

Quarterly update for members



SCoRH
spinal cord research hub



May 2023

Welcome to the May update of the Spinal Cord Research Hub (SCoRH).
SCoRH is an initiative of the Spinal Research Institute.

2023 SCI Research Collaboration Grants now open!



Are you planning to attend the [International Spinal Cord Society \(ISCoS\) Annual Scientific Meeting](#) in October this year? If so, consider applying for an SCI Research Collaboration Grant!

These grants facilitate the exchange of knowledge and help build relationships between individuals, institutions and countries involved in spinal cord injury research by funding attendance at the ISCoS Annual Scientific Meeting. Attendance at the conference represents a unique opportunity to grow professionally and garner fresh ideas and collaborate with peers.

SCI Research Collaboration Grants are open internationally to SCI researchers, and clinicians with an interest in SCI research, who can demonstrate how the opportunity will enhance their research and research career development.

Full and partial grants will be awarded, covering the following, at the discretion of the Review Panel: conference registration, pre-meeting workshop, ISCoS membership (new members only), conference dinner, accommodation, and flights

(up to \$2,000 AUD). Successful full and partial grantees will also receive a place in an interactive workshop on consumer engagement in research, facilitated by the SRI.

[Read more and apply](#)

GROW YOUR NETWORK IN 45 MINUTES

In March, we held our first online networking event for SCoRH members. It was a short session where attendees could meet other researchers and clinicians working in the area of spinal cord injury in an informal setting. Attendees were from a range of disciplines, career stages, and geographical locations.

It was a great way for researchers to see each other and hear about other work going on in their field. In our next Online Networking Event, we will be extending the time we spend in the informal networking rooms to allow even more free chat time. If you missed the first one, don't worry! We are currently planning the second event in this series, so please keep an eye on your inbox and our social media for updates. If you have colleagues who might benefit, please tell them to [join SCoRH](#) so that they receive the invitation.



MENTOR PROGRAM 2023

Applications are now closed for the 2023 round of our Mentor Program. We are excited to be shortly matching a new group of mentors and mentees, and we look forward to making some rewarding pairings. If you didn't apply this time, don't worry. There will be other opportunities to join this program in future. Previous

participants found a lot of value in the program, and it might just be right for you.

100% of participants in the SRI's Mentor Program

- agree that it improved their research skills.
- are more confident that they can progress their research.
- feel more strongly connected with the SCI research field.



SRI CONSUMER REMUNERATION POLICY

The Spinal Research Institute's Policy for Consumer Remuneration recognises and celebrates the importance of consumer engagement in SCI research and consultation. This paper by the SRI's Kristine Hendry and Antonio Vecchio, published in March in Spinal Cord journal, sets out the process undertaken to develop it.

[Read the article](#)

DR CAMILLA LARSEN'S EXPERIENCE AT ISCOS 2022

In 2022, Dr Camilla Larsen received an SCI Research Collaboration Grant to attend ISCoS in Vancouver, Canada. Here we find out a little more about her research, and why attending ISCoS was such a valuable experience for her.

Camilla Larsen has a background as a physiotherapist. She finished her PhD from the University of Southern Denmark in 2014. She currently holds a senior lecturer and teaching assistant professor position. Her current research focuses on musculoskeletal health, impairment in various degrees (e.g. spinal cord injury) and physical activity in a cross-disciplinary research team. Her focus of research

is based on the knowledge and methodological competences she currently possesses and strives to develop further; ranging from mechanical studies and surveys to RCT and systematic reviews. Additionally, she is involved in qualitative research, which provides understanding and competences within this methodology.

Camilla shares her experiences from the conference.



In September 2022, I travelled all the way from Denmark to Vancouver to participate at the ISCoS conference. I was so fortunate to receive a SRI Collaboration Grant, and additional economic support from some of my collaborators made conference participation possible. Attending the conference provided me with the possibility to disseminate and discuss my research results. However, receiving this grant, and attending ISCoS also meant increased awareness of my social media research profile and research area. I now have a larger online platform for disseminating research to researcher's, clinicians and community. Very importantly, attending the conference has promoted my international network. For example, I have become part of the Special Interest Group for Physical Activity and Disability – which I expect will contribute to the establishment of new relevant projects. Going all the way to Canada, also meant that I have further developed my national network – with new activities planned for 2023.

