

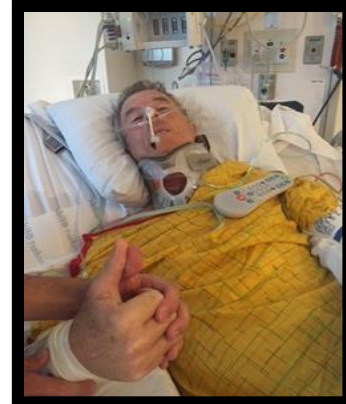


# Innovations in Technology: Maximizing Outcomes in Neurologic Rehabilitation

Candy Tefertiller, PT, DPT, NCS  
Director of Physical Therapy  
Craig Hospital

# Objectives:

- Review the perspectives of key stakeholders in terms of return on investment when implementing advanced technologies in neurorehabilitation
- Review translational science literature focused on promoting recovery of walking in SCI, TBI and stroke
- Discuss the clinician's regarding deploying advanced technologies to facilitate recovery after neurologic injury
- Review case studies to evaluate maximizing outcomes after SCI and the return on investment (payor perspective)





So What?

# ROI: Lifetime Cost

## Life Care Planning Projections for Individuals With Motor Incomplete Spinal Cord Injury Before and After Locomotor Training Intervention: A Case Series

Sarah A. Morrison, PT, Jamie L. Pomeranz, PhD, CRC, CLCP, Nami Yu, MHS, CRC, Mary Schmidt Read, PT, DPT, MS, Sue Ann Sisto, PT, MA, PhD, and Andrea L. Behrman, PT, PhD, FAPTA

**Background/Purpose:** We present a retrospective case series of 2 individuals with motor-incomplete spinal cord injury (SCI) to examine differences in lifetime cost estimates before and after participation in an intensive locomotor training (LT) program. Sections of a life care plan (LCP) were used to determine the financial implications associated with equipment, home renovations, and transportation for patients who receive LT. An LCP is a viable method of quantifying outcomes following any therapeutic intervention.

**Case Description:** The LCP cases analyzed were a 61-year-old woman and a 4½-year-old boy with motor-incomplete SCI and impairments classified by the American Spinal Injury Association Impairment Scale (AIS) as AIS D and AIS C, respectively.

**Interventions:** Each patient received an intensive outpatient LT program 3 to 5 days per week. The 61-year-old woman received 198 sessions over 57 weeks and the 4½-year-old boy received 76 sessions over 16 weeks.

**Outcomes:** The equipment, home renovation, and transportation costs of an LCP were calculated before and after LT. Prior to the implementation of LT, the 61-year-old woman had estimated lifetime costs between \$150 247.00 and \$199 654.00. Following LT, the estimated costs decreased to between \$2010.00 and \$2446.00 (a decrease of \$148 237.00 and \$197 208.00). Similarly, the 4-year-old boy had estimated lifetime costs for equipment, home renovation, and transportation between \$535 050.00 and \$771 665.00 prior to LT. However, the estimated costs decreased to between \$97 260.00 and \$200 047.00 (a decrease of \$437 790.00 and \$571 618.00) following LT.

Shepherd Center, Atlanta, GA (S.A.M.); Department of Behavioral Science and Community Health (J.L.P., N.Y.), the University of Florida, Gainesville; Magee Rehabilitation (M.S.R.), Philadelphia, PA; Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation (C.W.), West Orange, NJ; Stony Brook University (S.A.S.), Stony Brook, NY; and Department of Physical Therapy (A.L.B.), University of Florida, Gainesville.

The NRN is supported by a cooperative agreement between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation. This work is funded under Cooperative Agreement Number U10CCU220379 and the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation Agreement Number K-01 HD01348-01, NCMRR, NICHD. The authors declare no conflict of interest.

**Correspondence:** Sarah A. Morrison, PT, Shepherd Center, 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta, GA 30309 (Sarah\_morrison@shepherd.org). Copyright © 2012 Neurology Section, APTA. ISSN: 1557-0576/12/3603-0144 DOI: 10.1097/NPT.0b013e318262e5ab

**Discussion:** The lifetime financial costs associated with equipment, home renovations, and transportation following a motor-incomplete SCI were decreased following an intensive LT program for the 2 cases presented in this article. The LCP, including costs of rehabilitation and long-term medical and personal care costs, may be an effective tool to discern cost benefit of rehabilitation interventions.

**Key Words:** body weight-supported treadmill, life care plan, locomotor training, motor incomplete spinal cord injury

(JNPT 2012;36: 144–153)

### INTRODUCTION

Individuals who sustain spinal cord injury (SCI) experience a significant economic burden due to the immediate and long-term medical expenses associated with this injury. Significant medical and other expenses are incurred to allow the individual to return to home, school, and/or his or her preinjury community. In addition, the financial implications resulting from loss of gainful employment amplify these financial concerns. This economic burden is estimated to be \$9.7 billion annually.<sup>1</sup> One method of determining the lifetime medical and rehabilitative costs associated with an SCI is through the development of a life care plan (LCP).

An LCP is defined as a dynamic document based upon published standards of practice, comprehensive assessments, data analysis, and research.<sup>2</sup> Life care plans are often performed for litigation purposes within arenas such as personal injury and worker's compensation. The methodology is also used for case management, special needs trusts, and geriatric care management. The LCP provides an organized concise map for current and future needs with associated costs for individuals who have experienced catastrophic injury or have chronic health care issues.<sup>2</sup> There are 14 common topics that are covered by an LCP that encompasses a wide range of injury-related needs and services to consider. Table 1 describes each topic area and gives examples for each.

The LCP serves as a guide to ensure the provision of quality care and services throughout the lifespan of an individual with a disability. It involves a multidimensional, dynamic methodology based upon the actual needs of the individual and can serve both as a "roadmap" for case managers as an educational tool for the individual with a disability, his

**Outcomes:** The equipment, home renovation, and transportation costs of an LCP were calculated before and after LT. Prior to the implementation of LT, the 61-year-old woman had estimated lifetime costs between \$150 247.00 and \$199 654.00. Following LT, the estimated costs decreased to between \$2010.00 and \$2446.00 (a decrease of \$148 237.00 and \$197 208.00). Similarly, the 4-year-old boy had estimated lifetime costs for equipment, home renovation, and transportation between \$535 050.00 and \$771 665.00 prior to LT. However, the estimated costs decreased to between \$97 260.00 and \$200 047.00 (a decrease of \$437 790.00 and \$571 618.00) following LT.

Severity of Injury	Estimated Lifetime Cost if Injured at 25 yo
High Tetraplegia (C1-C4) AIS ABC	\$4,724,181
Low Tetraplegia (C5-C8) AIS ABC	\$3,451,781
Paraplegia AIS ABC	\$2,310,104
Motor functional at Any Level D	\$1,578,274

# Life Care Planning Projections

- 3 case studies modeled after what was published in the literature (Morrison et al 2012)



- Certified life care planner did not assist in developing this information
- 3 specific components of the LCP were chosen for this report
  - Equipment Needs/Transportation
  - Architectural renovation: VA guidelines
  - Personal Care

<sup>3</sup>According to the Veteran's Administration, an individual who sustains a loss of use of one lower extremity together with other disabilities that preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair qualifies for up to \$50 000 in architectural renovations.

# Sherown

**Age:** 31

**Diagnosis:** C4 AIS C SCI as a result of wrestling accident.

**Goals:**

- Play with kids
- Independent with ADLs
- Walk Independently
- Return to work



# Discharge from Inpatient Rehabilitation



## Functional Independence Measure

Task	Score	Assist
Grooming	3	Mod A
Bathing	3	Mod A
UE Dressing	3	Mod A
LB Dressing	2	Max A
Toileting	1	Total A
Bed/wheelchair	2	Max A
Toilet	2	Max A
Tub/shower	2	Max A
Walk	1	Total A
Stairs	1	Total A

# Pre-Intensive Therapy



## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $31y + 47.5y = 78.5y$

## Equipment

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Hospital Bed	3-12.5 y	\$2000-2700
Air Mattress	1-6 y	\$250-800
Portable Lift	1-5 y	\$3,000
Manual w/c	5-7 y	\$2000-3500
Power w/c with tilt	5-7 y	\$20,000
Shower Chair	5-7 y	\$3000
w/c cushion	1-3 y	\$450-550
w/c parts	1 y	\$575-2000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$362,893-381,453</b>

## Transportation

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Driving Evaluation	1 x	\$1,000
Wheelchair Accessible Van	1 x	\$45,000
Van maintenance & Adaptation	1y	\$28,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$74,500</b>

## Architectural Needs

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Renovation	1 x	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$50,000</b>

**Total: \$487,393 – 505,953**

# Pre-Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Ave personal care hours for motor incomplete SCI: 39.9 hours/week  
(French et al 2007)



## Personal Care

Item	Hours/week & cost/hour	Cost
Personal Care	39.9 hours/week at \$13/hour	\$26972.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>*47.5y</b>	<b>\$1,281,189</b>

## Totals

<b>Equipment, Architecture, Transportation</b>	<b>\$487,393</b>	<b>\$505,953</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	<b>\$1,281,189</b>	<b>\$1,281,189</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,768,582</b>	<b>1,787,142</b>

# Locomotor Training

## Evaluation



## 55 min Treadmill Training BWS



## 30 min Community Mobility

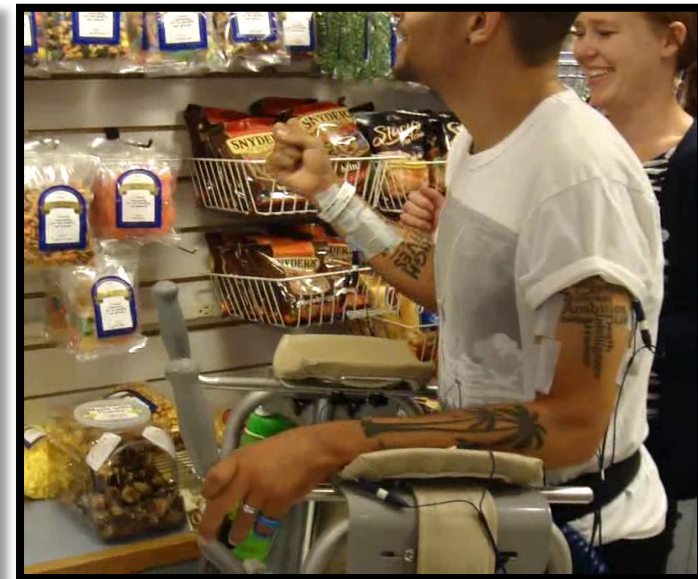


# Upper Extremity Training

NMES to trunk  
and UEs

Task Specific Training  
with NMES

Community  
Integration



# Intensive Therapy Outcomes



80 PT and OT Sessions

## Functional Independence Measure

	Inpatient D/C FIM	FIM D/C NRN	Assist Level
Grooming	3	6	Modified Indep
Bathing	3	3	Mod A
UE Dressing	2	6	Modified Indep
LB Dressing	2	6	Modified Indep
Toileting	2	3	Mod A
Bed/wheelchair	1	6	Modified Indep
Toilet	1	6	Modified Indep
Tub/shower	1	5	Supervision
walk	1	6	Modified Indep
Stairs	1	5	Supervision



120 PT and OT Sessions



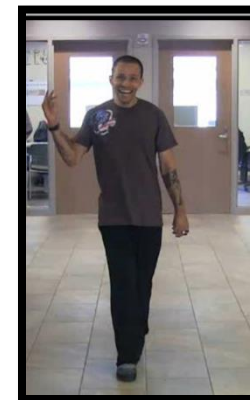
# Outcome Measure Improvement

Outcome Assessment	Initial Assessment	Discharge Assessment
10 Meter Walk Test	Non-Ambulatory	0.43 m/s
6 Minute Walk Test	Non-Ambulatory	500 ft
Berg Balance Measure	3/56	42/56
Neuromuscular Recovery Scale	1B	2C

# Post Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $31y + 47.5y = 78.5y$



## Equipment

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Hospital Bed	3-12.5 y	NA
Air Mattress	1-6 y	NA
Portable Lift	1-5 y	NA
Manual w/c	5-7 y	NA
Power w/c	5-7 y	NA
<b>Padded Bench</b>	<b>5-7 y</b>	<b>\$300</b>
W/c cushion	1-3 y	NA
w/c parts	1 y	NA
<b>Rollator</b>	<b>1y</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Forearm Crutches</b>	<b>1y</b>	<b>\$130</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$13,420 - \$24,072</b>

## Transportation

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
<b>Driving Evaluation</b>	<b>1 x</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
Wheelchair Accessible Van	1 x	NA
Van maintenance & Adaptation	1y	NA
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,000</b>

## Architectural Needs

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Renovation	1 x	NA
<b>Total</b>		<b>NA</b>

**Total: \$14,420 – \$25,072**

# Post Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $31y + 47.5y = 78.5y$
- Ave personal care hours for bathing/toileting: 2 hours/day



## Personal Care

Item	Hours/week & cost/hour	Cost
Personal Care	14 hours/week at \$13/hour X 1 year	\$6,760
Total	*47.5y	\$449,540

## Totals

Equipment, Architecture, Transportation	\$13,420	\$24,072
Personal Care	\$449,540	\$449,540
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$463,960</b>	<b>\$474,612</b>

# Return on Investment



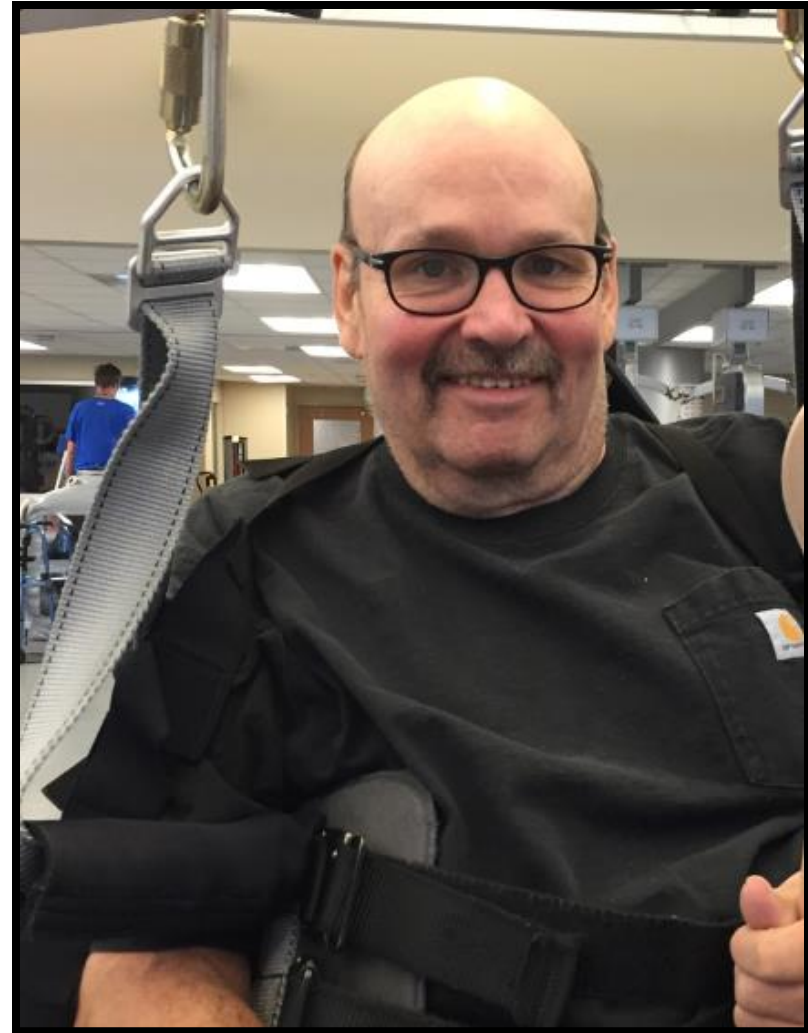
	Pre Intensive Therapy	Post Intensive Therapy
Total Cost	\$1,787,142	\$474,612

**Cost Reduction ~ \$1,312,530**  
**Outpatient Therapy Costs: \$150k**  
**Total Savings: ~\$1.16 million dollars**



# Pete

- 54 y.o. Boilermaker, Rural Montana
- C4 AIS C: Fall in the home
- Goals
  - Return to his home vs. SNF
  - Stand up and walk independently
  - Transfer into a car
  - Use a manual WC vs. Power WC



