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Over the past several years, with several high profile individuals sustaining spinal cord injuries, there has been a lot of attention given to finding a cure for SCI. Many groups representing individuals with SCI have lobbied hard for increased funding for curative research, and as a result more federal monies have been dedicated to this area of research. There are several excellent websites with links to other sites providing information on curative research. If you have access to the Internet, these are an excellent place to start in the process of gathering information.

On a cautionary note, be aware of organizations that claim to cure spinal cord injury, or those that claim that they can get individuals with SCI to walk again. At this point in time (2001) there is no cure available for spinal cord injury. Many of the "walking" programs are very costly, most insurance companies do not pay for such services, and the end result can be both financially and emotionally devastating. This is not to say that there are not some excellent programs out there, just beware, and ask a lot of questions before taking such a step.

SCI RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

American Paraplegia Society

718/803-3782

FAX: 718/803-0414

75-20 Astoria Blvd.

Jackson Heights, NY 11370

Website: <www.apasci.org>

- Organization dedicated to improving the quality of medical care delivered to persons with SCI
- Goals are to advance SCI-related patient care, promote research related to SCI and provide a forum for the review of scientific findings

Californians for Cure

Website: <www.californiansforcure.com>

Contact: Glenda Berg 707/778-6128

E-mail: glberg@pacbell.net

Karen Miner 707/678-6160

Don Reed 510/790-0901

- Group of activists lobbying for state funding for SCI research
- Welcome the involvement of other individuals with SCI

17. Regeneration and Curative Research

Center for SCI Research

Craig Hospital

303/761-5281

303/789-8490

3425 S. Clarkson Street

Englewood, CO 80110-2899

Website: <www.craig-hospital.org>

Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation

800/225-0292

973/379-2690

500 Morris Ave.

Springfield, NJ 07081

Website: <<http://paralysis.apacure.org/crf>>

- Encourages and supports research to find a cure for paralysis caused by spinal cord injury and other central nervous system disorders
- Also supports non-profit organizations seeking to improve the quality of life of people with SCI

Karolinska Institute

011-46-8/728-6400

SE-171-77

Stockholm, Sweden

Website: <www.info.ki.se>

E-mail: info@ki.se

- Large university involved in research ranging from fundamental research in molecular biology to public health science and care research

Kent Waldrep National Paralysis Foundation

Main Office:

800/925-2873

972/248-7100

FAX: 972/248-7313

16415 Addison Rd., Suite 550

Addison, TX 75001

Steve Palermo Chapter

800/513-3700

913/451-3700

FAX: 913/338-0003

E-mail: kwaldrep@kwnpf.org

Website: <www.kwnpf.org>

- Established to facilitate a cure for paralysis caused by injury to the spinal cord and/or brain

17. Regeneration and Curative Research

The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis

800/782-6387

305/243-6001

FAX: 305/243-6017

P.O. Box 106960, Mail Locator R-48

Miami, FL 33101

Website: <www.miamiproject.miami.edu>

- Research center dedicated to finding more effective treatments, and ultimately, a cure for paralysis that results from spinal cord injury

Paralyzed Veterans of America

SCI Education and Training Foundation

202/416-7655

801 Eighteenth St. NW

Washington, DC 20006

Website: <www.pva.org>

- Committed to providing funds for grants to institutions, agencies and organizations - grants that will improve the knowledge and abilities of health professionals, people with spinal cord injury or disease and those who are significant to them
- Annual deadlines for applications are December and June

Reeve Irvine Research Center

949/824-1379

949/824-2676

University of California, Irvine

252 Irvine Hall

Irvine, CA 92697-1379

Website: <www.reeve.uci.edu>

E-mail: srossie@uci.edu

- Supports the study of trauma to the spinal cord and diseases affecting it
- Research emphasizes the development of therapies to promote the recovery and repair of neurological function

Spinal Cord Research Center

University of Manitoba

436 Basic Sciences Medical Building

730 William Ave.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

R3E 3J7

Website: <www.ssrc.umanitoba.ca>

17. Regeneration and Curative Research

Spinal Cord Society

218/739-5252

218/739-5261

FAX: 218/739-5262

Wendell Rd.

Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Website: <<http://users.aol.com/scsweb>>

- Funds research for spinal cord injuries, provides physician referrals
- Newsletter

Thumbs Up - The Mike Utley Foundation

800/294-4683

602/224-0909

FAX: 602/943-2397

2432 W. Peoria Ave., Suite 1162A

Phoenix, AZ 95029

E-mail: utley60@earthlink.net

Website: <www.mikeutley.org>

- The goal of the Foundation is to find a cure for spinal cord injuries
- Committed to providing financial support of selected research, rehabilitation and education programs on spinal cord injuries
- Provides motivational and emotional support for individuals who have been disabled with such injuries

SCI REHABILITATION RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTERS (RRTC's)

The Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers (RRTC's) are centers of national excellence. RRTC's serve as national and regional resources for providers and individuals with SCI, significant others, and advocates. RRTC's carry out research activities by conducting coordinated and advanced programs of research in rehabilitation, as well as training activities for rehabilitation personnel. There are three RRTC's that focus on SCI.

RRTC in Community Integration for Individuals with SCI

Baylor College of Medicine

TIRR

800/732-8124

713/797-5940

FAX: 713/797-5982

1333 Moursund, B-107

Houston, TX 77030-3405

E-mail: terrih@bcm.tmc.edu

- Maintains a database of educational resources on spinal cord injury for people with SCI, their families and health care providers

17. Regeneration and Curative Research

RRTC on Aging with a Spinal Cord Injury

Los Amigos Research and Education Institute, Inc.

562/401-7402

FAX: 562/401-7011

800 West Annex

7601 E. Imperial Hwy

Downey, CA 90242

E-mail: rrtcsci@aol.com

Website: <www.agingwithdisability.org>

- Federally funded research and training center

RRTC on Secondary Conditions of Spinal Cord Injury

Spain Rehabilitation Center

UAB Training Office

800/UAB-8816

205/934-3283

FAX: 205/975-4691

E-mail: rtc@sun.rehabm.uab.edu

Website: <<http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=8762?>>

- Federally funded rehabilitation research and training center

RESEARCH RELATED WEBSITES

Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (CORD)

University of British Columbia

Website: <cord.ubc.ca>

- An interactive group of research laboratories dedicated to the study of the developing and adult nervous system and its repair, and rehabilitation after injury or disease
- Website includes information on how the CORD is organized, scientists and clinicians involved with organization, and summaries of some the research programs

Cure Paralysis Now

E-mail: info@cureparalysis.org

Website: <www.cureparalysis.org>

- Site dedicated to all who are involved with or affected by spinal cord injury, especially researchers and clinicians in multi-disciplinary fields of study that may relate to the advancement of healing or cure of spinal cord paralysis

17. Regeneration and Curative Research

SpineWire

Website: <www.spinewire.com>

- The Spinewire website is an excellent general website for the SCI community
- Includes a special section, called "Wise-wire", which features frequent briefs from well-known SCI researcher, Dr. Wise Young