



CONCENTRIC



4TH ANNUAL SCI EDUCATION DAY --- 2025

PROGRAM BOOK

Welcome Message

Dear friends,

Welcome to the Annual Spinal Cord Injury Education Day 2025!

It is our pleasure to welcome you—whether this is your first time joining us or you’ve been part of our journey since the beginning. Now in its fourth year, this event continues to grow as a vital space for learning and reflection on SCI care, management and experience. The event has also grown to reach partners across 24 countries, representing all continents except Antarctica.

This year’s program builds on insights from previous years, with a continued focus on meaningful dialogue, shared experiences, and practical knowledge that can be translated into care settings across Alberta and beyond. Your feedback has been instrumental in making this possible, and we thank you for contributing your voice to this ongoing process of improving the Education Day year after year.

As in previous years, today’s sessions feature diverse perspectives from persons with SCI, clinicians, and researchers, as we strive to ensure that we all develop a holistic understanding of SCI care and respond effectively to the needs of our community.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our speakers for sharing their knowledge and expertise; to our sponsors and partners, for their ongoing support; and to the organizing committee for their dedication in planning today’s event.

Most importantly, thank you for being here. Your presence and participation help make this event impactful and successful. As we begin, we encourage you to engage fully (use the Q & A feature to share your questions or insights) and reflect on how today’s learnings can inform your practice and inspire positive change.

Wishing you all a rewarding and enriching Education Day!

Education Committee



Education Committee

Rebecca Charbonneau

*University of Calgary;
Foothills Medical Center, Calgary*

Brandice Lorch

Spinal Cord Injury Alberta (SCI-AB), Calgary

Brittney Makhotkina

Foothills Medical Center, Calgary

Christine LaRose

Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Edmonton

Dawn Miller

Foothills Medical Center, Calgary

Hardeep Kainth

*University of Alberta, Edmonton;
Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Edmonton*

Julie Reader

Foothills Medical Center, Calgary

Kasey Aiello

Foothills Medical Center, Calgary

Kendra Baker

Foothills Medical Center, Calgary

Olaleye Olayinka

University of Alberta, Edmonton

Raj Parmar

Foothills Medical Center, Calgary

Taryn Buck

Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Edmonton

House Keeping

General

- 1 The Education Day sessions will be recorded and the recordings made available via the [project's website](#) or [YouTube Channel](#).
- 2 Any resource (e.g. presentation slides) shared during the event would be made accessible via the project's website [[click here to access shared documents](#)].

During the presentations

Use the chat box feature to post questions during each session. The Master of Ceremony would organize the questions based on similarity before putting them forward to the speakers.

After the event

- 1 Please complete the Evaluation Survey for the event using the link provided in the chat box or by [clicking here](#)
- 2 A Certificate of Attendance will be sent out by default after filling the Evaluation Survey for the event. Your feedback on the event is much appreciated.
- 3 Please register for the Annual SCI Education Day 2026 once registration opens next year.

Resource	Access link (click to access)
 Recordings	Project's YouTube Channel
 Shared materials [slides, etc]	Project's Website (concentricproject.com)
 Evaluation survey	Survey link (tinyurl.com/scisurvey2025)

Event Schedule

12:30 — 12:40	Welcome	Introductions, house-keeping and poll <i>Kasey Aiello & Julie Reader</i>
12:40 — 13:20	Topic 1	Bowel Management after SCI <i>Terry Tenove, Raj Parmar, & Rebecca Charbonneau</i>
Break 13:20 — 13:25		
13:25 — 14:05	Topic 2	Spasticity Management <i>Natasha Mackinley, Stacey Wray, & Hardeep Kainth</i>
Break 14:05 — 14:10		
14:10 — 14:15	Update	PIN <i>Shy Amlani</i>
14:15 — 14:55	Topic 3	Wheelchair Seating <i>Tessa Harris & Charlene Laishley</i>
Break 14:55 — 15:00		
15:00 — 15:50	Topic 4	Nerve and Tendon Transfers <i>Lisa Schlee & Kate Elzinga</i>
15:50 — 16:00	Closing Remarks	Appreciation & Reminders <i>Kasey Aiello & Julie Reader</i>

