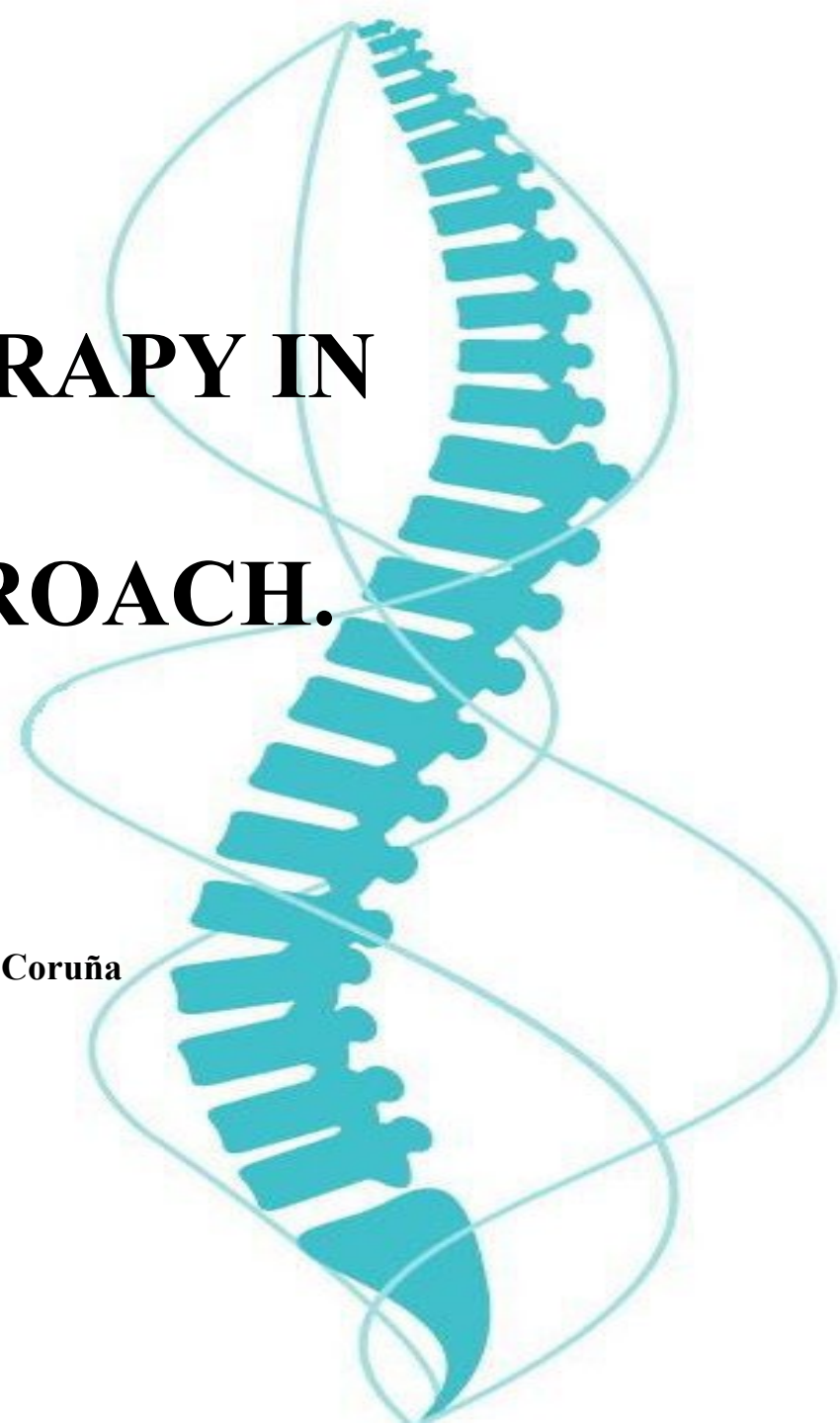


# **EVIDENCE BASED PHYSIOTHERAPY IN SPINAL CORD INJURY: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH.**

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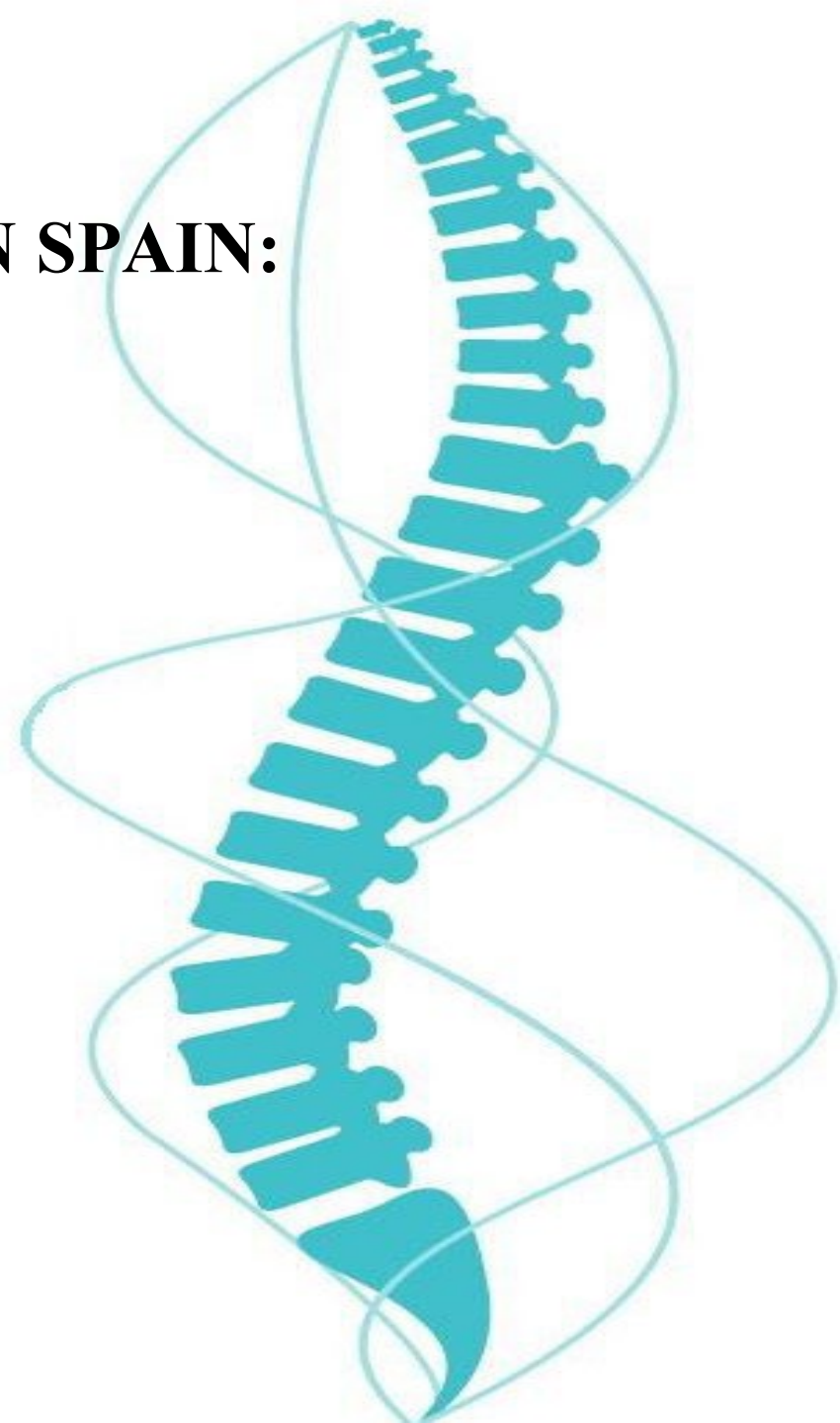
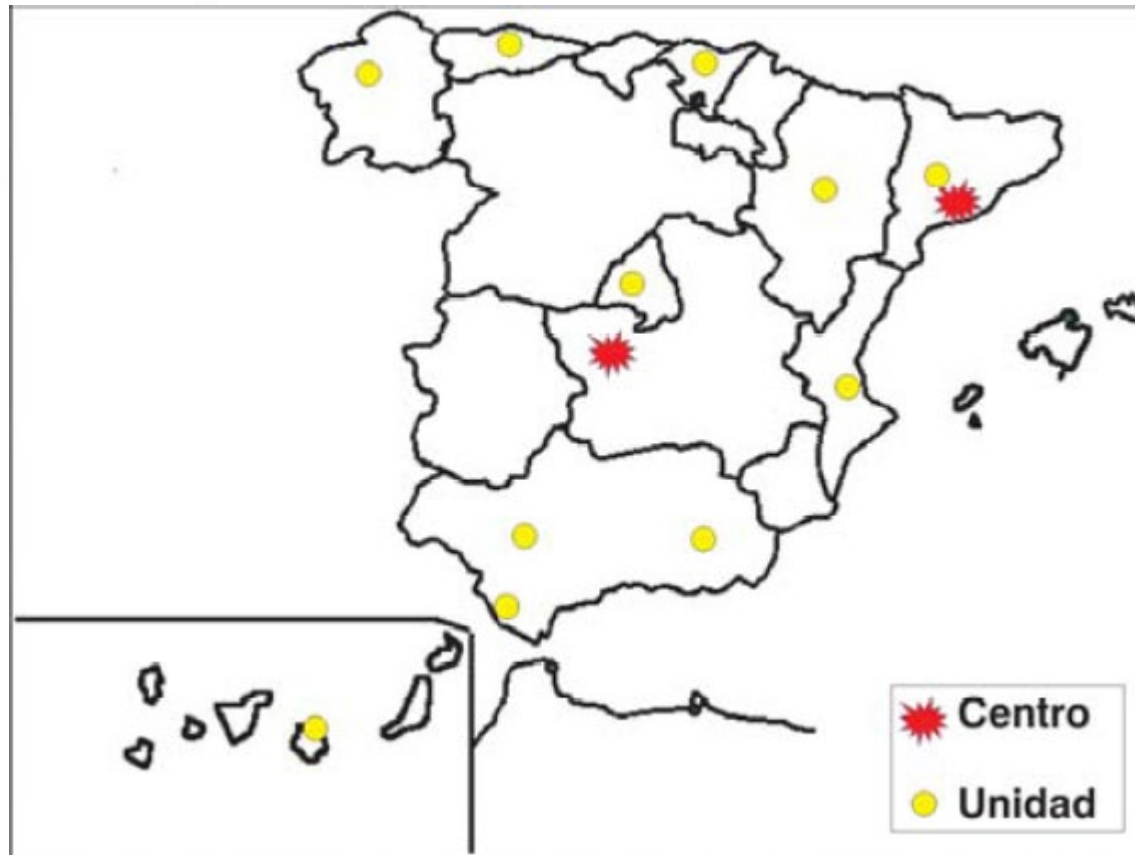
*Prague, 21-25 de Octubre de 2024*



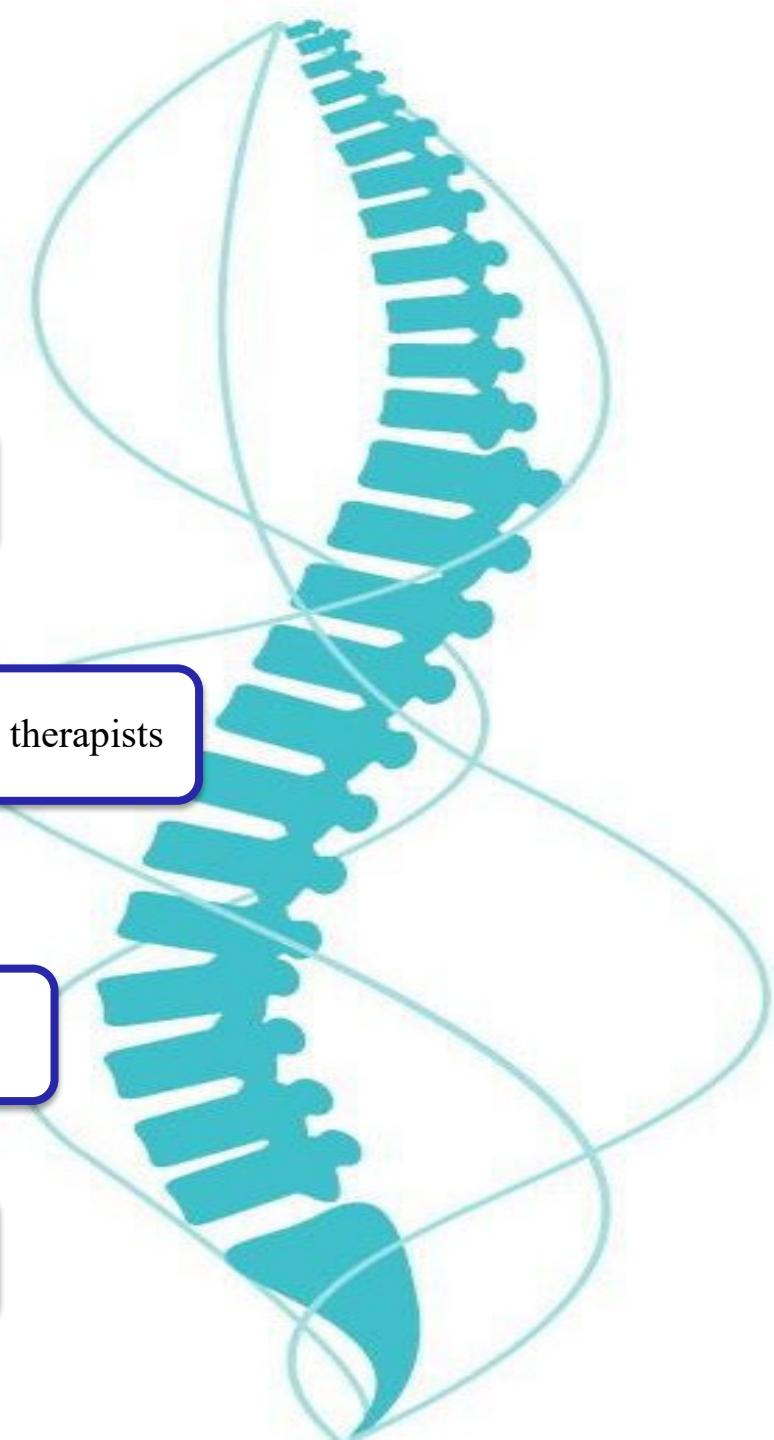
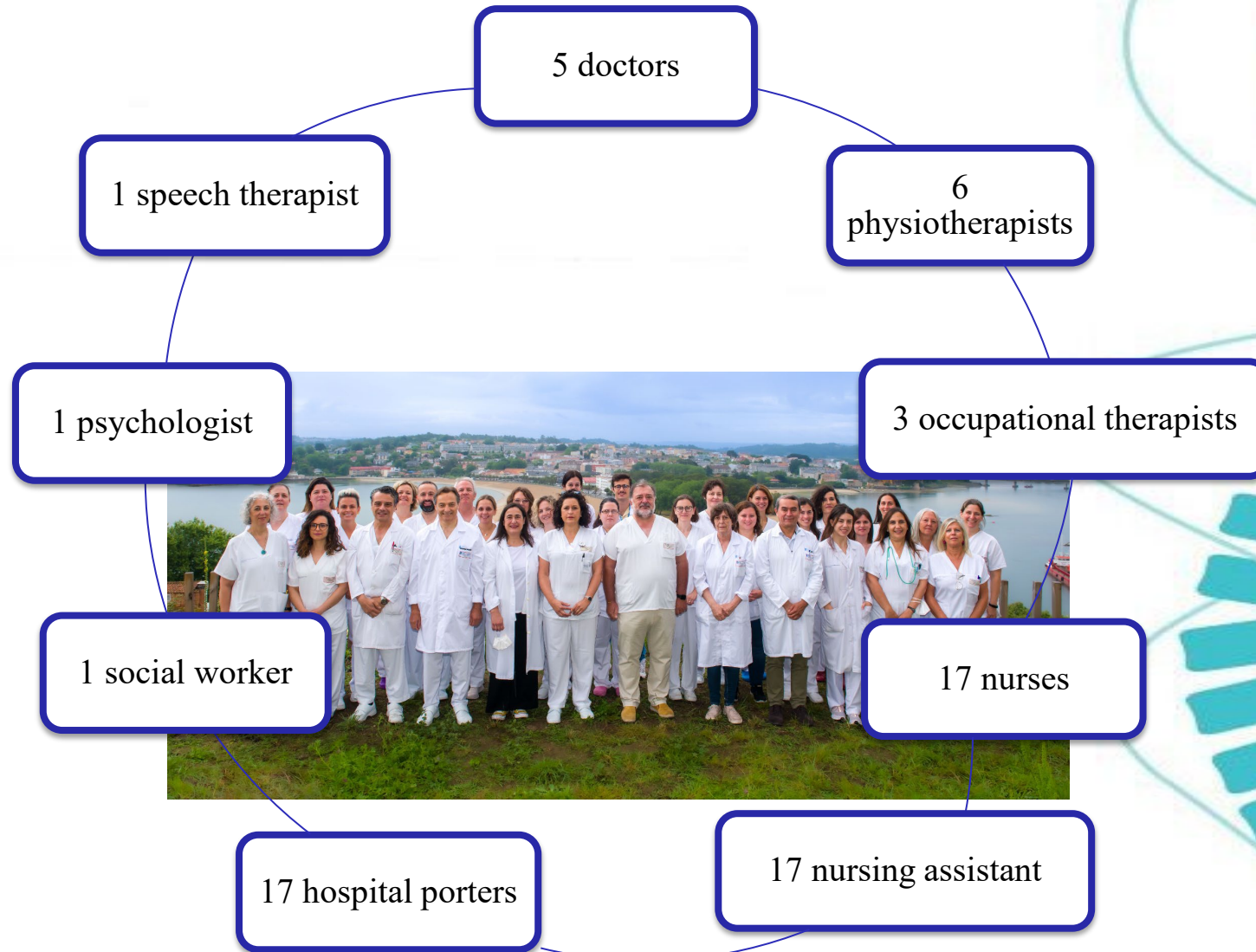




## SPINAL CORD INJURY UNITS IN SPAIN:

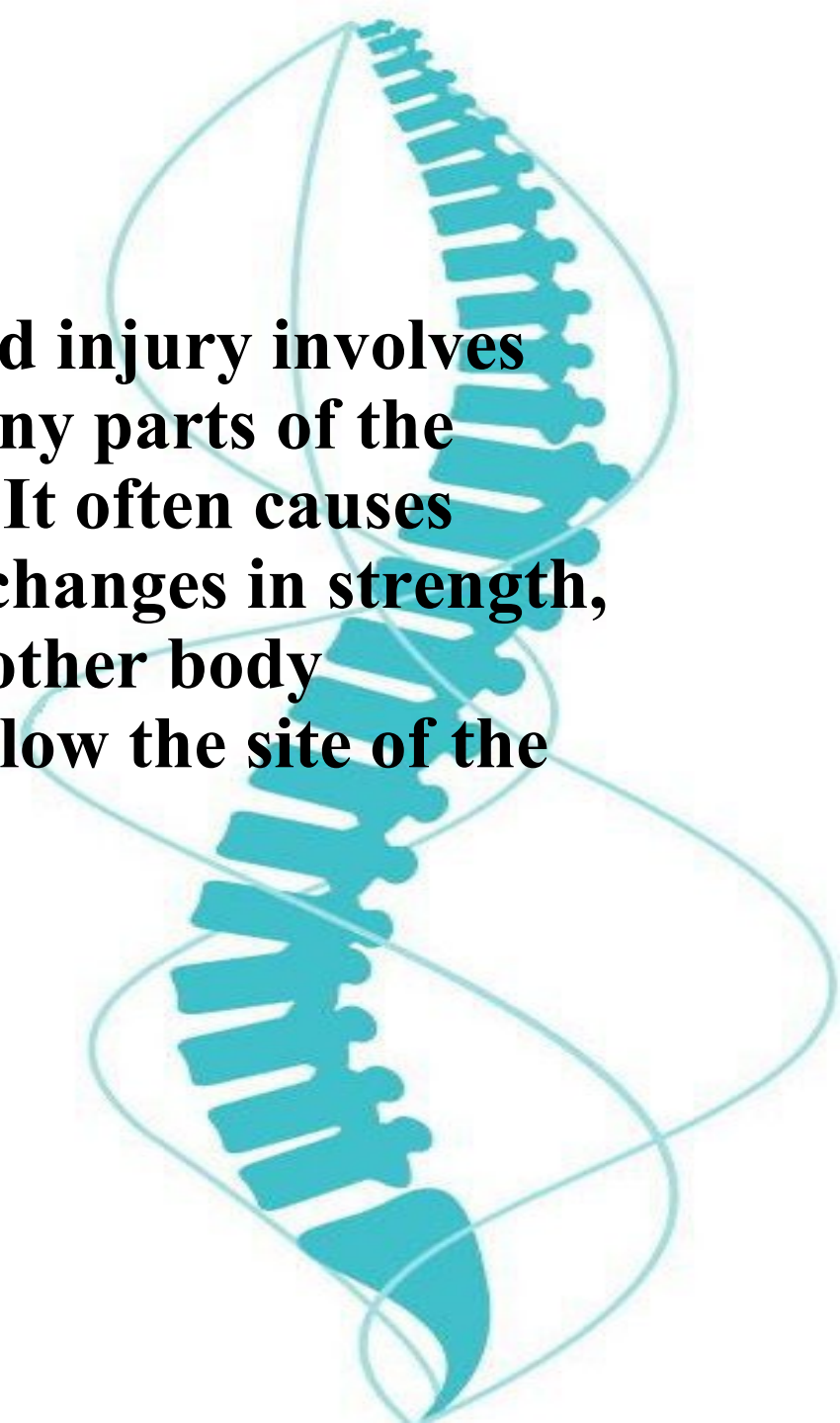


## MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM:





**A spinal cord injury involves damage to any parts of the spinal cord. It often causes permanent changes in strength, feeling and other body functions below the site of the injury.**