# Discharge from Inpatient Rehabilitation



## Functional Independence Measure

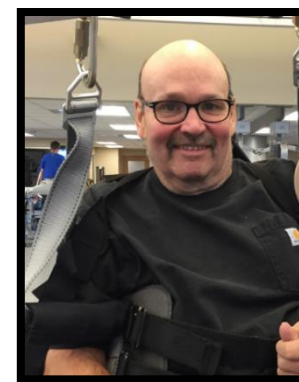
Task	Score	Assist
Grooming	6	Mod I
Bathing	2	Max A
UE Dressing	2	Max A
LB Dressing	1	Total A
Toileting	1	Total A
Bed/wheelchair	2	Max A
Toilet	2	Max A
Tub/shower	2	Max A
Walk	1	Total A
Stairs	1	Total A



# Pre-Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $54y + 22.7y = 76.7$



## Equipment

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Hospital Bed	3-12.5 y	\$2000-2700
Air Mattress	1-6 y	\$250-800
Portable Lift	1-5 y	\$3,000
Manual w/c	5-7 y	\$2000-3500
Power w/c with tilt	5-7 y	\$23,000
Shower Chair	5-7 y	\$3000
W/c cushion	1-3 y	\$450-550
w/c parts	1 y	\$675-2100
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$179,366-206,539</b>

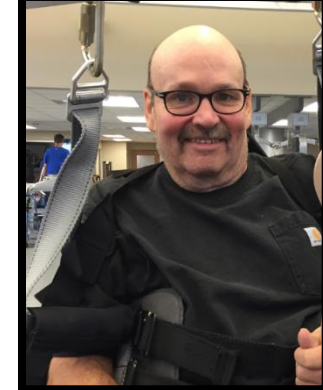
## Transportation

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Driving Evaluation	1 x	\$1,000
Wheelchair Accessible Van	1 x	\$45,000
Van maintenance & Adaptation	1y	\$28,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$74,500</b>

## Architectural Needs

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Renovation	1 x	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$50,000</b>

# Pre-Intensive Therapy



## Assumptions:

- Ave personal care hours for motor incomplete SCI: 39.9 hours/week (French et al 2007)

### Personal Care

Item	Hours/week & cost/hour	Cost
Personal Care	39.9 hours/week at \$13/hour	\$26972.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>*22.7</b>	<b>\$612,273</b>

### Totals

<b>Equipment, Architecture, Transportation</b>	<b>\$303,866</b>	<b>\$331,039</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	<b>\$612,273</b>	<b>\$612,273</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$916,139</b>	<b>\$943,312</b>

# Locomotor Training Progression

Inpatient DC



Outpatient Therapy



Outpatient Therapy



# Standing Progression

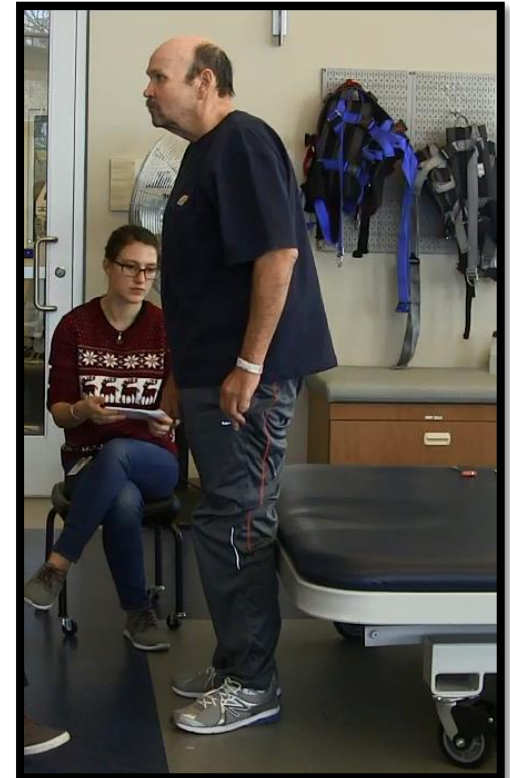
Initial Eval  
6/1/15



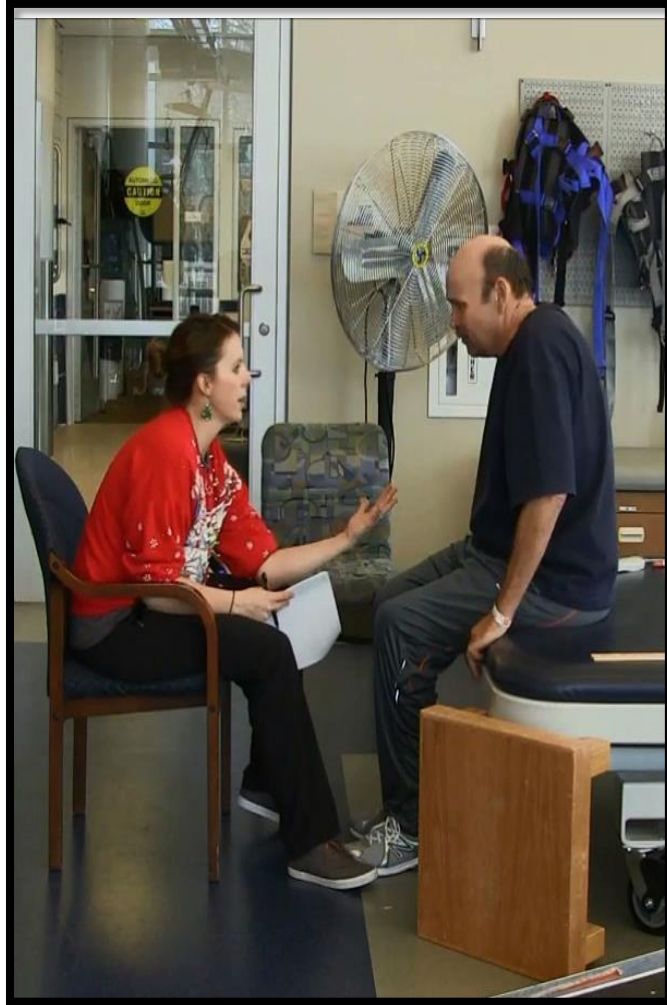
1<sup>st</sup> Re-eval (20 sessions)  
7/2/15



Discharge eval (120 sessions)  
12/11/15



# Discharge Outpatient Therapy



# Discharge Intensive Therapy

120 PT and OT Sessions



## Functional Independence Measure

	Inpatient D/C FIM	FIM D/C NRN	Assist Level
Grooming	6	6	Modified Indep
Bathing	2	4	Min A
UE Dressing	2	4	Min A
LB Dressing	1	6	Modified Indep
Toileting	1	3	Mod A
Bed/wheelchair	2	6	Modified Indep
Toilet	2	6	Modified Indep
Tub/shower	2	5	Supervision
walk	1	6	Modified Indep
Stairs	1	5	Mod A

# Outcome Measure Improvement

Outcome Assessment	Initial Assessment	Discharge Assessment
10 Meter Walk Test	Non-Ambulatory	0.61m/s
6 Minute Walk Test	Non-Ambulatory	662 feet
Berg Balance Measure	4/56	36/56
Neuromuscular Recovery Scale	1C	2C

**Discharge Disposition: Home**

# Post Intensive Therapy

## Assumption:

- Life Expectancy:  $54y + 22.7y = 76.7y$

### Equipment

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Hospital Bed	3-12.5 y	NA
Air Mattress	1-6 y	NA
Portable Lift	1-5 y	NA
Manual w/c	5-7 y	\$2,000-3,500
Power w/c	5-7 y	NA
Activaid 202	5-7 y	\$500
W/c cushion	1-3 y	\$450-550
w/c parts	1 y	\$675-2,100
Rolling Walker	1y	\$150
Forearm Crutches	1y	\$130
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$43,402-67,442</b>

### Transportation

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Driving Evaluation	1 x	\$1,000
Wheelchair Accessible Van	1 x	NA
Van maintenance & Adaptation	1y	NA
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,000</b>

### Architectural Needs

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Renovation	1 x	NA
<b>Total</b>		<b>NA</b>

**Total: \$44,402-68,442**

# Post Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Ave personal care hours for bathing/toileting: 2 hours/day

### Personal Care

Item	Hours/week & cost/hour	Cost
Personal Care	14 hours/week at \$13/hour X 1 year	\$9464
<b>Total</b>	<b>*22.7y</b>	<b>\$214,832</b>