Speakers

TERRY TENOVE

Topic 1

Terry Tenove is SCI Alberta's Peer Coordinator for Southern Alberta. Coming from a teaching background, Terry has always enjoyed finding different ways to engage peers and help them with any problems that may arise. In his current role, he works to find mentorship for anybody who needs it from those amazing and experienced members of the wheelchair community. After sustaining his spinal cord injury and becoming a quadriplegic, it was through the help of the many members of the wheelchair community that he was able to get over his many bumps on the road and become the best version of his new self. Terry looks forward to setting up events and finding different things for people in the wheelchair community to come together and enjoy. He is now on the next adventure, having just had two young children, giving him a whole new set of lessons to learn!

RAJ PARMAR

Topic 1

Raj began her nursing career in Vancouver and moved to Calgary in 1999. Once in Calgary she worked on the Trauma Intensive Care Unit at the Foothills Medical Centre until 2007. While working in ICU she finished her Masters of Nursing through University of Calgary. After completion of Masters IN 2007, she moved to the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, in the Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation as a Clinical Nurse Specialist working mainly with SCI population. She went back to school in 2013 to finish her Nurse Practitioner program. Since then, she is working with Spine Rehab Program inpatient and outpatient. Her main goal is to bridge any gaps in SCI care in the community. Her focus is urinary tract infection (UTI) prevention, wound care and sexual health after SCI.

Speakers

REBECCA CHARBONNEAU

Topic 1

Dr. Rebecca Charbonneau is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary. She is also the Medical Lead for Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation at the Foothills Medical Centre in Calgary.

Dr. Charbonneau graduated from McMaster University in Health Science before completing medical school at the University of Western Ontario. She moved to Nova Scotia to complete her residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Dalhousie University.

She has a research and special clinical interest in the prevention and management of complications following spinal cord injury, as well as the delivery of healthcare services following spinal cord injury.

NATASHA MACKINLEY

Topic 2

Natasha Mackinley is originally from Grande Cache but now lives in the Edmonton area with her fiancé. She is a T4 ASIA A parapalegic resulting from a motor vehicle collision in 2012. She works at Reyu Recovery center. She has been seeing the Adult Spasticity Clinic since 2017

HARDEEP KAINTH

Topic 2

Dr Kainth is the medical lead of the Spinal Cord Injury program at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton. He is a physiatrist fellowship trained in Spinal Cord Injury Medicine. He is passionate about improving SCI care throughout the continuum. His special interests are SCI best practice, acute SCI management, neurogenic bladder, spasticity, heterotopic ossification and pressure injuries.

Speakers

STACEY WRAY

Topic 2

Stacey Wray is a Registered Nurse who completed her Bachelor of Kinesiology at the University of Calgary and went on to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at University of Alberta. Her nursing career has spanned a multitude of areas including rehabilitation inpatients, Neuro outpatient clinics in the Kaye Edmonton Clinic - including the Multiple Sclerosis Clinic and Spine Assessment Clinic and other outpatient clinics at the Lois Hole in the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

She has worked in the Adult Spasticity Clinic for the past 10 years with a diverse population of patients with varying diagnosis and spasticity needs. A large part of the Registered Nurse role in this clinic is managing patients with implanted intrathecal baclofen pumps.

TESSA HARRIS

Topic 3

Tessa Harris is an Occupational Therapist that works at Carewest/Alberta Health Services, Adult Regional Seating Clinic in Calgary. She has worked at the Seating Clinic since 2007 and has been involved in a variety of seating educational supports over the years through Carewest, Alberta Health Services and University of Alberta. In her spare time, you will find her chasing her kids at the hockey rink or coaching soccer.

Speakers

CHARLENE (Charly) LAISHLEY

Topic 3

Charly completed her Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Therapy at the University of Alberta. As a clinical Occupational Therapist, she has provided services across the care continuum with a focus on adult rehab. She was introduced to seating and mobility while working in long term care and has had an interest in pursuing a career in it ever since. She has performed seating assessments in facilities and in the community and most recently has joined the seating team at the Foothills Hospital in August 2021.

