



SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH

Shepherd Center supports translational and clinical research efforts that are scientifically sound, safeguard the welfare of research participants, and have the potential to advance the field of spinal cord injury medicine. Shepherd Center partners with institutions of higher learning and industry to develop solutions for paralysis, spasticity, pain, autonomic dysfunction, and a variety of other consequences of spinal cord injury.

Until neural regeneration becomes a more clinically applicable possibility, Shepherd Center will continue to focus on preserving neurological function through prevention of injury, increasing function through intervention, and setting the standard for independence and quality of life among individuals with spinal cord and brain injuries.

THE SCI RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Spinal Cord Injury Research Program at Shepherd Center is especially interested in the idea of restorative neurology and carries out studies that address the recovery of function in residual, reorganized, or regenerated neural circuitry in patients with spinal cord injury.

The Spinal Cord Injury Research Program at Shepherd Center has developed a human laboratory called SCIL (Spinal Cord Injury Lab) to expand its capacity to translate discoveries made in basic scientific research to studies in humans with spinal cord injury.

We hope to better understand how changes in the nervous system brought about by treatment can be enhanced to improve recovery or gain recovery in patients who have not previously experienced improvement.

THE SCI RESEARCH TEAM

- Keith Tansey, MD, PhD
SCI Research Program Director
- Deborah Backus, PT, PhD
SCI Research Program Associate Director
- Leslie VanHiel, MSPT, CCRC
SCI Research Program Coordinator
- Joy Bruce, MSPT, PhD, NCS
Spinal Cord Injury Lab (SCIL) Manager

JOIN A STUDY

If you would like to be considered for participation in a research study at Shepherd Center, go online at www.shepherd.org/sciresearch to complete and submit the Intake Form electronically. We will store your information in a database and contact you about current and future projects that may interest you.

OUR RESEARCH LISTINGS

For more information about Shepherd Center's SCI research, visit www.shepherd.org/sciresearch. The site includes listings of ongoing research studies, including those that are currently accepting volunteers.

MORE INFORMATION

For any questions regarding spinal cord injury research at Shepherd Center, please contact us by email at sciresearch@shepherd.org, or call Leslie VanHiel, MSPT, CCRC at 404-350-7681.