Testing non-invasive spinal cord stimulation for early spinal cord injury

PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY

The purpose of this study is to investigate the safety and effectiveness of non-invasive transcutaneous spinal cord stimulation (TSCS) in conjunction with conventional rehabilitation in helping with the recovery of bladder function in persons with spinal cord injury (SCI). Health Canada has not approved the sale or use of this medical device for autonomic function recovery in individuals with spinal cord injury, although they have allowed its use in this clinical study.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

This study is open to B.C. residents between 19 to 65 years of age with an active provincial MSP. Participants must have an acute traumatic SCI (time since injury being 3-6 months) at or between C5 to T10 with AIS A or B and documented impaired bladder function. Participants must not be undergoing treatment or taking medications that may compromise safety and cannot have implants. Female participants must not be pregnant, lactating or intending to get pregnant during and 28 days after completing the study.

WHAT IS INVOLVED

The study consists of 58 visits over 33 weeks. Participants will be randomly assigned to the treatment or the control group. During phase one, the treatment group will receive TSCS and the control group will receive a sham stimulation. During phase two, both groups will receive TSCS. Participants will also complete questionnaires and physiological assessments.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Andrea Maharaj, Clinical Research Facilitator
Phone: 604-675-8856
Email: amaharaj@icord.org

STUDY TIME/ DURATION

October 2024 to October 2027

STUDY LOCATION

Blusson Spinal Cord Centre
3/F, 818 West 10 Avenue, Vancouver

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Dr. Andrei Krassioukov
Professor, Department of Medicine, UBC
Affiliated Research Investigator, VCH Research Institute

To learn more about this study, visit vchri.ca/participate

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