# ASIA classification (=Standard neurological classification of spinal cord injury).

- **Sensory assessment: light touch and pinprick sensation.**
- **Motor assessment.**

- **A:**no motor or sensory function in S4-S5.
- **B:** preservation of sensory function in S4-S5.
- **C:** preservation of sensory function in S4-S5 provided there is also motor function more than 3 levels below the motor level or just preservation of motor function in S4-S5. In addition, less than grade 3/5 strength in more than half the key muscles below the neurological level.
- **D:** preservation of sensory function in S4-S5 provided there is also motor function more than 3 levels below the motor level or preservation of motor function in S4-S5. In addition, grade 3/5 or more strength in at least half the key muscles below the neurological level.
- **E:** normal motor and sensory function.

- 0: no muscle contraction
- 1: a flicker of muscle contraction
- 2: full range of motion with gravity eliminated
- 3: full range of motion against gravity
- 4: full range of motion with added resistance.
- 5: normal strength

- C5: elbow flexors
- C6: wrist extensors
- C7: elbow extensors
- C8: finger flexors
- D1: little finger abductors
- L2: hip flexors
- L3: knee extensors
- L4: ankle dorsiflexors
- L5: long toe extensors
- S1: ankle plantarflexors

OBJECTIVE:  
INDEPENDENCE AND WELL-BEING

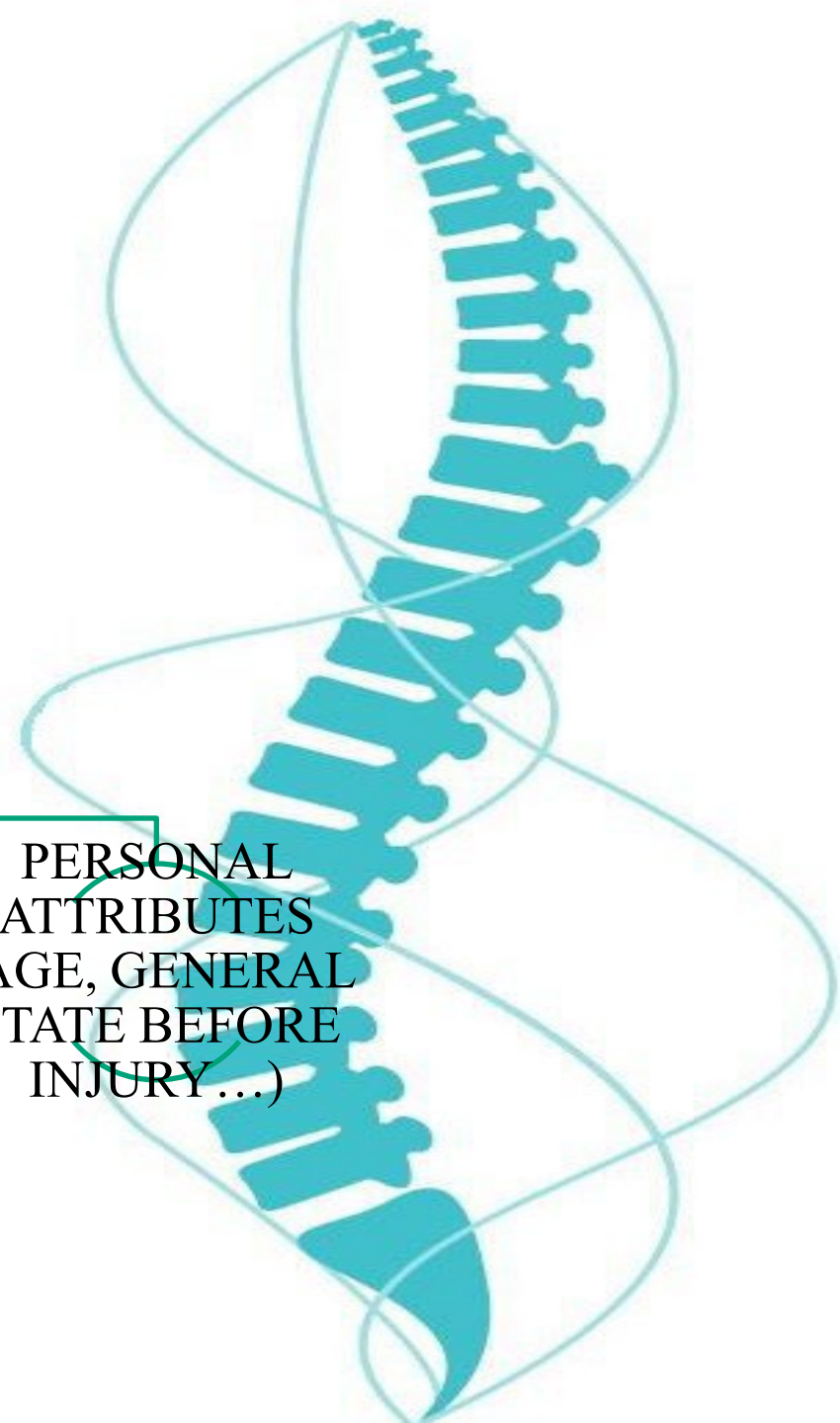
It depends on:

LEVEL OF  
INJURY

NEUROLOGICAL  
ESTATUS

POST-INJURY  
COMPLICATIONS

PERSONAL  
ATTRIBUTES  
(AGE, GENERAL  
STATE BEFORE  
INJURY...)





# ACUTE SPINAL CORD INJURY:

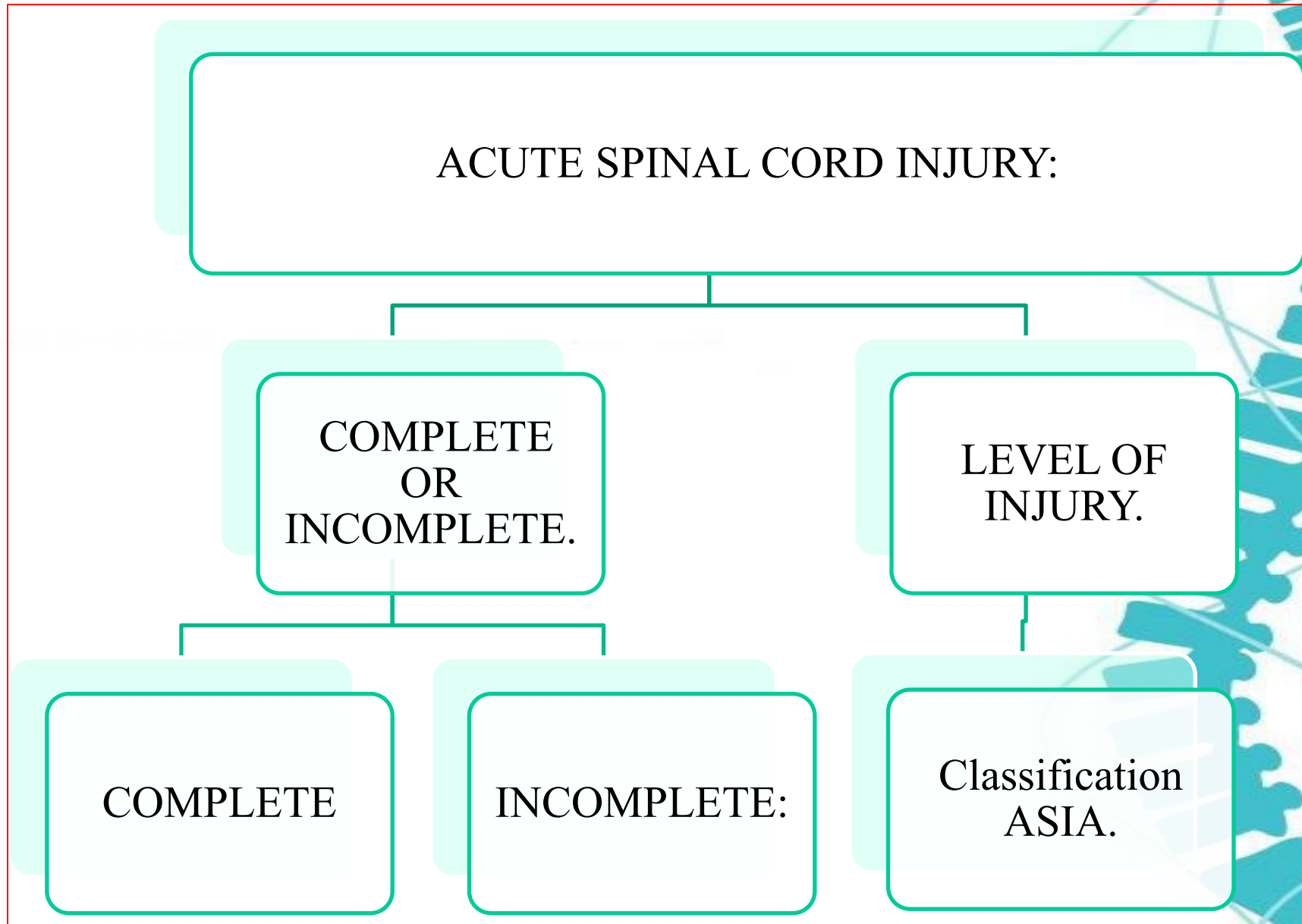
COMPLETE  
OR  
INCOMPLETE.

LEVEL OF  
INJURY.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE:

Classification  
ASIA.



## PHYSIOTHERAPY PROGRAMME

### ACUTE STAGE

- assessment
- respiratory management
- postural treatment
- initial mobility

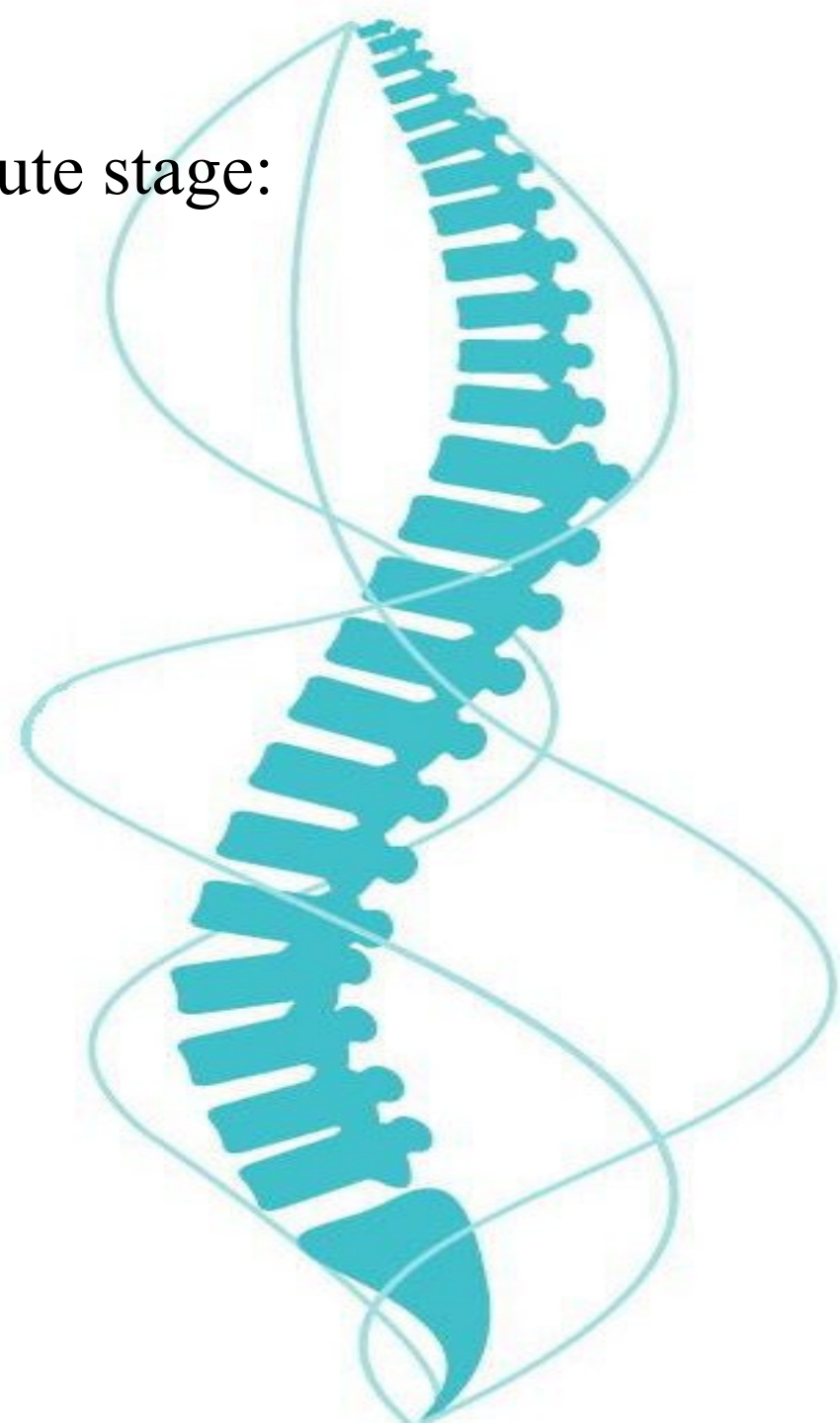
### INPATIENT

- sitting
- improve strength
- mobility
- transfers
- wheelchair mobility
- standing and walking

### BEFORE HOME

- improve participation
- patient + family
- reintegration into their environment

Initial mobility in subacute stage:



# Spinal cord injury: prognosis



- Neurological assessment:

