

Experience of Patients with Acute Spinal Cord Injury: From Acute Hospitalization to Inpatient Rehabilitation

Background and Rationale

- **Spinal cord injury (SCI)** is a highly disruptive chronic condition that can arise from trauma (e.g., injuries from falls) or non-traumatic conditions (e.g., a degenerative disease).
- Care for individual's living with SCI is complex and involves multiple transitions in care across diverse disciplines.
- **SCI clinical practice guidelines** in Alberta are neither completely agreed upon, consistently applied, or uniformity followed. This prevents consistent quality of SCI care across the Province.
- There is limited research investigating the patient perception of in-hospital care following an SCI.

Study Aim

- The aim of this study is to understand the **care experiences** of persons living with SCI (or their primary care givers) at acute hospital and inpatient rehabilitation centres across Alberta.

Methodology

- Qualitative interview analysis of persons living with SCI who received care from an Alberta facility within the last 5 years

Results to Date

- We have:
 - Completed n=10 interviews from persons living SCI across Alberta
 - Transcribed and analyzed these interviews for emerging themes