### Totals

<b>Equipment, Architecture, Transportation</b>	<b>\$44,402</b>	<b>\$68,442</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	<b>\$214,832</b>	<b>\$214,832</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$259,234</b>	<b>\$283,274</b>

# Return on Investment

	Pre Intensive Therapy	Post Intensive Therapy
Total	\$943,312	\$283,274
<b>Cost Reduction: \$660,038</b> <b>Outpatient Therapy Costs: \$150k</b> <b>Total Savings: ~\$510,038</b>		

**\*\*Planned skilled nursing facility discharge before Intensive outpatient therapy program**

# Rick

60 y.o. male, recently retired

C4 AIS C: Water Skiing accident

## Goals:

- Walk independently
- Independent with ADL's
- Live at home independently (feed himself, empty leg bag, access water)



# Discharge from Inpatient Rehabilitation



## Functional Independence Measure

Task	Score	Assist
Grooming	3	Mod A
Bathing	3	Mod A
UE Dressing	2	Max A
LB Dressing	2	Max A
Toileting	2	Max A
Bed/wheelchair	1	Total A
Toilet	1	Total A
Tub/shower	1	Total A
Walk	1	Total A
Stairs	1	Total A

# Pre-Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $60y + 17.7y = 77.7$

## Equipment

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Hospital Bed	3-12.5 y	\$2000-2700
Air Mattress	1-6 y	\$250-800
Portable Lift	1-5 y	\$3,000
Manual w/c	5-7 y	\$2000-3500
Power w/c with tilt	5-7 y	\$23,000-25,000
Shower Chair	5-7 y	\$500
W/c cushion	1-3 y	\$450-550
w/c parts	1 y	\$675-2100
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$133,663-152,196</b>

## Transportation

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Driving Evaluation	1 x	\$1,000
Wheelchair Accessible Van	1 x	\$45,000
Van maintenance & Adaptation	1y	\$28,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$74,500</b>

## Architectural Needs

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Renovation	1 x	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$50,000</b>



**Total: \$258,163-\$276,696**

# Pre-Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $60y + 17.7y = 77.7y$
- Ave personal care hours for motor incomplete SCI: 39.9 hours/week  
(French et al 2007)

## Personal Care

Item	Hours/week & cost/hour	Cost
Personal Care	39.9 hours/week at \$13/hour	\$26972.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>*17.7</b>	<b>\$477,411</b>

## Totals

<b>Equipment, Architecture, Transportation</b>	<b>\$258,163</b>	<b>\$276,696</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	<b>\$477,411</b>	<b>\$477,411</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$735,754</b>	<b>\$754,107</b>

# Standing Progression

Initial Evaluation



Discharge Evaluation



# Discharge Intensive Therapy



## Functional Independence Measure

	Inpatient D/C FIM	FIM D/C NRN	Assist Level
Grooming	3	6	Modified Indep
Bathing	3	3	Mod A
UE Dressing	2	6	Modified Indep
LB Dressing	2	6	Modified Indep
Toileting	2	3	Mod A
Bed/wheelchair	1	6	Modified Indep
Toilet	1	5	Supervision
Tub/shower	1	5	Supervision
walk	1	6	Modified Indep
Stairs	1	5	Supervision

# Post Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Life Expectancy:  $60y + 17.7y = 77.7y$

### Equipment

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Hospital Bed	3-12.5 y	NA
Air Mattress	1-6 y	NA
Portable Lift	1-5 y	NA
Manual w/c	5-7 y	\$2,000-3,500
Power w/c	5-7 y	NA
Activaid 202	5-7 y	\$500
w/c cushion	1-3 y	\$450-550
w/c parts	1 y	\$675-2,100
Carbon Fiber AFO	1y	\$800-1,000
Forearm Crutches	1y	\$130
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$36,792-\$55,545</b>

### Transportation

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Driving Evaluation	1 x	\$1,000
Wheelchair Accessible Van	1 x	NA
Van maintenance & Adaptation	1y	NA
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,000</b>

### Architectural Needs

Item	Freq of Replacement (yrs)	Cost
Renovation	1 x	NA
<b>Total</b>		<b>NA</b>

**Total: \$37,792-\$56,545**

# Post Intensive Therapy

## Assumptions:

- Ave personal care hours for bathing/toileting: 2 hours/day

### Personal Care

Item	Hours/week & cost/hour	Cost
Personal Care	14 hours/week at \$13/hour X 1 year	\$9464
<b>Total</b>	<b>*17.7y</b>	<b>\$167,512</b>

### Totals

<b>Equipment, Architecture, Transportation</b>	<b>\$37,792</b>	<b>\$56,545</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	<b>\$167,512</b>	<b>\$167,512</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$205,304</b>	<b>\$224,057</b>

# Outcome Measure Improvement

Outcome Assessment	Initial Assessment	Discharge Assessment
10 Meter Walk Test	Non-Ambulatory	0.71m/s
6 Minute Walk Test	Non-Ambulatory	549 feet
Berg Balance Measure	8/56	39/56
Neuromuscular Recovery Scale	2B	3B

