# THE LANDSCAPE OF SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA 2018 - 2023

## A REPORT SPONSORED & COMPILED BY THE SPINAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

### WHAT IS THE REPORT?

The Spinal Research Institute reviewed SCI research undertaken in Australia between January 2018 and May 2023 and published the findings in a report. The report answers the questions:

1. What research was **funded?**
2. What research was **published?**

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

When we know what research is being done, we can prevent doubling up, make better use of funds and resources, and make better decisions about future research. Research that aligns with community priorities means improved outcomes that are available more quickly to people living with SCI.

### WHAT RESEARCH WAS FUNDED?

**$48.6M TOTAL FUNDING**

13% pre-clinical research ($6M) 87% clinical research ($42.6M)

The state with the most funding was NSW followed by Vic, Qld & WA.

### WHAT RESEARCH WAS PUBLISHED?

**196 TOTAL PUBLICATIONS**

13% pre-clinical research (25) 87% clinical research (151)

4.6% (9) engaged people with SCI other than as research participants.

### WHAT IS PRE-CLINICAL RESEARCH?

Research involving laboratory or animal studies to assess safety and effectiveness of an intervention (e.g. medication, procedure or device) before it is tested in people. **Data from labs.**

### WHAT IS CLINICAL RESEARCH?

Research studies or trials involving people to confirm safety and effectiveness of an intervention, or gather medical, health and behavioural information. **Data from people.**

### WHAT AREAS OF RESEARCH WERE FUNDED AND PUBLISHED?

**Pre-clinical**
$6,084,957
13% publications

**Acute**
$2,780,828
15% publications

**Rehabilitation**
$28,613,850
26% publications

**Secondary conditions**
$10,349,572
23% publications

**Community participation**
$257,208
8% publications

**Other**
$575,840
15% publications

**Pre-clinical**
Laboratory or animal studies to assess safety and effectiveness of an intervention before it is tested in people.

**Acute**
Early medical management aimed at preventing further spinal cord damage and stabilising the injury.

**Rehabilitation**
Restoring, improving or compensating for lost function and sensation.

**Secondary conditions**
Health issues that can result, either directly or indirectly, as a consequence of SCI.

**Community participation**
Includes work and employment, physical activity, and leisure.

**Other**
Includes aging with SCI, paediatric SCI, and psychosocial aspects of living with SCI.

The Spinal Research Institute's report, The Landscape of Spinal Cord Injury Research in Australia 2018 - 2023, is available online.

Read or download at the **link below** or scan the **QR code**.

**https://tinyurl.com/sci-research-au-2018-2023**

The Spinal Research Institute is an Australian registered charity building research collaboration and consumer engagement to improve the lives of people with spinal cord injury.

**thesri.org**

SPINAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE