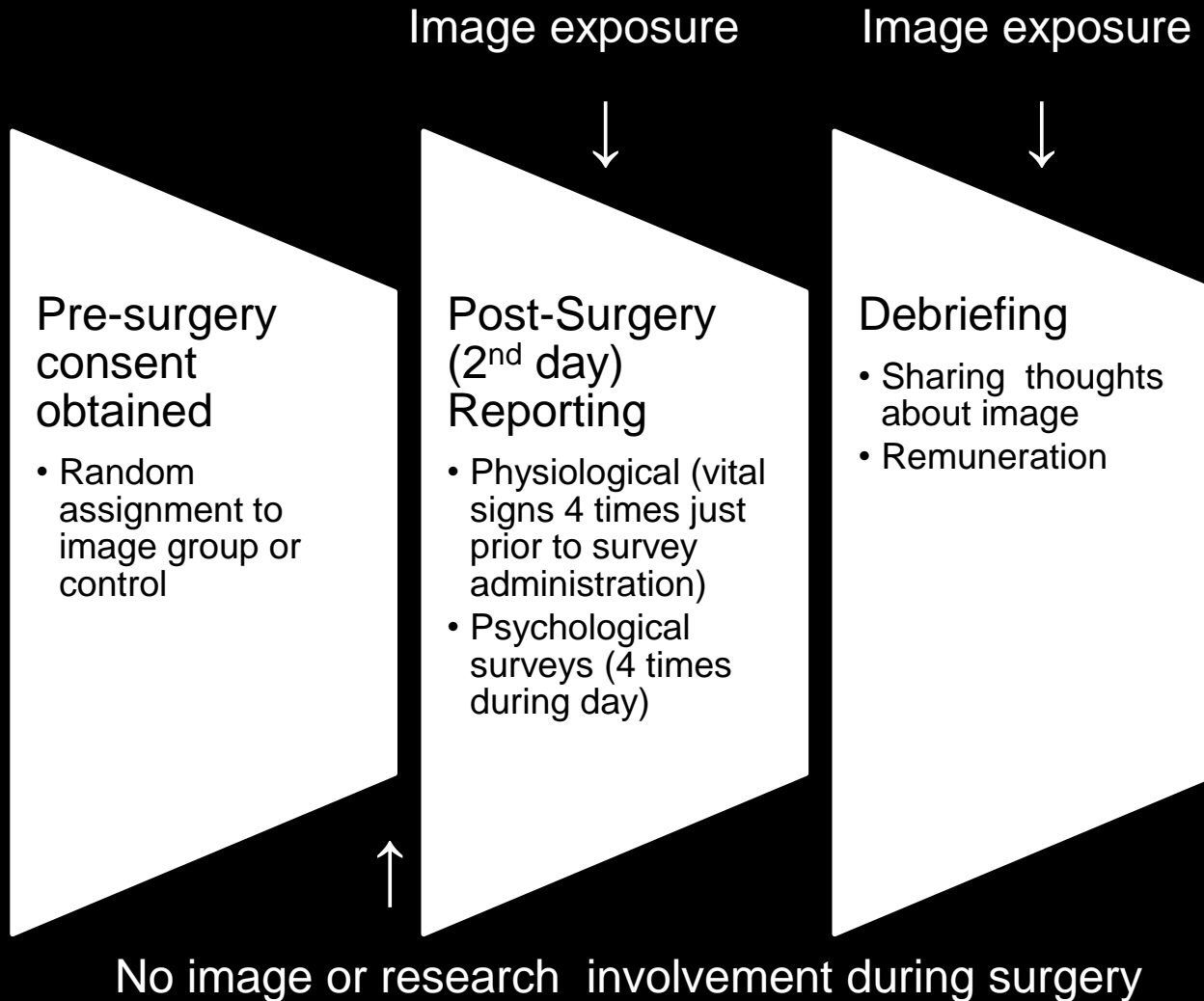
No image or research involvement during surgery

---

# PHASE IIB: HOSPITAL EXPERIMENT

---

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS INPATIENT



# HOSPITAL RESEARCH 2010

---

## CHALLENGES

Lengthy review time for human subject approval by institutional review board(s): (1) Hospital (2) University (3) Dept. of Defense

New hospital has a more limited surgery volume

## OPPORTUNITIES

Design is detailed, thorough, safe and respectful for all involved

Slow pace allows for: (1) researcher/hospital staff relationship to develop (2) reflection of process and sensitivity towards patient to develop



*Ellen Vincent*



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# RESEARCH DESIGN LIMITATIONS

---

External generalization to other populations not possible with one study and small sample size.



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# FUTURE STEPS

---

- Obtain additional grant dollars
- Replicate study in additional hospitals
- Replicate study using specific patient populations
- Publish results



*Ellen Vincent*

---

# CONTRIBUTIONS

DATE	CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS
2008. 6	INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES CONFERENCE, PRATO, ITALY
2008. 9	URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTY COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, GREENVILLE, SC
2009. 5	INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE CONFERENCE, ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
2009. 5	EDRA 40, KANSAS CITY, MO
2009. 11	HEALTHCARE DESIGN CONFERENCE, ORLANDO, FL





# PUBLICATIONS

---

- Vincent, E., Battisto, D., Grimes, L., & McCubbin, J. (2010). The effects of nature images on pain in a simulated hospital patient room. *Health Environments Research & Design Journal* 3(3), 42-55.
  - Vincent, E., Battisto, D., & Grimes, L., (2010). The effects of presence and influence in nature images in a simulated hospital patient room. *Health Environments Research & Design Journal* 3(3), 56-69.
-

# CONTRIBUTIONS

---

- (1) Methodology for selecting images & using in experimental research presented.
- (2) Adding empirical research data to interdisciplinary field.
- (3) Introduces nature into healthcare settings to reduce stress and pain.
- (4) Evidence based outcomes for designers and hospital personnel responsible for selecting art work for healthcare setting.



# THANK YOU

---



*Getty image*

---

# CONTACT INFORMATION

---

Ellen Vincent  
Environmental Landscape Specialist  
Clemson University

[ellenav@clemson.edu](mailto:ellenav@clemson.edu)  
64.656.1342  
803.243.8888 (cell)

Dina Battisto  
Professor Architecture + Health  
Clemson University

[dbattis@clemson.edu](mailto:dbattis@clemson.edu)

---