**Discharge Disposition: Home with wife**

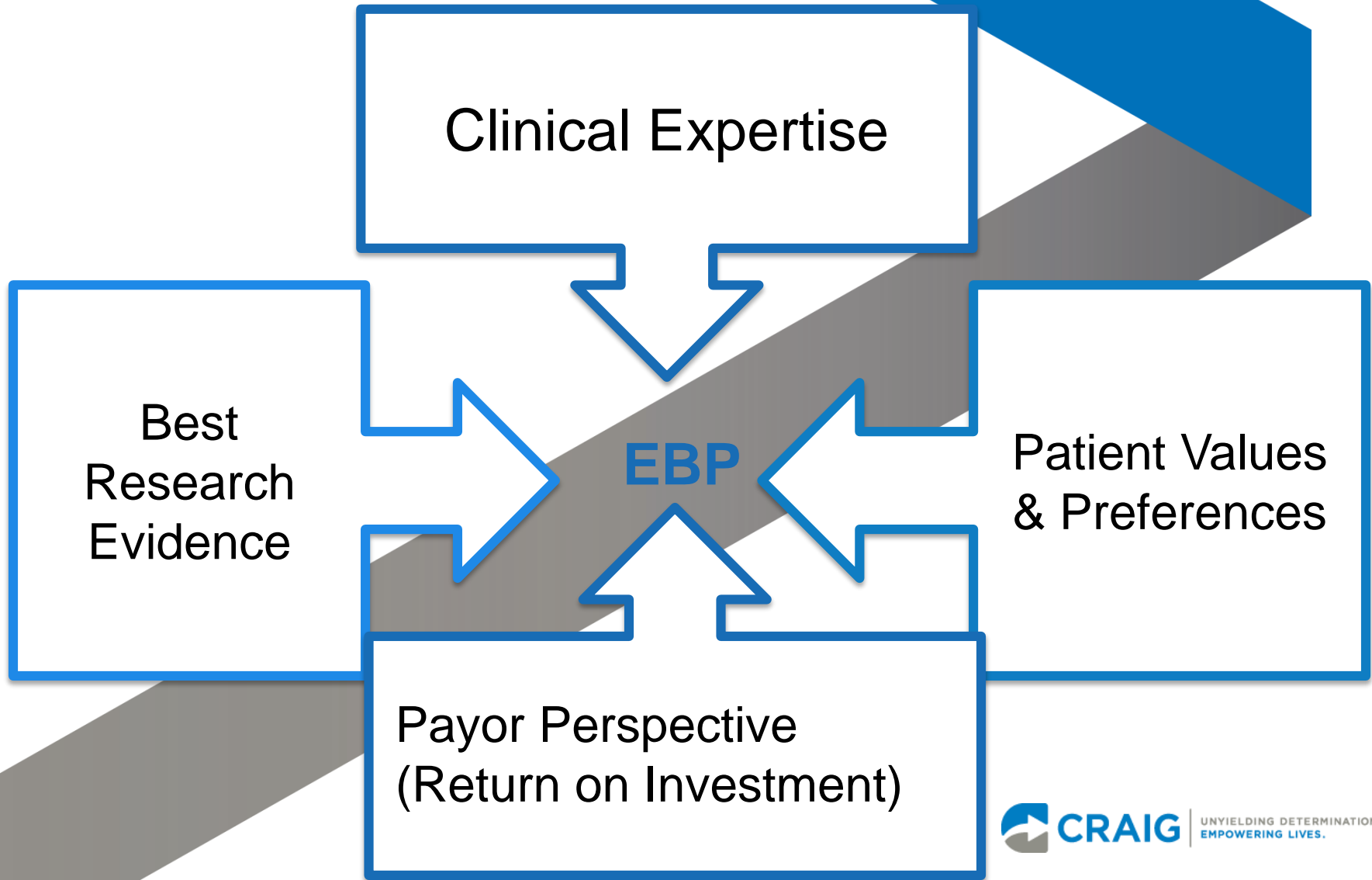
# Return on Investment

	Pre Intensive Therapy	Post Intensive Therapy
Total	\$754,107	\$224,058

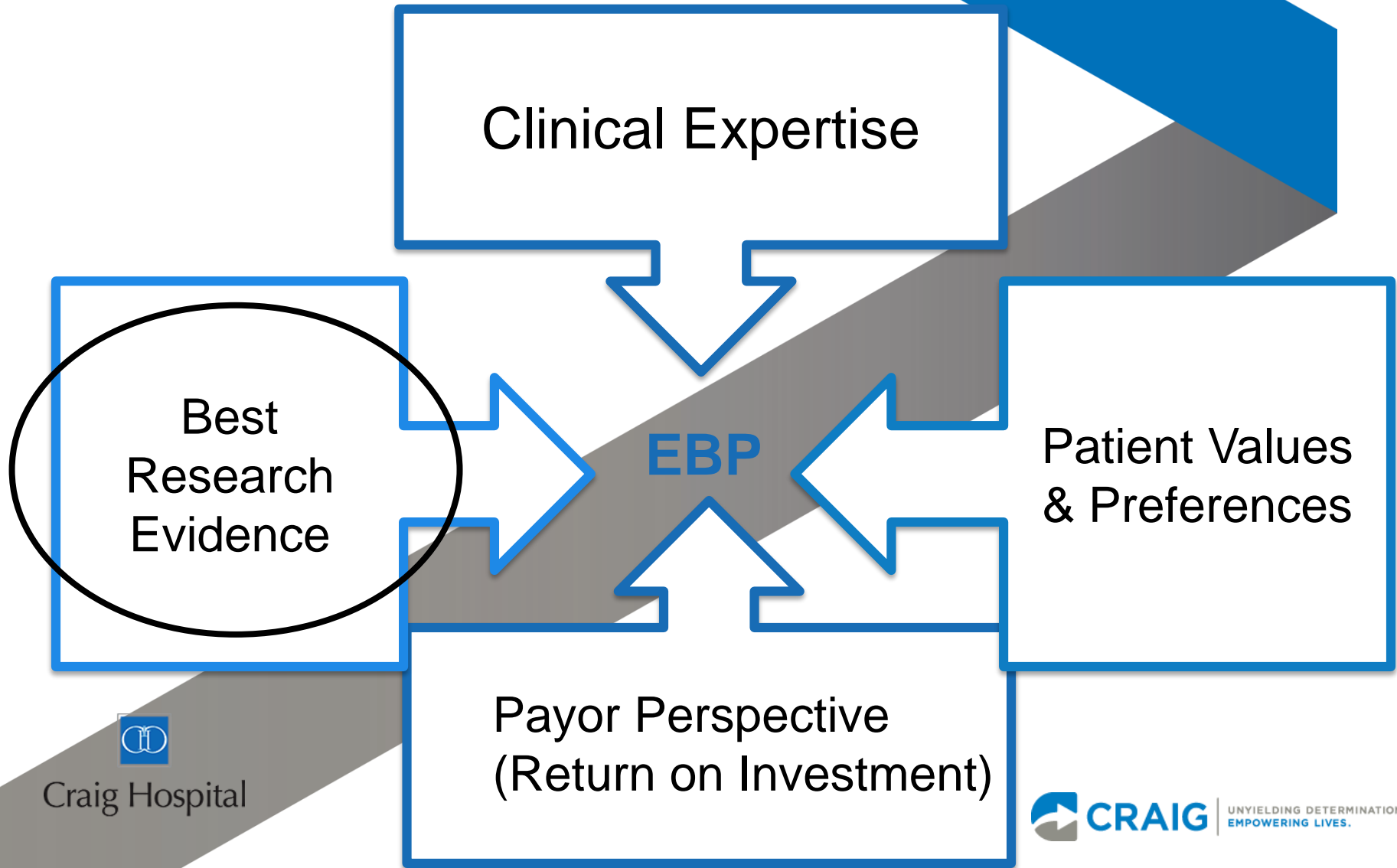
**Cost Reduction \$530,049**  
**Outpatient Therapy Costs: \$150k**  
**Total Savings: ~\$380,049**



# Evidence Based Practice



# Evidence Based Practice





# Evidence: SCI

Locomotor tr

**Walking improvements demonstrated in acute and chronic SCIs using various forms of locomotor training...**

**Cochrane Conclusion (2012): There is insufficient evidence to conclude that any one approach to locomotor training is more effective than another for improving walking function in people with spinal cord injury.**

**Meta-Analysis Conclusion (Cheung 2017): Lower limb robotic training was also found to be as effective as other types of body-weight-supported training**

Rehabilitation

7;98:2320-31



Spinal Cord



K.K. Yu, PhD,<sup>b</sup>

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, The Hong Kong

spinal cord injury (SCI).

that compared robot-assisted upper limbs or lower limbs involving people with complete or incomplete SCIs. Trials (Cochrane Library), and Embase to August 2011. Only studies on subjects with SCI were screened to avoid

for functional ability were included. Assessments of objective outcome measures were excluded from this

analysis was performed on the included studies. 88%) and endurance (53.32m; 95% CI, -73.15 to 73.15 to groups. Lower limb robot-assisted training was also more effective than other types of lower limb robot-assisted training studies; therefore,

for patients with SCI. Future high-quality studies are needed to determine the potential for secondary recovery of patients with SCI.

ction is usually observed after cervical SCI. Injury in the thoracic or lumbar region can cause different degrees of disability depending on the severity of the injury. This can lead to dependency in the activities of daily living, and other complications, including autonomic dysfunction, cardiovascular diseases,<sup>3</sup> all of which degrade

tion and the plasticity of the spinal cord after SCI. The spinal cord has some self-repair capacity; however, task-specific, functional training is considered to be important for regaining functional ability after SCI. Functional training with manual assistance and body-weight-supported training (BWSTT) are common treatments.<sup>6</sup> However, manual assistance from a therapist to support movements, which may limit the training's

This is a reprint of a Cochrane review, published in 2012, Issue 11

Locomotor training for walking after spinal cord injury  
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# Evidence: Stroke



## Body-Weight-Supported Treadmill Rehabilitation after Stroke

Pamela W. Duncan, P.T., Ph.D., Katherine J. Sullivan, P.T., Ph.D.,  
Andrea L. Behrman, P.T., Ph.D., Stanley P. Azen, Ph.D., Samuel S. Wu, Ph.D.,  
Stephen E. Nadeau, M.D., Bruce H. Dobkin, M.D., Dorian K. Rose, P.T., Ph.D.,  
Julie K. Tilson, D.P.T., Steven Cen, Ph.D., for the LEAPS Investigators

ABSTRACT

### BACKGROUND

Locomotor training, including the use of body-weight support, is a physical therapy intervention used to improve walking ability after stroke.

### Clinical Research Articles

## Effects of Task-Specific and Impairment-Based Training Compared With Usual Care on Functional Walking Ability in Inpatient Stroke Rehabilitation: LEAPS Trial

Stephen E. Nadeau, MD<sup>1</sup>, Samuel S. Wu, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Bruce H. Dobkin, MD<sup>2</sup>, Stanley P. Azen, PhD<sup>3</sup>, Dorian K. Rose, PhD<sup>4</sup>, Julie K. Tilson, PhD<sup>5</sup>, Steven Y. Cen, PhD<sup>6</sup>, and Pamela W. Duncan, PhD<sup>7</sup>, for The LEAPS Investigative Team<sup>1</sup>

### Abstract

**Background.** After inpatient stroke rehabilitation, many people have limited walking ability. **Objective.** To compare the effectiveness of 2 rehabilitation approaches (impairment-based strength training [LTP] and task-specific walking training on a treadmill using body-weight support [HEP]) in improving walking 6 months after stroke. **Design.** The LEAPS study was a single-blind, randomized controlled trial. **Setting.** The study was conducted in an inpatient stroke rehabilitation unit. **Participants.** Participants were stratified at baseline (2 months) by impairment (walking speed <0.8 m/s). Between 2 and 6 months, they received either (1) walking training on a treadmill using body-weight support (HEP), n = 129 or (2) impairment-based strength training (LTP), n = 126. **Results.** LTP participants were 18% more likely to transition to moderate to >0.8 m/s than UC participants (95% confidence interval [CI] = 5%-29%). Mean gain in walking speed was 0.09-0.18 m/s in HEP participants, 0.10 m/s greater (95% CI = 0.02-0.18) than in LTP participants. **Conclusions.** HEP, using either walking training on a treadmill and overground walking, was superior to UC in improving walking ability in inpatient stroke rehabilitation.

