# Effective Decision Making in Crisis Situations

From Cognitive to Emotional Skills
For Responsible and Effective
Servant Leaders

Interactive Workshop Egbert Mulder Msc May 4, 2015

# Effective Decision Making in Crisis Situations

Crisis: what Crisis?
Crisis and Stress
Stress and Decision Making
How to Cope with Stress
Life skills in 21 Century
From Cognitive to Emotional skills
From Crisis to Flow

### What is a crisis?

An Unwanted and Unexpected Event

**Effect: Stress** 

In Crisis we Need:
Effective & Responsible
Decision Making

# **Stress: Workplace and University**

#### WORKPLACE

- WHO: in 2020 Stress is major cause for workrelated illness
- 30% of employees experiences mental ilness in career
- Financial cost: EU € 240 billion, Netherlands € 4.4 billion

#### STUDENTS:

- 75% experience to much stress
- 1/3 has daily stress
- Causes: social media, work pressure, uncertainty, social pressure,

# Stress: Effect on Body & Mind



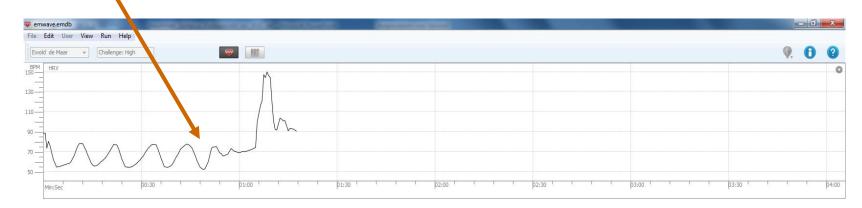
- Who experiences Stress?
- How often / when ?
- What is the effect of stress on your body, concentration, feeling?
- What does it mean to your performance?

# **Biofeedback Heart Monitor**

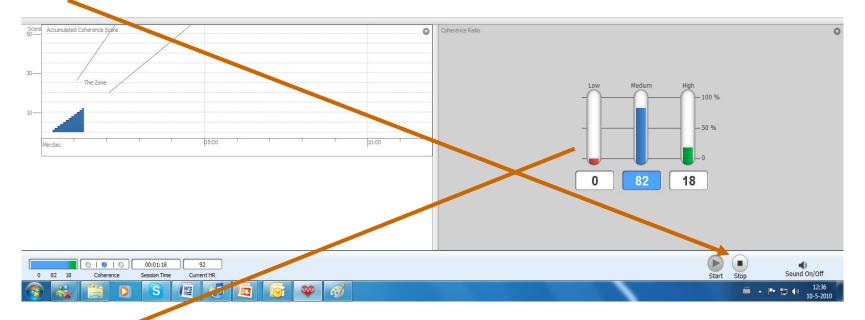


EmWave2® Biofeedback & Heartmonitor

### 1. Observe Changes in Heart Ritme



#### 2. Stop after 2 minutes



## 3. Note % red, blue and green

# **Biology of Stress**

## Role of Stress in Human Evolution





## **Effects of Stress**

### **Fight**



**Body** 



hormone adrenaline en cortisol (HPA-as)

- increased bloodpressure
- heartbeat increases
- faster breathing
- blood to muscles

#### **Brains**

- Intellectual brain less dominant
- Primitive brain becomes dominant: focus = "fight or flight"
- "Survival" = tunnel vision

## **Flight**



Freeze



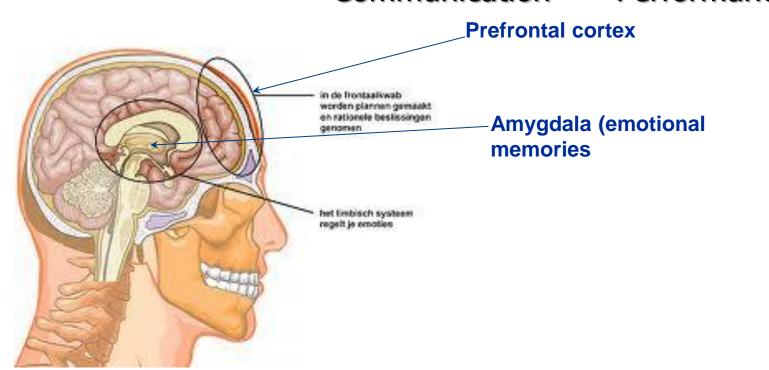
**EFFECT:** quality of decision making reduced, panic and chaos

# Prefrontal Cortex: AMYGDALA HIGH JACK

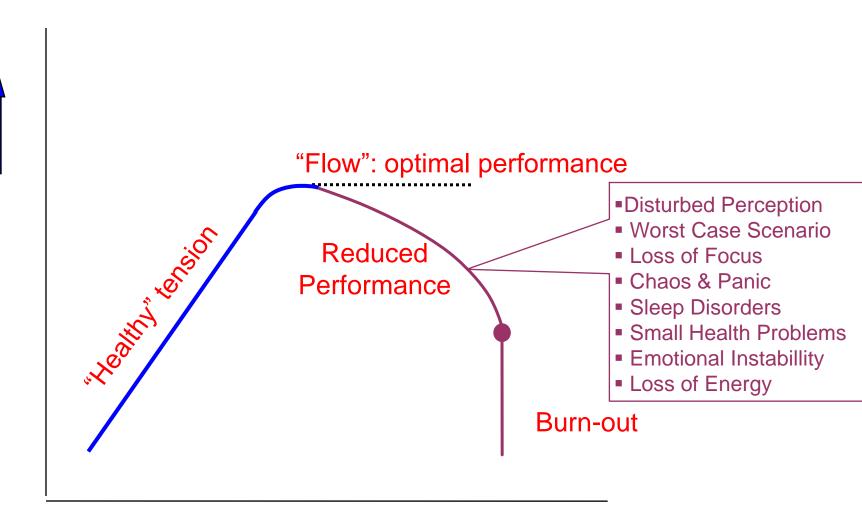
 Executive Brain Functions:

