

Dear Person Living with Cervical SCI:

Thank you for your interest in nerve transfers to restore hand and arm function in people living with cervical spinal cord injury (SCI). Every case of SCI is unique. It is difficult to give generalized information that applies to all people with SCI. Ideally you would be seen for initial evaluation at 3-6 months after injury; but we see people even years down the road as well.

If you are interested in a consult, please request and fill out the SCI Health Questionnaire and send it to us.

You should talk with your personal physician. It would be helpful if your doctor can review the information to see if he or she thinks you may be a candidate for surgery.

If your primary care or rehabilitation physician thinks a referral is appropriate, they should send the following to the address above or fax to (314) 367-0225 ATTN Dr. Fox:

- A letter of introduction detailing the International Standards for Neurological Classification of Spinal Cord Injury (ISNCSCI) of your spinal cord injury and description of the functional use of both hands and arms. We must know if shoulder function and elbow flexion are intact. The letter should describe the condition of your upper extremities with joint stability, range of motion, spasticity, and contracture.
- Progress notes of physical therapy/rehabilitation program.
- Operative notes from previous spinal surgeries and surgeries to the shoulders, arms, and hands.
- Discharge summary from hospital admission when you had the initial spinal cord injury and treatment.
- Demographics (address, phone number, date of birth, etc.) and health insurance information

Once all of the required records are received, they will be reviewed within 30 days of receipt.

If you are interested in travelling to St. Louis for a clinical evaluation and testing, that can be arranged provided you meet the requirements. Telemedicine may be possible for certain individuals.

Please note that I also would be happy to see people for tendon transfer, spasticity, contractures and any other more unusual hand, nerve and upper extremity issues.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. With additional questions, call 314-454-6089.

Sincerely,



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