72 hours

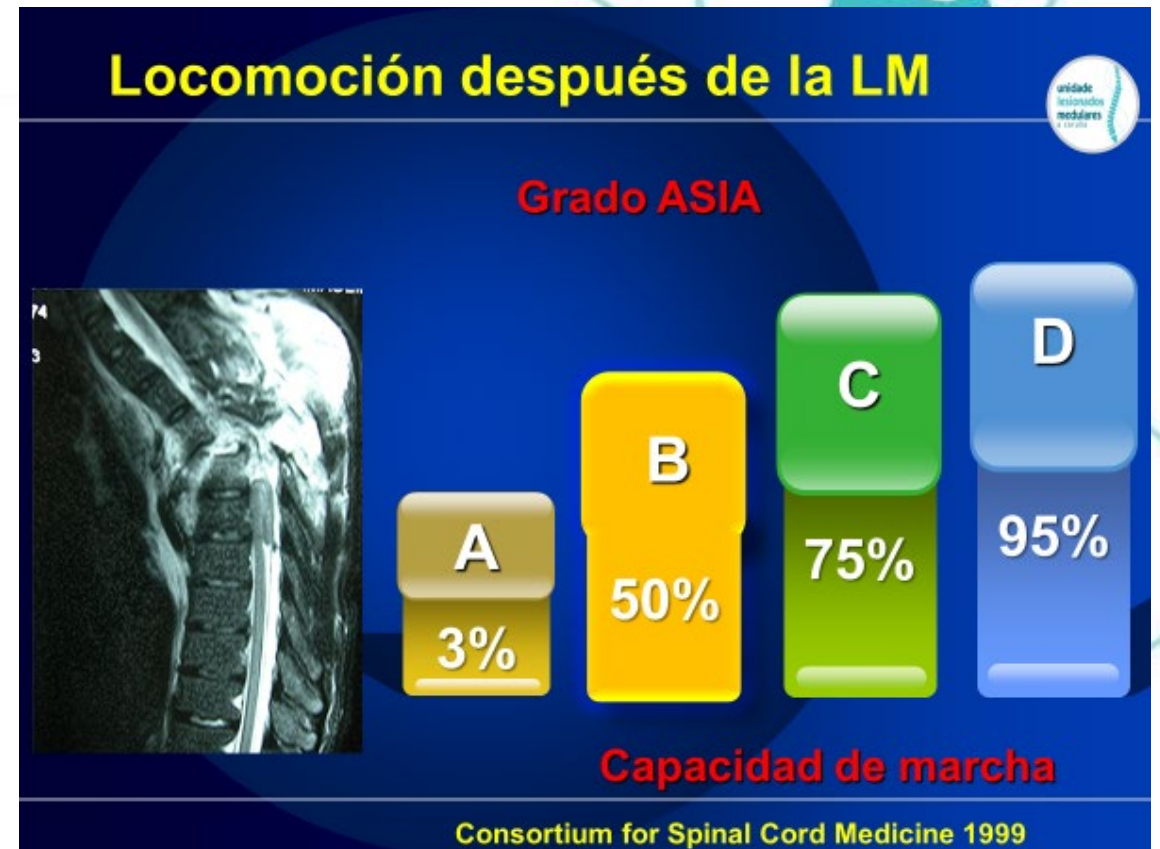
1 month

3 months

- 60% of motor recovery is in the next 2 months post-injury (incomplete injuries).
- Delayed motor recovery is usually smaller and less functional.

# FUNCTIONAL EVOLUTION.

- AIS A: 3% of the patients regain strength in the lower limbs
- AIS B: 50% of the patients can walk if pinprick sensation is preserved.
- AIS C: 75% of the patients can walk