[Read more reports from 2022 grant recipients](#)

RESOURCES

Engaging consumers in research at RECOVER - three recent examples of consumer engagement activities

RECOVER Injury Research Centre is a joint initiative of the Queensland Motor Accident Insurance Commission (MAIC) and The University of Queensland in Australia. The mission of RECOVER is to optimise the physical, psychological, communication, social and vocational recovery of people following injury, especially when caused by road traffic crashes. Their research focuses on developing, validating, and translating client-centred interventions to reduce disability for individuals who sustain a personal injury in a road traffic crash.

This [powerpoint presentation](#) outlines in a clear and simple way three examples of how the RECOVER group has engaged consumers in different phases of their research:

- Recruitment phase (consultation)
- Data analysis phase (consultation/involvement)
- Design phase (involvement)

Planning your research career for impact - free webinar on 30 May

More than ever, research organisations and funding bodies are asking researchers to plan and demonstrate the impact of their work. This can be daunting, especially for those of us with less experience in the impact space.



This webinar will be an opportunity to reflect on your research career and consider how you are enabling impact based on your own values and belief in the importance of the work that you do. The content is intended for researchers at any stage of their career who are interested in building a career-level impact plan. [Register now.](#)

Don't know where to start with social media? Use this guide!

This [Springer Nature guide](#) is intended to be used to promote a new research publication, but it can be adapted easily for anything you would like to share on social media. The four week plan includes post templates that you can use as they are, or amend to suit your particular circumstances.



EVENTS & DATES

The [62nd International Spinal Cord Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#) (ISCoS 2023), will take place in Edinburgh, Scotland from 8 – 11 October 2023. Early bird registrations are now open.

The [2023 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian & New Zealand Spinal Cord](#)

[Society](#) (ANZSCoS) will be held 22-24 November in Adelaide, Australia.

Abstracts are open until 10 July.

SCoRH MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

Wadsworth, B.M., Kruger, P.S., Hukins, C.A. et al. The feasibility of using mouthpiece ventilation in the intensive care unit for post-extubation breathing support after acute tetraplegia. *Spinal Cord* (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41393-023-00889-z>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Grants

FHRI Fund Distinguished Fellows Program
Initial applications due 25 July. [Read more](#)

NHMRC Grants and funding
Various opportunities and closing dates. [Read more](#)

US Department of Defense
Various opportunities with a closing date of 24 May. [Read more](#)

Medical Research Future Fund
Various opportunities and closing dates. [Read more](#)

Scholarships

Spinal Cord Injury: examining readiness for implementation of a care intervention.
PhD scholarship at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. Closes 31 May. [Read more](#)

SHARE YOUR VIEWS AND SUPPORT A COLLEAGUE!

Are you a lab-based spinal cord researcher or doctor treating spinal injuries? If so, please consider joining this research by contacting Pádraig! He would like to hear your views on patient and public involvement (PPI) in research - no previous experience required. If you're interested, contact Pádraig Carroll at padraigcarroll21@rcsi.com. More information is available [here](#).

GOT SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?

Please email us with the details including any relevant links and closing dates. Our email address is info@thesri.org. You can also tag us on Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook. Links to our profiles on these platforms are in the footer of this email.

The Spinal Research Institute (SRI) is a not-for-profit organisation building research collaboration and consumer engagement to improve the lives of people with spinal cord injury.

The Spinal Cord Research Hub (SCoRH) is an initiative of the SRI.

SCoRH is a free online platform uniting the international spinal cord injury research sector.

Anyone with an interest in spinal cord injury research is welcome to join - it's quick, free, and easy!

[Join SCoRH](#)

Follow the SRI for more updates



Our address is

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The Spinal Research Institute acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

