



BLUSSON SPINAL CORD CENTRE PARTNERSHIP ACCELERATING THE DISCOVERY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CURES FOR PARALYSIS AFTER SPINAL CORD INJURY



Bringing spinal cord injury experts in basic, clinical, and translational research and knowledge translation together under the same roof has galvanized collaborative efforts towards our shared vision of a world without paralysis after spinal cord injury.”

– Rick Hansen

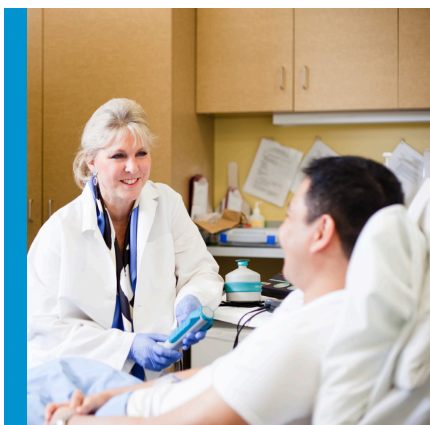
Spinal cord injury (SCI) is a major unsolved health care challenge, affecting not only people who live with it, but their families as well. It is a devastating form of neurotrauma with tremendous and broad-ranging physical and socioeconomic impacts. The economic cost of SCI is also high, estimated at close to \$3 billion every year for the care and treatment for Canadians with traumatic SCI. World-class research infrastructure—such as the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre—is critical to the development and implementation of research and best practices to increase the effectiveness, timeliness, and quality of care of people with SCI.

THE BLUSSON SPINAL CORD CENTRE – A GLOBAL CENTRE OF COLLABORATION & EXCELLENCE

Canada has become a global leader in the treatment and care of spinal cord injury. One of the tangible outcomes of these investments is the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre (BSCC) in Vancouver, BC, an 11,000-square-metre, state-of-the-art facility that brings together specialists under one roof where they can

collaborate to discover and implement novel treatments and approaches into improved outcomes, independence and quality of life for people living with SCI and their families. Opened in November 2008, BSCC is home to the Rick Hansen Institute, the ICORD research centre, and the multidisciplinary Brenda

& David McLean Integrated Spine Clinic of Vancouver General Hospital. Together, this partnership of 300-plus professionals spans basic and clinical research, clinical care, and knowledge translation, informing best clinical practices locally, regionally, nationally, and beyond.



AN ACADEMIC RESEARCH CENTRE DEDICATED TO SCI – ICORD

ICORD (International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries) is a research centre in the University of BC Faculty of Medicine and Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. ICORD's research spans the continuum from discovery science to bedside to rehabilitation and community integration, tackling

the biggest challenges in care and cure for SCI. ICORD's comprehensive and integrated approach brings together basic scientists, surgeons, clinicians, pathologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, psychosocial scientists, and engineers. As one of the most interdisciplinary SCI

research programs in the world, ICORD contributes to discovery science and clinical breakthroughs and has the ability to identify and validate those that emerge from other international centres.

www.icord.org

IMPACT NATIONALLY & INTERNATIONALLY – RICK HANSEN INSTITUTE

The Rick Hansen Institute is focused on the translation of novel research findings into best clinical practice and the creation of critical platform technologies for clinical research. RHI has also formed a network of clinical sites across Canada and at strategic

global locations that will expedite the conduct of clinical trials in SCI. The Institute is designed to influence all elements of SCI treatment and care for newly, acutely and chronically injured individuals, including developing new therapies and decreasing the time

required for research to be translated into real-life benefits, and its work can also potentially be used for other health conditions such as traumatic brain injury or stroke.

www.rickhanseninstitute.org

EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL CARE – BRENDA & DAVID MCLEAN INTEGRATED SPINE CLINIC

The clinic located on the second floor consists of three major continuums of care: The Acute Spinal Ambulatory Services; Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Ambulatory Services and Integrated Clinical Research. These three services work together with the goal of integrating clinical service provision with translational research to

support the vision of the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre partners. The Acute Spinal Ambulatory Services include both a surgical and a medical component. This includes the services of the Medical and Surgical Spine Program, and the Pain Management Service. The Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Ambulatory Services is a continuum of clinical

care that includes the services of the SCI Wound Program, Cystoscopy, and Urodynamics Services, Sexual Health (specifically the Vancouver Sperm Retrieval Clinic), Interdisciplinary SCI Rehabilitation Assessment, and Autonomic Assessment and Intervention.

www.vch.ca

Thank you to the following funders for their generous support of the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre: Government of Canada, Stewart and Marilyn Blusson, Brenda and David McLean, Angus and Margaret Reid, Canada Foundation for Innovation, BC Knowledge Development Fund, UBC, Vancouver Coastal Health and the Government of BC.



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