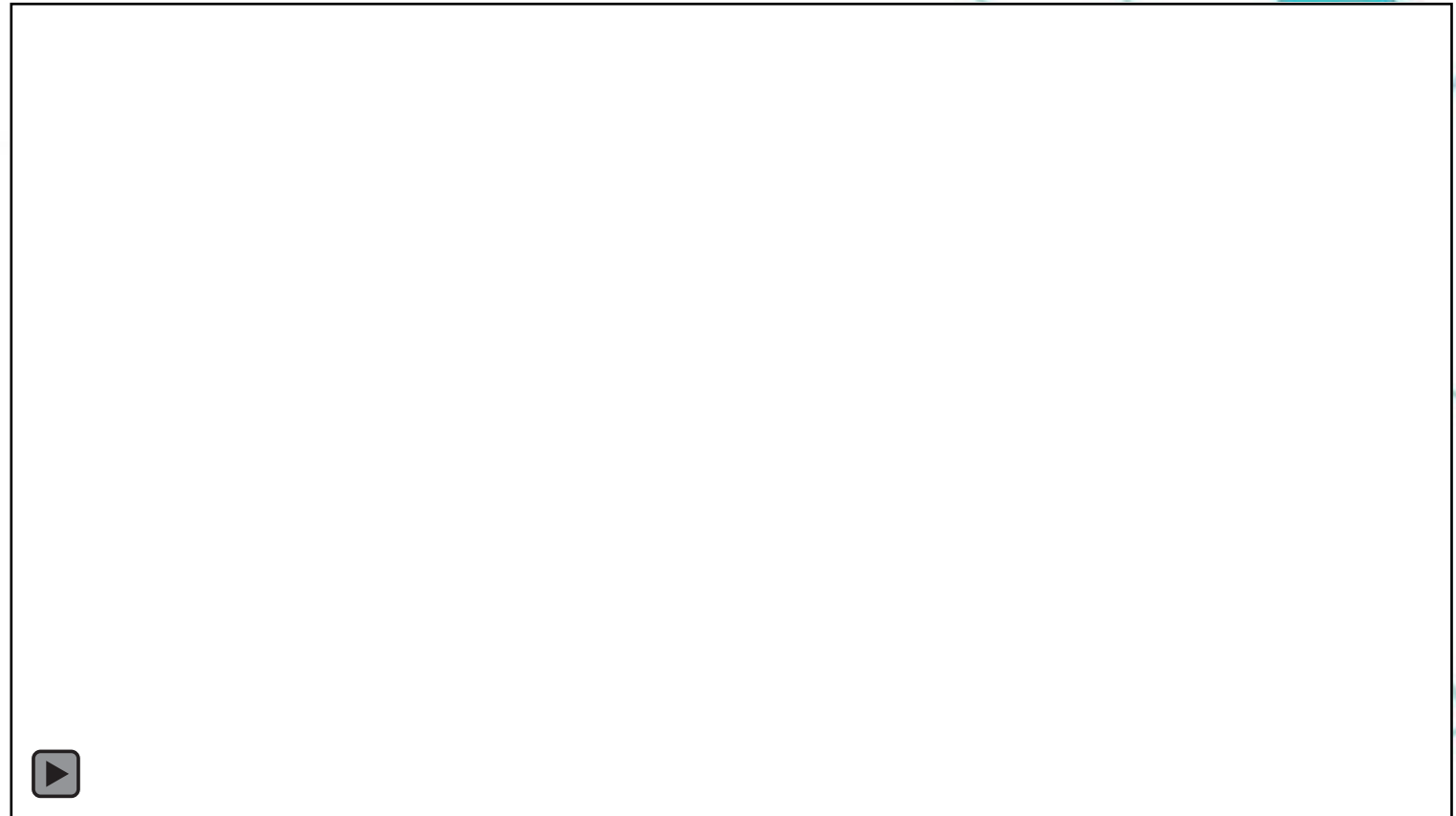


# Gait training

**TRADITIONAL PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT.**

**- MANUAL TREADMILL TRAINING WITH PARTIAL SUSPENSION.