She currently is one of the two therapists on the seating services team who primarily provide seating services to the tertiary neurorehabilitation inpatient population on Unit 58.

Charlene is a native Calgarian with several years spent traveling and working as an Occupational Therapist in Australia, New Zealand and the States before returning home.

When she is not at work, she can be found spending time with her husband and 2 cats. She is also an avid golfer and quilter and has recently picked up weaving and pickleball.

LISA SCHLEE

Topic 4

Lisa has been a Physical Therapist for 15 years and her practice focuses on Upper Extremity (UE) Rehabilitation. Her areas of expertise include UE amputees (Prosthetic re-training for body powered/myoelectric prosthetics, and Targeted Motor Reinnervation training), Peripheral Nerve Transfers, Brachial Plexus injuries, and hand/wrist rehabilitation. She currently works in Calgary with the Community Accessible Rehabilitation MSK Program.

Speakers

KATE ELZINGA

Topic 4

Dr. Elzinga completed medical school at the University of Calgary, a plastic surgery residency at the University of Alberta, a hand and wrist fellowship at the University of Michigan, and a microsurgery fellowship at the University of Manitoba. She is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Calgary. Her clinical interests are adult and pediatric peripheral nerve surgery, hand and wrist surgery, and microsurgery.

Sponsors & Partners



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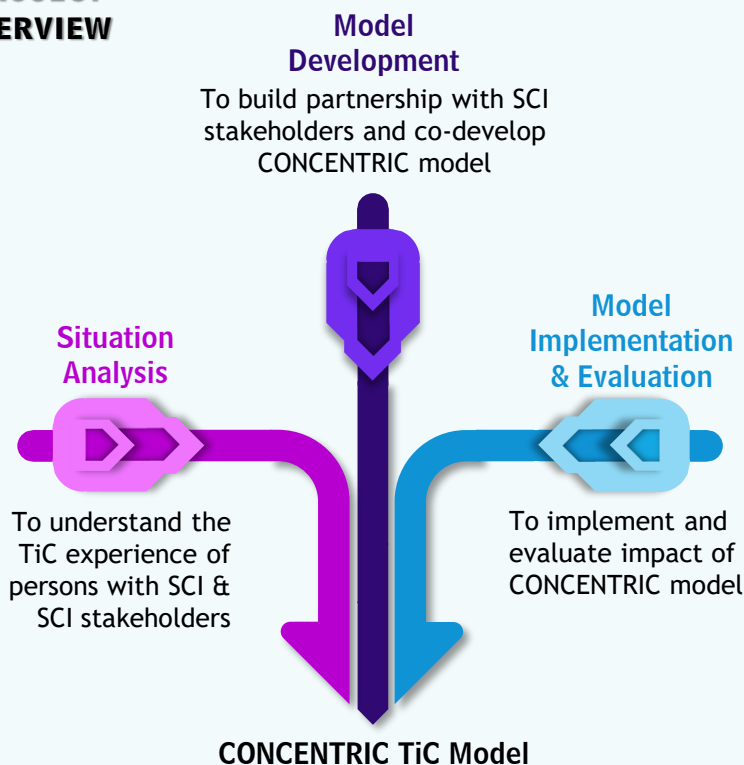
Neurosciences, Rehabilitation & Vision
Strategic Clinical Network™

CONCENTRIC

CONnecting and Coordinating an Enhanced Network for TRansitions In Care:
A New Model for Spinal Cord Injury in Alberta



PROJECT OVERVIEW



2025 – 3rd

**Current
Year**

**Current
Phase**

2024

**Annual
Report**



For additional project information, click links below or visit;



www.concentricproject.com



CONCENTRIC's YouTube Channel [www.tinyurl.com/concentricvideos]

Education Day Topics

* ☒ - Indicates topics chosen for 2022,2023 & 2024 Education Days

Topics
included in
Professional
Needs
Assessment
Survey sent
out in
November
2021

