

Mobilizing the Rick Hansen Spinal Cord Injury Registry for Provincial Quality Improvement in Alberta

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).
- **Secondary medical complications** are highly prevalent in persons living with SCI, such as urinary tract infections and pressure injuries.
- Reducing variation in SCI care delivery across the province would **improve care quality** and **patient outcomes**, including reducing the rates of preventable secondary medical complications.
- **The Rick Hansen Spinal Cord Injury Registry (RHSCIR)** captures long-term data from persons living with SCI across Canada including information on clinical, demographic, and well-being issues.
- There are no consistent approaches on how the Alberta health care system might use information from RHSCIR to inform quality of care for persons living with SCI.

Study Aim

- This study aims to develop an **evidence-informed strategy** to use information from the RHSCIR to inform quality improvement of care services for persons living with SCI in Alberta.

Methodology

- To support the development of an evidence-informed strategy we will develop an environmental scan that includes:
 - A scoping review
 - Stakeholder interview analysis
 - Secondary RHSCIR data analysis for Edmonton and Calgary



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Results to Date

- We have:
 - Completed the scoping review, which included information from n=28 articles
 - Completed n=11 stakeholder interviews, which includes participants from across Canada, USA, and Europe.
 - Completed a preliminary secondary analysis of RHSCIR data from Edmonton and Calgary to inform priority areas of care

