

# Spinal Cord Injury Treatment

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Although complete damage to the spinal cord cannot be reversed, comprehensive treatment can help your child live a full life. While researchers continue to make progress in potential breakthroughs, Gillette focuses on helping children and teens develop strength, skills and confidence to achieve their highest levels of health, independence and happiness.

Kids and teens that have spinal cord injuries often need the following types of care.

### Your Care Team

**Comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation** care plays an important role in the health, independence and happiness of your child following a spinal cord injury. Gillette is the region's top provider of full pediatric inpatient rehabilitation care. Your care team will include specialists in:

- **Rehabilitation medicine**
- **Physical therapy**
- **Occupational therapy**
- **Speech and language therapy**
- **Child life**
- **Chaplaincy**
- **Psychology**
- **School services**
- **Social work**
- **Therapeutic recreation**

### Orthotics, Prosthetics and Seating

**Orthotics, Prosthetics and Seating** can help your child manage the day-to-day challenges that accompany a spinal cord injury. Your child's occupational therapists and speech-language pathologists work with orthotics, prosthetics and seating specialists to help your child choose the right rehabilitative equipment to make sure they are as independent as possible.

Depending on the level of injury, equipment might include:

- [Braces \(also known as orthoses\)](#).
- [Seating and mobility equipment](#).
- Environmental control devices or phone and computer access equipment.

Your child might try various pieces of equipment during their hospital stay to figure out which options best meet their needs.

## Patient and Family Education

### [Patient Education Resources:](#)

- [Addressing Sexual Development within the Hospital Setting](#)
- [Ankle-Foot Orthosis - Translations included](#)
- [Autonomic Dysreflexia](#)
- [Bacterial Colonization in Urine and Symptomatic Urinary Tract Infection \(UTI\)](#)
- [Bowel Management – Translations included](#)
- [Breath Stacking \(Lung Volume Recruitment\)](#)
- [Clean Intermittent Catheterization at Home: Female](#)
- [Clean Intermittent Catheterization at Home: Male](#)
- [Emergency Tracheostomy Care at Home](#)
- [Finding Socks and Shoes to Wear With Your Brace - Translations included](#)
- [Gastric Tube \(G-tube\) Emergency Instructions – Translations included](#)
- [Gastrostomy Feeding Button](#)
- [Gastrostomy Tubes](#)
- [Healthy Weight Guide](#)
- [High-Fiber Diets – Translations](#)
- [Irrigating the Bladder](#)
- [Jejunostomy Tubes](#)
- [Mitrofanoff Procedure](#)
- [Nutrition and Healing - Translations included](#)

- [Oral Hygiene](#)
- [Pin/Wire Site Care - Translations included](#)
- [Pressure Sores](#)
- [Spasticity](#)
- [Sleep Hygiene – Translations included](#)
- [Suction Information](#)
- [Trauma, Its Effects on Children – Translations included](#)
- [Watch Out for Pressure Ulcers – Translations included](#)
- [Wearing a Hard Cervical Collar](#)

## Integrated Care

Your child might receive care from providers in these specialties and services during the process of spinal cord injury recovery:

- [Care management](#)
- [Ear, nose and throat \(ENT\)](#)
- [Holistic health and wellness](#)
- [Neurology](#)
- [Neurosurgery](#)
- [Nutrition and feeding](#)
- [Pediatrics](#)
- [Pediatric orthopedics](#)
- [Pulmonology and respiratory care](#)

## Explore Spinal Cord Injury Resources

United Spinal Association

Resource dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of people living with spinal cord injuries and disorders (SCI/D).

[Learn More](#)

Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation

Resource for people living with spinal injuries to get free support and find opportunities to get involved with the

spinal injury community.

[Learn More](#)

## SPINALpedia

A social mentoring network and video archive for the spinal cord injury community.

[Learn More](#)

## Parent Resources and Support

As part of our comprehensive approach to care, we've curated a list of resources to help you connect with other parents.

[Learn More](#)

## Spinal Cord Injury Research Evidence (SCIRE)

SCIRE searches the published literature and compiles public health relevant reviews on a comprehensive set of topics relevant to SCI rehabilitation and community reintegration

[Learn More](#)

## Personal Care Attendant (PCA) Services

Personal Care Attendant (PCA) Services from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS).

[Learn More](#)

## Direct Support Connect

A job board for direct support workers and the people who hire them.

[Learn More](#)

Make An Appointment

[651-290-8707](#)

Refer a Patient

[651-325-2200](#)

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at [651-229-3890](#).