☒	Autonomic dysreflexia
☒	Bladder management
☐	Bowel management
☒	Pressure injury prevention and management
☐	Deep vein thromboembolism (DVT) and PE prevention/management
☒	Mental health issues
☒	Expected functional outcomes/prognostication/ISNCSCI
☐	Spasticity
☐	Wheelchair seating
☒	Research update
☐	Existing clinical practice guidelines
☒	Respiratory management and Sleep apnea
☒	Pain management
☒	Sexual health
☐	Bone health, osteoporosis
☒	Physical fitness
☒	Neuro-recovery therapies and research
☒	Neuro-modulation, e.g. functional electrical stimulation (FES) cycling, diaphragm pacing, spinal cord stimulators
☐	Robotics, gait training
☒	Overuse injuries, e.g. shoulder pain/rotator cuff impingement, Limb preservation and posture
☐	Preventive care after SCI including age-appropriate screening and barriers to screening
☐	Aging after SCI
☐	Vocational rehabilitation
☐	Environmental control, Home modification
☐	Heterotopic ossification
☐	Nutrition, dietary and weight management
☐	Transition in care from rehab to home
☐	Overview of additional medical complications, e.g. syringomyelia, pneumonia, metabolic complications, thermoregulation, orthostatic hypotension

2025 Education Day

Scan/Click on
QR code or
Click/Visit included
URL/links

Evaluation Survey



Click or visit tinyurl.com/scisurvey2025

*Certificate of attendance would be sent out following completion of survey

Session resources



Click or visit concentricproject.com

Session slides and recordings would be made available via CONCENTRIC project's website

2022-'24 Education Day

See below for session slides, recordings and report

Education Day 2022



Click or visit tinyurl.com/sciday2022

Report

Education Day 2023



Click or visit tinyurl.com/sciday2023

Report

Education Day 2024



Click or visit tinyurl.com/sciday2024

Report

Additional Information

1

My Experience Survey Tool

Are you someone with lived experience of SCI or know someone who is? Try or recommend the My Experience Survey Tool - a tool designed with and by persons with SCI to aid in identifying care gaps and guide conversation with their care providers

For a digital or paper copy, contact
oolayink@ualberta.ca

Visit tinyurl.com/experiencesurveysci for further details or scan QR code on right



2

Care for Patients with Spinal Cord Injury in Hospital

The Neurosciences, Rehabilitation & Vision Strategic Clinical Network (NRV SCN) is leading a provincial initiative to improve and standardize the nursing and allied health care for patients with spinal cord injury (SCI) in Alberta acute care and inpatient rehabilitation hospitals.

The goal of this initiative is to: decrease practice variation, improve patient and family experience, improve transitions in care, and to improve safety for patients.

For more information, contact
neurorehabvision.scn@ahs.ca,

Visit tinyurl.com/scicare-nrvscn, or scan QR code on right



Links & URLs

Resource	Visit or click link to access
 2025 Education Day Web Page	concentricproject.com/sci-education-day
 2025 Education Day Program Book	tinyurl.com/2025programbook
 2025 Education Day Evaluation Survey	tinyurl.com/scisurvey2025
 2024 Education Day Resources	tinyurl.com/sciday2024
 2024 Education Day Recordings	tinyurl.com/concentricvideos2024
 2024 Education Day Brief Report	tinyurl.com/sciday2024report
 2023 Education Day Resources	tinyurl.com/sciday2023
 2023 Education Day Recordings	tinyurl.com/concentricvideos2023
 2023 Education Day Brief Report	tinyurl.com/sciday2023report
 2022 Education Day Resources	tinyurl.com/sciday2022
 2022 Education Day Recordings	tinyurl.com/concentricvideos2022
 2022 Education Day Brief Report	tinyurl.com/sciday2022report
 CONCENTRIC project website	concentricproject.com
 CONCENTRIC YouTube Channel	tinyurl.com/concentricvideos
 2024 Annual Project Report	tinyurl.com/concentric2024
 My Experience Survey Tool	tinyurl.com/experiencesurveysci
 Standardization of Nursing and Allied Health Care for Patients with Spinal Cord Injury in Alberta Hospitals	tinyurl.com/scicare-nrvscn

4th Annual Education Day 2025 Evaluation Survey



Visit tinyurl.com/scisurvey2025

*Certificate of attendance would be sent out following
completion of survey

4th Annual SCI Education Day 2025



Thanks for attending...



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