### Keywords

stroke rehabilitation, physical therapy, rehabilitation outcomes

### Introduction

The Locomotor Experience Applied Post-Stroke (LEAPS) trial compared 2 conceptually different rehabilitation interventions: (1) task-specific walking training on a treadmill

provided the basis for this planned secondary analysis comparing the effects of E-LTP and HEP combined with usual care (UC) with UC alone at 6 months poststroke.<sup>3</sup> HEP was originally conceptualized as a control intervention, one that would match LTP in dose, intensity, and goal-oriented

## Locomotor Experience Applied Post-Stroke LEAPS Trial

Intensive therapy (regardless of approach) may result in better outcomes than usual care...

training, weight support in not shown to exercise at al therapist.

Participants had increased functional walking ability.

- ### 2016 AHA/ASA Guidelines
- Combination (Priming)
  - Non-ambulatory/low ambulatory
  - Virtual Reality

treadmill and or to usual ess of severity

# Evidence: TBI



Original Research—CME

## A Comparison of Locomotor Therapy Interventions: Partial-Body Weight—Supported Treadmill, Lokomat, and G-EO Training in People With Traumatic Brain Injury

Alberto Esquenazi, MD, Stella Lee, MPA, Amanda Wikoff, BS, Andrew Packel, MSPT, Theresa Toczyłowski, MPT, John Feeley, PT

Esquenazi et al 2017

N=22

Results: Statistically significant increases in speed for all groups; between group differences not significant; G-EO and manual LT significant improvements in 6MWT; MSIS significant in Lokomat group; Conclusion: No significant differences in symmetry in any of the groups; Staffing was the least for Robotic group

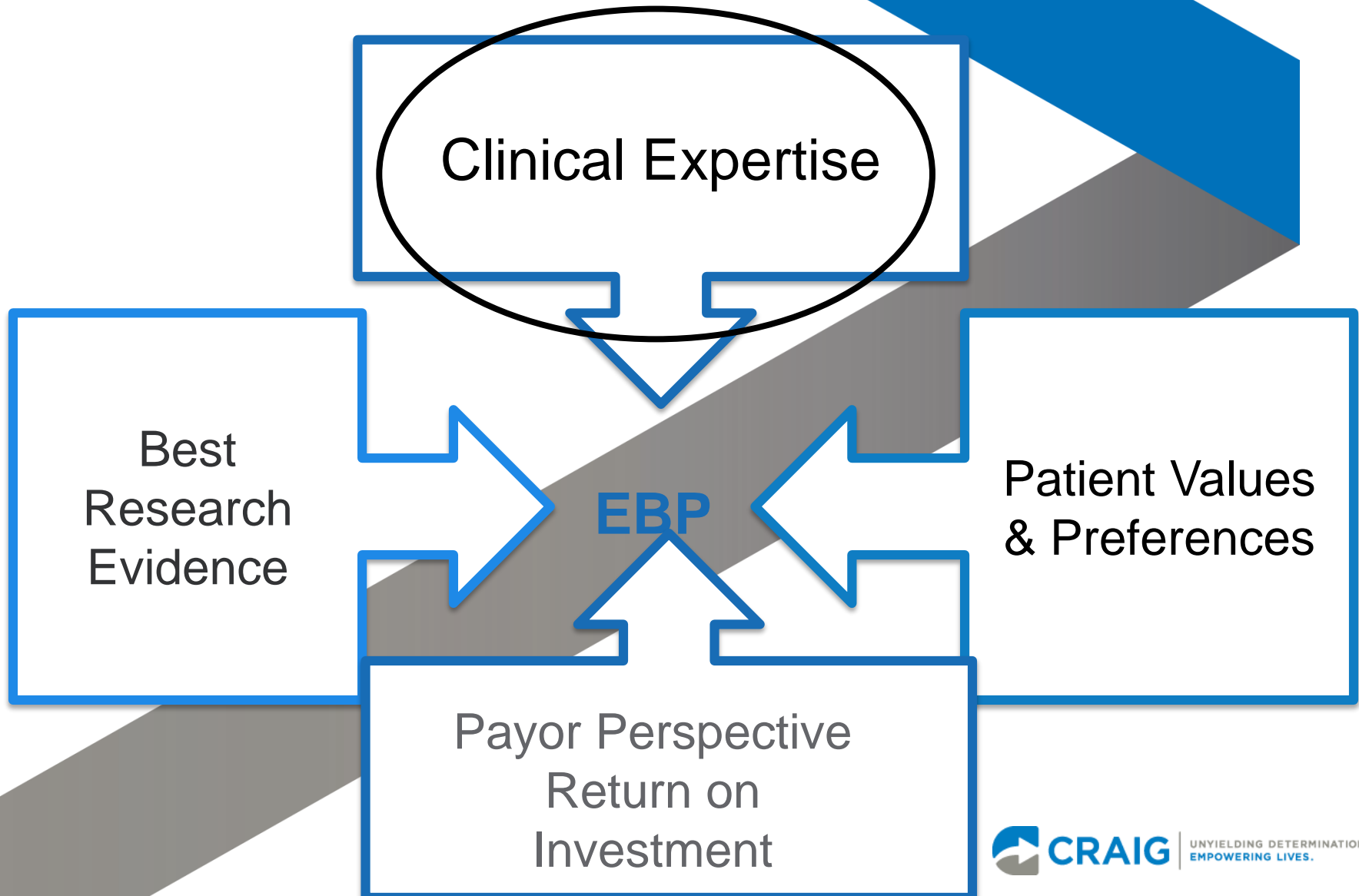
Original Research

## A Randomized Comparative Study of Manually Assisted Versus Robotic-Assisted Body Weight Supported Treadmill Training in Persons With a Traumatic Brain Injury

Esquenazi et al 2013; N=16

Results: No statistically significant between group differences; speed increased 49% for robotic group; 31% for manual group; Step length symmetry improved 31% for Robotic group; 9% for manual group; Conclusion: Greater improvements in symmetry and walking speed for robotic group; Improvements from both interventions in chronic TBI. Less staff used for Robotic Group

# Clinical Expertise





Dolbow et al 2015; Sadowsky et al 2009; Dunlop 2008; Kleim et al 2011; Winchester et al 2005; Ruff et al 2008

# Priming

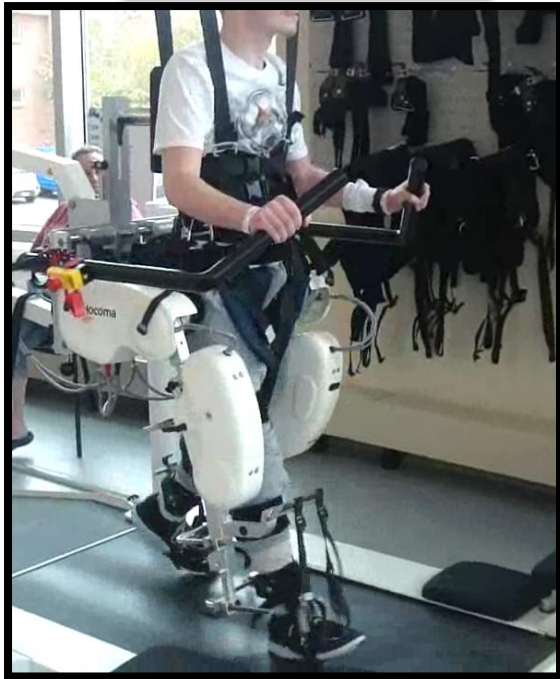
Primed CNS → More responsive to training