**

**-ROBOTIC-ASSISTED GAIT TRAINING**





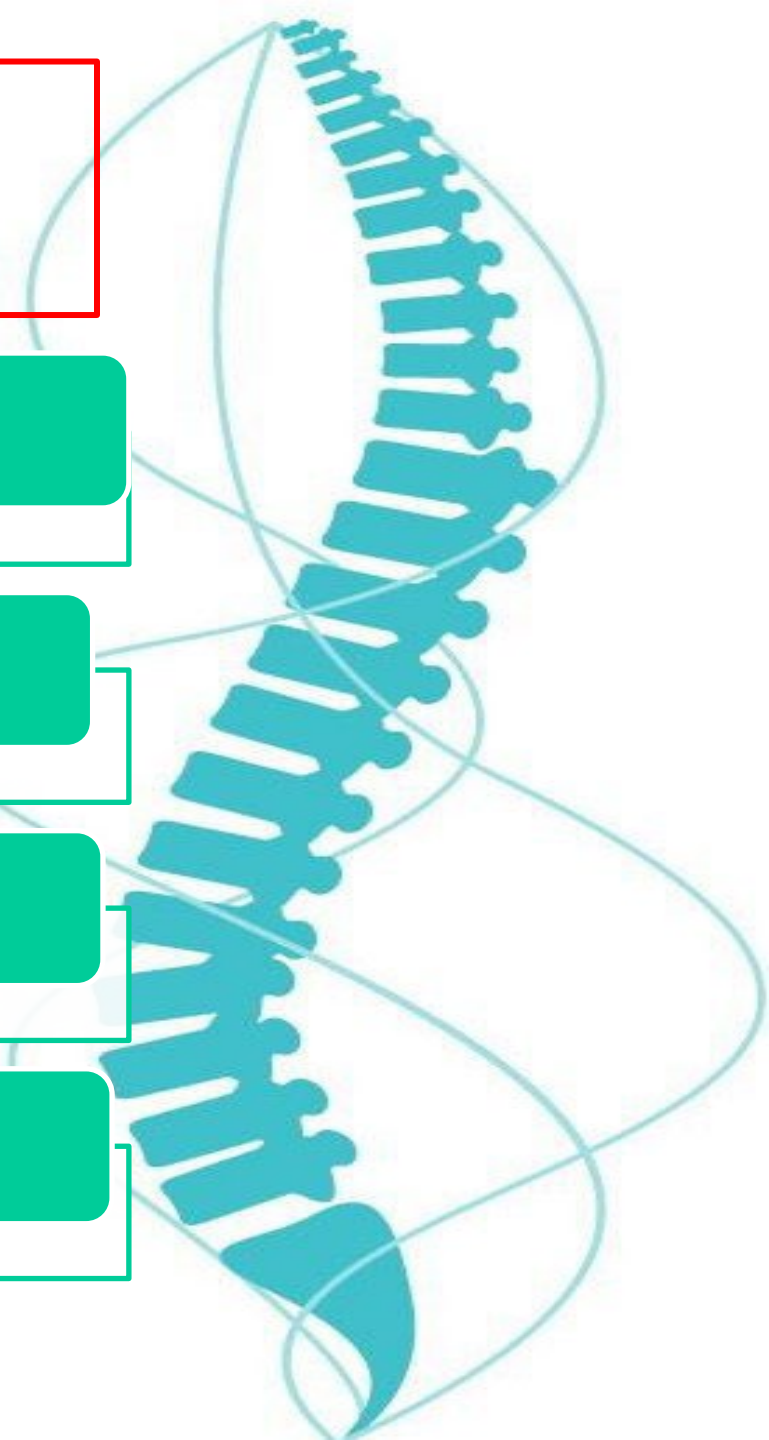
# ROBOTIC-ASSISTED GAIT TRAINING

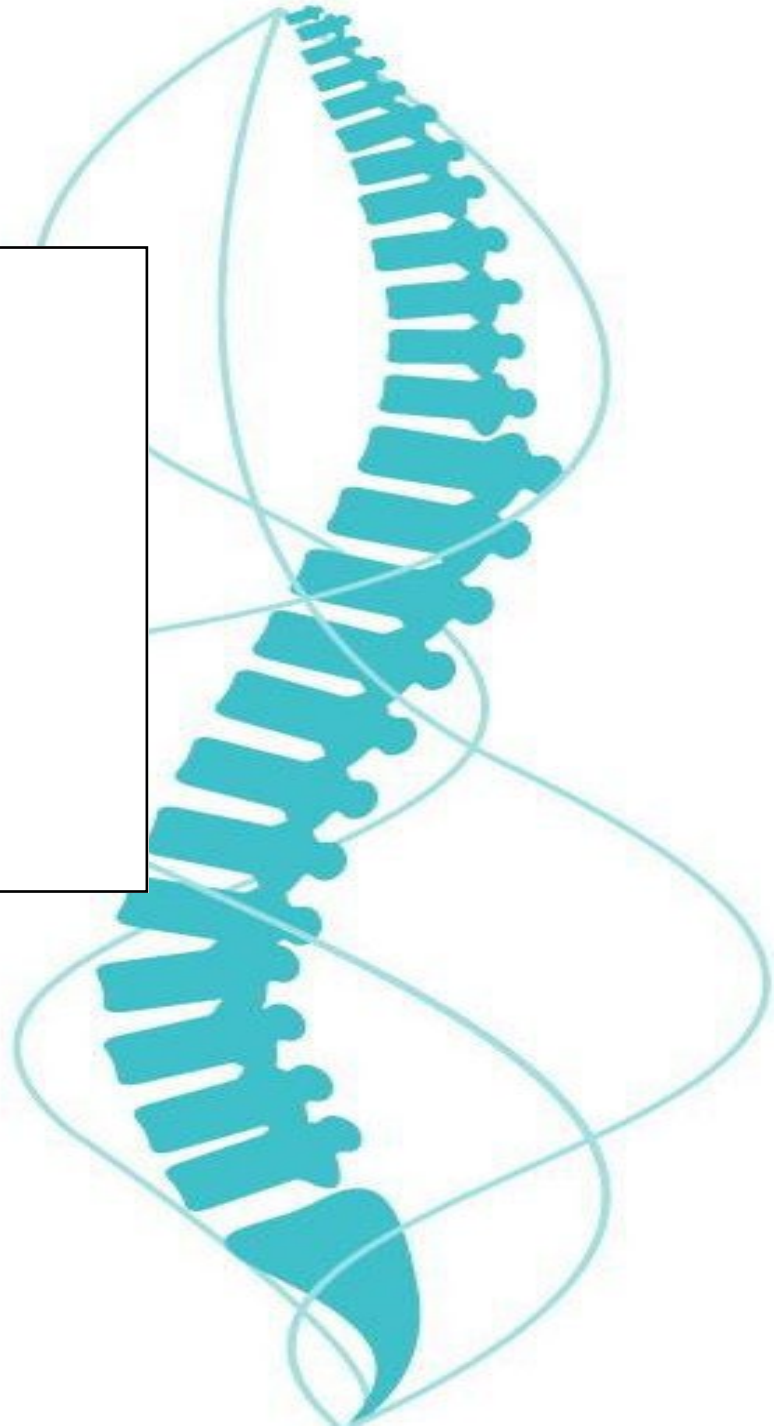
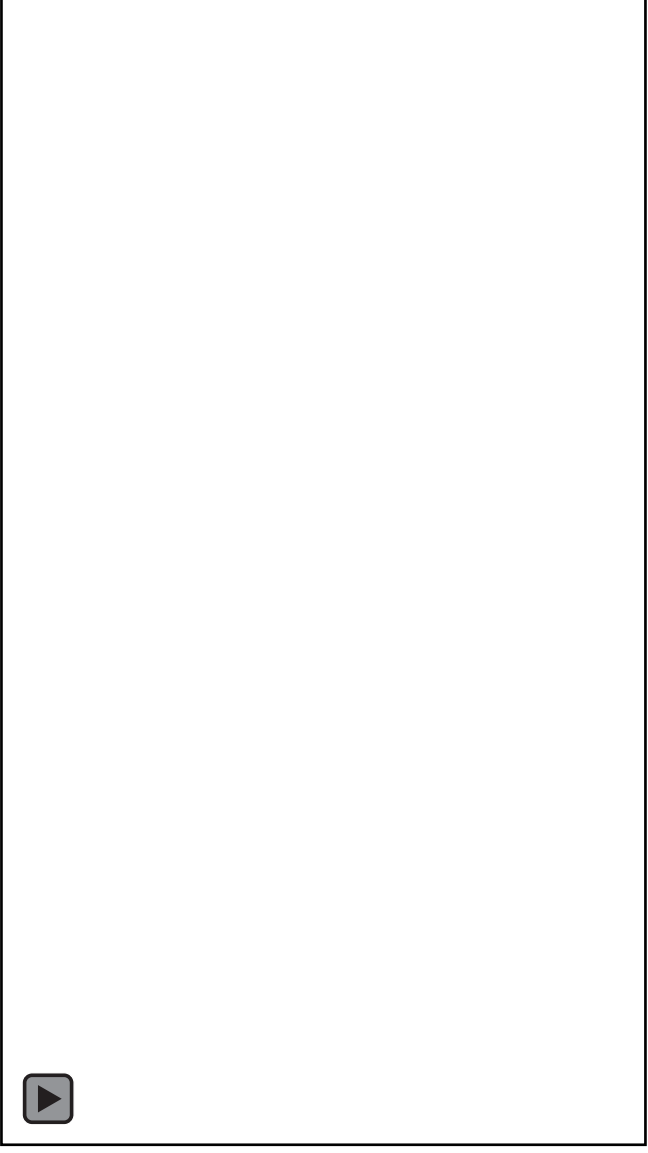
Training in acute phase