- Decision Making
- Planning
- Problem Solving
- Intuition
- Communication

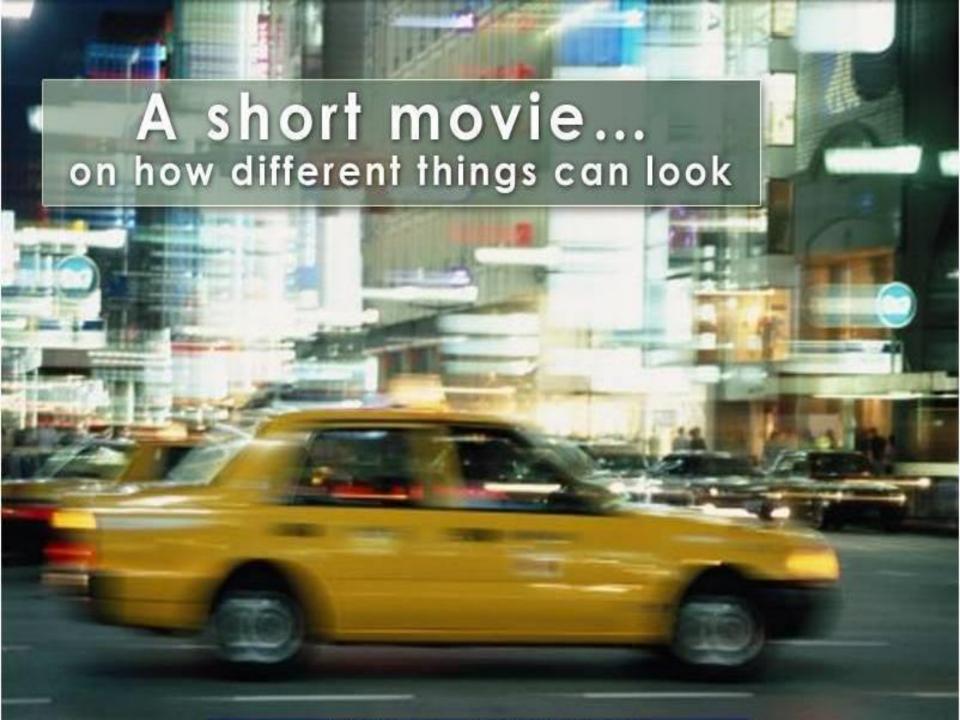
- Courage
- Memory
- Learning
- Overview
- Performance



# Performance - Stress curve

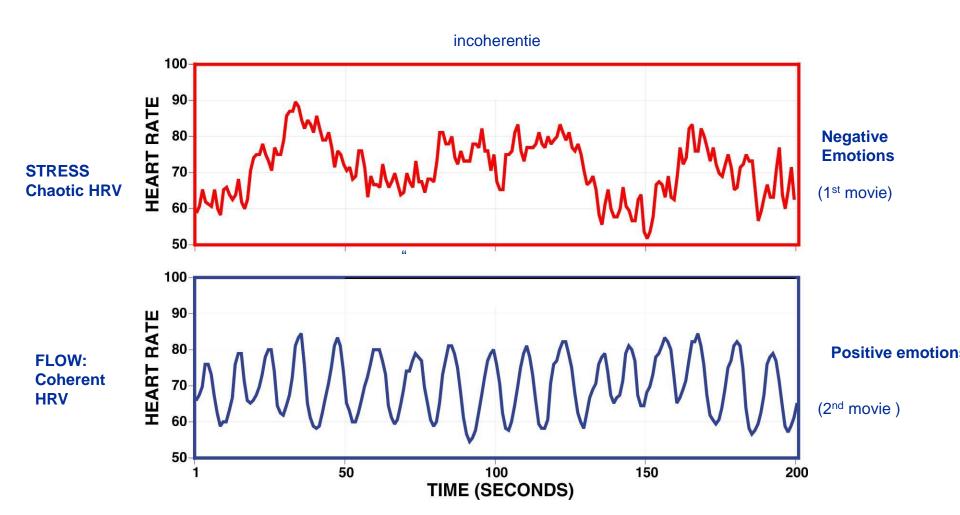






# **Feelings & Emotions:**

strong effect on ANS and HRV



# Neutral

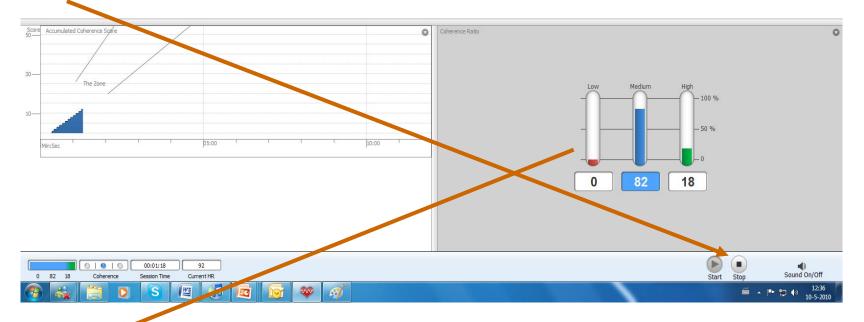
# Heart Focus and Breathing

- Take a time out, breathe slowly and deeply
- Concentrate your attention on your heart
- Imagine the air entering and leaving through the heart area or the center of your chest
- Pace: 5 seconds in and 5 seconds out if you can

### 1. Observe Changes in Heart Ritme



#### 2. Stop after 2 minutes



## 3. Note % red, blue and green