- Homeostatic Plasticity
- Gating

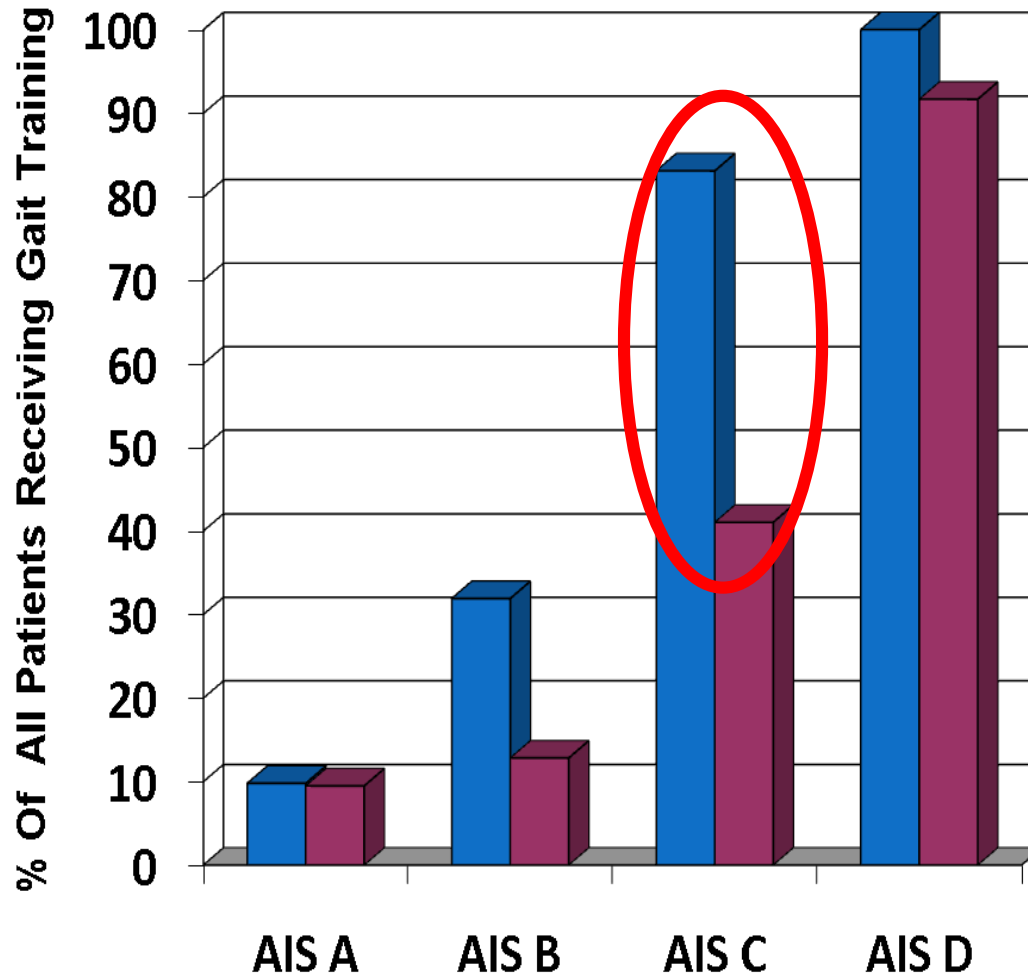
1. Stimulation-Based Priming
2. Sensory-Based Priming
3. Movement-Based Priming
4. Motor imagery and action observation-Based Priming
5. Pharmacology-Based Priming



# Locomotor Training Options



# Access to Technology

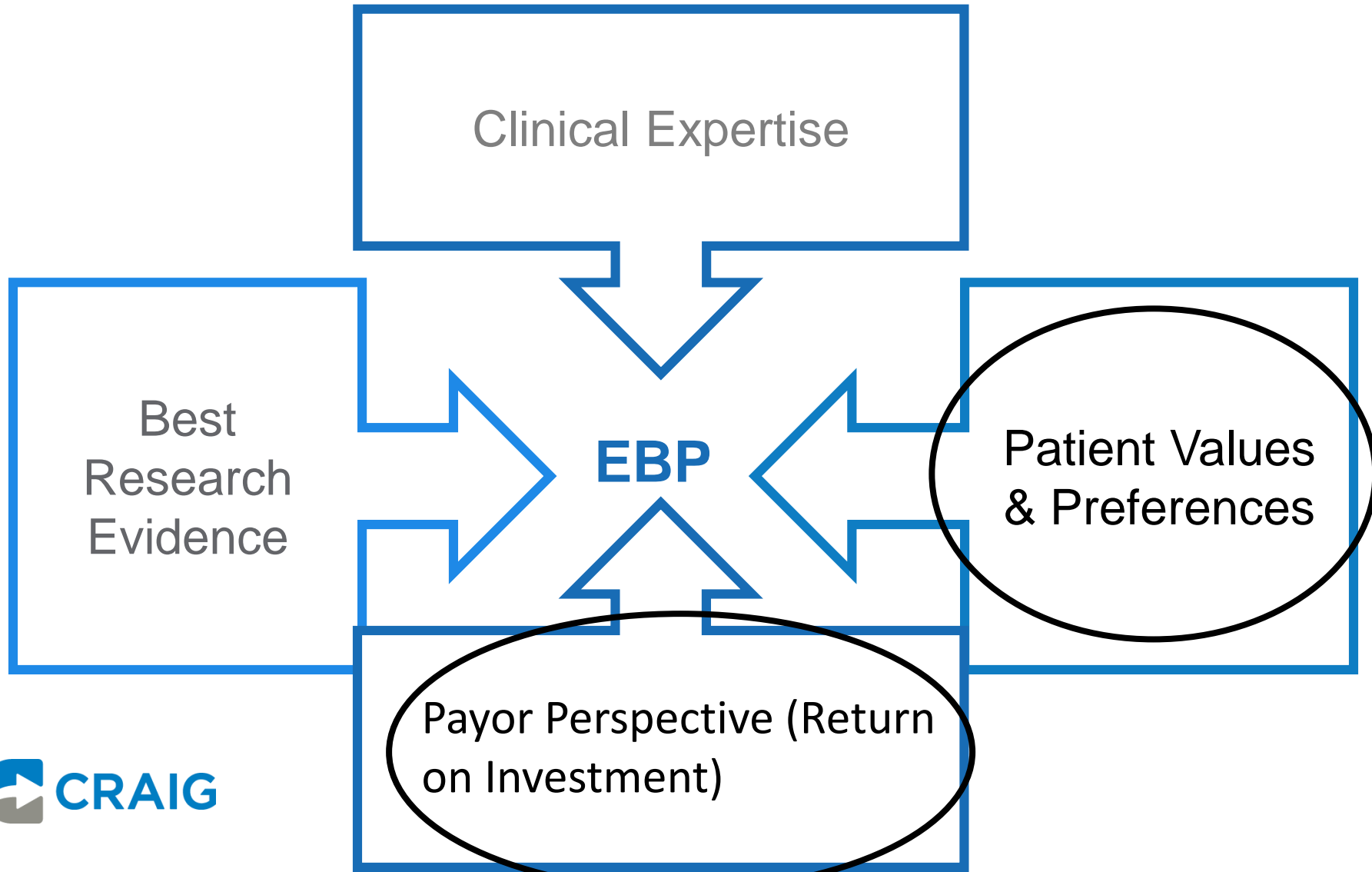


■ Access to Robotic Technology

■ No Access to Robotic Technology

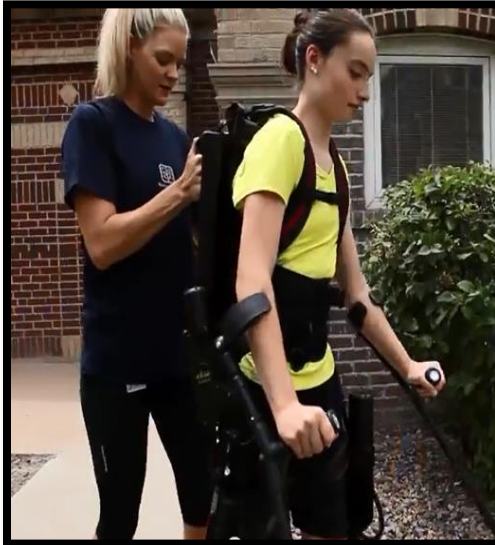


# Patient Values



# Patient Values

- 100% of prospective patients/families with SCI ask about technology opportunities
- 85% of patients/families with TBI ask about technology opportunities.
- Patient Values and Preferences include technology as a priority.