More normal walking pattern

Increase the opportunity for practice

Less physical effort for physiotherapist



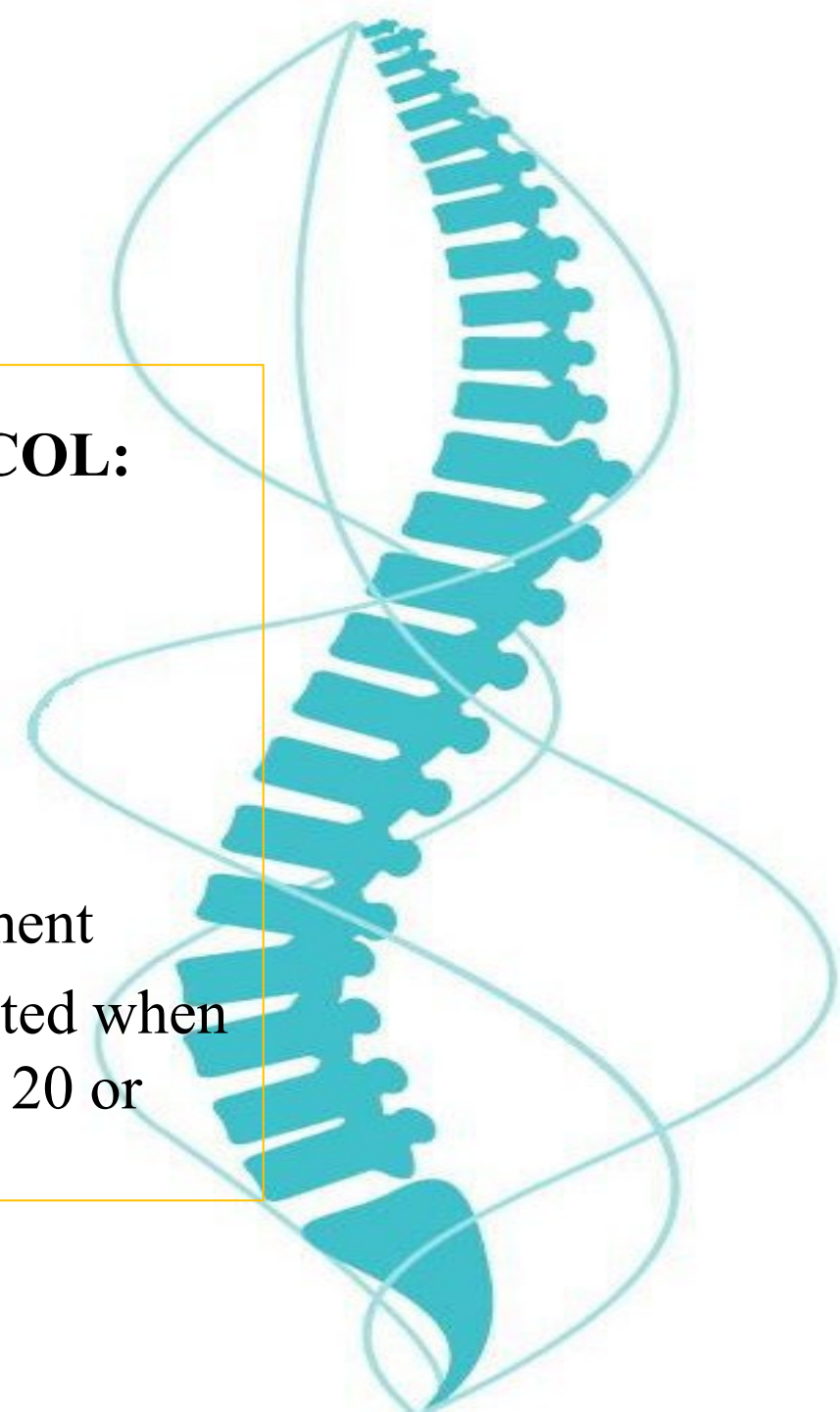


## **INDICATIONS:**

- Incomplete injuries AIS C and AIS D.
- AIS A and B if they have voluntary hip mobility.

## **TRAINING PROTOCOL:**

- 8 WEEKS
- 5 days/week
- 45 minutes/session
- With conventional physiotherapy treatment
- Treatment is completed when they reach WISCI II 20 or after 8 weeks.



# ASSESSMENT TOOLS FOR MEASURING

- Spinal Cord Independence Measures (SCIM).

Spinal Cord Independence Measure (SCIM) - SCIRE Professional ([scireproject.com](http://scireproject.com))

- Walking Index for Spinal Cord Injury (WISCI).

Walking Index for Spinal Cord Injury | RehabMeasures Database ([sralab.org](http://sralab.org))

- 10m Walk Test.

10 Meter Walk Test | RehabMeasures Database ([sralab.org](http://sralab.org))





**Thank you.**

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