# Is Walking Important?

Shavelle et al 2015

- Model Systems Data
- AIS Ds
- Independent walking associated with **longer survival**
- ↑ Mortality associated with incontinence
- **Life Expectancy ~90% of normal for Independent walking and continent vs. < 75% of normal**



# ROI: Health Care Costs

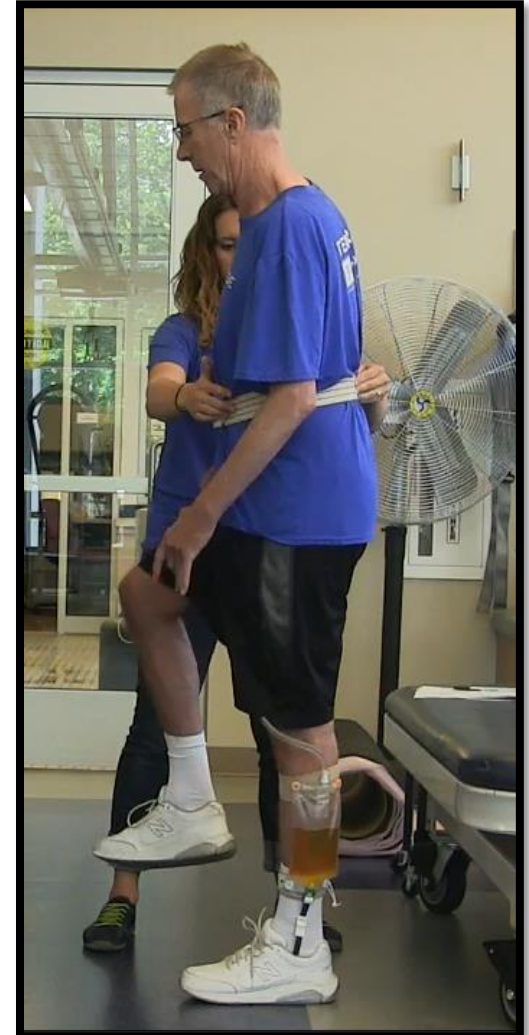
 AUSTRALIAN  
PHYSIOTHERAPY  
ASSOCIATION

Journal of  
**PHYSIOTHERAPY**  
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jphys](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jphys)

Research

Two weeks of additional standing balance circuit classes during inpatient rehabilitation are cost saving and effective: an economic evaluation

**Conclusions:** “Two weeks of additional standing balance circuit classes delivered in addition to usual therapy resulted in **decreased healthcare costs at 3 months** in hospital inpatients admitted for rehabilitation. **There is a high probability that this intervention is both cost saving and effective.**”



# ROI: Health Care Costs



Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

journal homepage: [www.archives-pmr.org](http://www.archives-pmr.org)

Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 2013;94(4 Suppl 2):S87-97



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Rehospitalization in the First Year of Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury After Discharge From Medical Rehabilitation

**Conclusions:** Re-hospitalization rates among individuals with SCI in the first post-injury year remain high..... Re-hospitalization risk was associated with younger age, being a woman, unemployment, retirement, and Medicaid coverage.

**Those who had more intensive physical therapy had lower odds of re-hospitalization.**

The diagram illustrates a cycle of hospital re-hospitalization. It shows a 'HOSPITAL EXIT' on the left and a 'HOSPITAL ENTRANCE' on the right. A person in a wheelchair is being pushed by a caregiver. Two red curved arrows form a loop: one starts at the exit and points back to the entrance, and another starts at the entrance and points back to the exit. A text box in the center of the loop states: 'Those who had more intensive physical therapy had lower odds of re-hospitalization'.

Those who had more intensive physical therapy had lower odds of re-hospitalization

## So What...



- Research supports intensive therapy interventions may facilitate recovery after neurologic injury
- Intensive therapy may reduce life time care costs:
  - Sherown: ~\$1.15 million dollars
  - Pete: ~ \$500,000
  - Rick: ~\$380,000
- Decreased 1 year re-hospitalization rates and health care costs associated with intensive therapy
- New technologies on the horizon....

# Exoskeletons

- Walking speed .03-.45m/s (max .55m/s) Esquinazi 2012, Yang 2015, Louie 2015, Tefertiller et al 2017
- Reports of improvements in pain, bowel, bladder function and spasticity, enjoyment Esquinazi 2012, Miller 2016
- Metabolic cost of walking 3.5-4.3 METS/light to moderate exercise Evans 2015, Kozlowski 2015
- Training completed with CGA/close supervision Esquinazi 2012, Kozlowski 2015



# Neuromodulation of the CNS

**ACRM** Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ymrp  
Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (1939-0003) Sept 15 2014

**CLINICAL NOTE**

**Preliminary Guidelines for Safe and Effective Use of Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation in Moderate to Severe Traumatic Brain Injury**

Dylan M. Nielson, BS,<sup>1</sup> Curtis A. McKnight, MD,<sup>2</sup> Riddhi N. Patel, BS,<sup>2</sup> Andrew J. Katrinic, MD,<sup>1</sup> Walter J. Mysiw, MD<sup>3</sup>

From the <sup>1</sup>Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, OH; <sup>2</sup>Department of Psychiatry, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, OH; and <sup>3</sup>Department of Radiology, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, OH.  
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## Effects of Lumbosacral Spinal Cord Epidural Stimulation for Standing after Chronic Complete Paralysis in Humans

Enrico Rejc<sup>1</sup>, Claudia Angeli<sup>1,2</sup>, Susan Harkema<sup>1,2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Kentucky Spinal Cord Injury Research Center, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, United States of America; <sup>2</sup> Frazier Rehab Institute, Kentucky One Health, Louisville, Kentucky, United States of America

\* [SusanHarkema@KentuckyOneHealth.org](mailto:SusanHarkema@KentuckyOneHealth.org)

## Non-invasive brain stimulation for the treatment of symptoms following traumatic brain injury

Simarjot K. Dhaliwal<sup>1</sup>, Benjamin P. Meek<sup>1</sup> and Mandana M. Modirrousta<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Psychiatry, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

*J Neurophysiol* 113: 834–842, 2015.  
 First published November 5, 2014; doi:10.1152/jn.00699.2014.

Initiation and modulation of locomotor circuitry output with multisite transcutaneous electrical stimulation of the spinal cord in noninjured humans

Yury Gerasimenko,<sup>1,5</sup> Ruslan Gorodnichyev,<sup>2</sup> Aleksandr Puhov,<sup>2</sup> Tatiana Moshonkina,<sup>1</sup> Aleksandr Savochin,<sup>1</sup> Victor Selonov,<sup>2</sup> Roland R. Roy,<sup>5,6</sup> Daniel C. Lu,<sup>4</sup> and V. Reggie Edgerton<sup>1,2,6\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Pavlov Institute of Physiology, St. Petersburg, Russia; <sup>2</sup>Velikiy Luki State Academy of Physical Education and Sport, Velikiy Luki, Russia; <sup>3</sup>Institute for Information Transmission Problems, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow, Russia; <sup>4</sup>Departments of Neurosurgery University of California, Los Angeles, California; <sup>5</sup>Integrative Biology and Physiology, University of California, Los Angeles, California; and <sup>6</sup>Brain Research Institute, University of California, Los Angeles, California

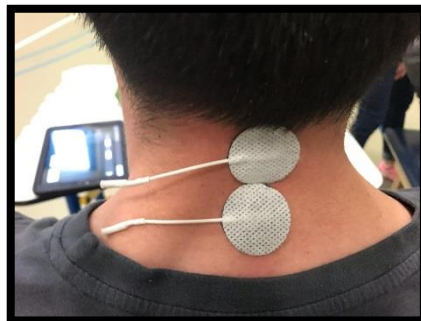
Submitted 14 August 2014; accepted in final form 3 November 2014.

Clinical Research Article

## Epidural Electrical Stimulation for Stroke Rehabilitation: Results of the Prospective, Multicenter, Randomized, Single-Blinded Everest Trial

Robert M. Levy, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Richard L. Harvey, MD<sup>2,3</sup>, Brett M. Kissela, MD<sup>4</sup>, Carolee J. Weinstein, PhD<sup>5</sup>, Helmi L. Lutsep, MD<sup>6</sup>, Todd B. Parrish, PhD<sup>7</sup>, Steven C. Cramer, MD<sup>7</sup>, and Lalit Venkatesan, PhD<sup>8</sup>

Neurorehabilitation and  
 Neural Repair  
 2014, Vol. 38(2), 107–119  
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thank you

**Questions?**