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ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Aims and Scope
Spinal Cord is a specialised, international journal that has been publishing spinal cord related manuscripts since 1963. It appears monthly, online and in print, and accepts contributions on spinal cord anatomy, physiology and management of injury and disease. Spinal Cord is multi-disciplinary and publishes contributions across the entire spectrum of research ranging from basic science to applied clinical research. It focuses on high quality original research, systematic reviews and narrative reviews.

Spinal Cord's sister journal Spinal Cord Series and Cases publishes case reports, small case series and studies of regional interest. For more information, please see the aims and scope of Spinal Cord Series and Cases.

Journal Details
Editor-in-Chief:
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Editorial office:
spinalcord@iscos.org.uk

Impact factor: 1.870 (2016 Journal Citation Reports, Thomson Reuters, 2017)

Frequency: 12 issues a year

Abstracted in:
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Biological Abstracts
BIOSIS
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**Clinical Trials**

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE: Mandatory requirement starting 1st January 2018**

From 2018: All clinical trials starting on or after January 1st 2018 **MUST** be registered **BEFORE** the first participant is randomised to be accepted for publication in *Spinal Cord*. A clinical trial is any study in which participants are allocated to a treatment. See [here](#) for more details and see below section on Clinical Trials for more details.

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### ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTICLE DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>ABSTRACT</th>
<th>WORD LIMIT</th>
<th>TABLES/FIGURES</th>
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<td><strong>Original Articles</strong>&lt;br&gt; Please see ‘Preparation of Original Articles’ below for further details.</td>
<td>Structured abstract, max 250 words</td>
<td>3,500 words max*</td>
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<td><em>Spinal Cord</em> prioritises original research that contains prospectively collected data driven by clear a priori hypothesis. This includes but is not limited to:&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;&lt;li&gt;randomised controlled trials (please see requirement for trial registration above)&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;diagnostic studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;cohort studies (if the sample is representative of the target population)&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;case-control studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;psychometric studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;basic cellular studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;animal studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;qualitative studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;explanatory or mechanistic studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;economic evaluation studies&lt;/li&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;&lt;br&gt;The following types of studies are a low publication priority:&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;&lt;li&gt;retrospective chart audits&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;studies of the demographics of patients presenting with onset of SCI&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;studies that are only of regional interest&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;studies examining the reliability of outcome measures translated into a non-english language&lt;/li&gt;&lt;li&gt;surveys&lt;/li&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;&lt;br&gt;Exceptions will be made if the authors can demonstrate that the study is particularly novel and would be of wide interest to an international readership.</td>
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<td><strong>Reviews</strong>&lt;br&gt; <em>Spinal Cord</em> prioritises systematic reviews about treatment effectiveness which have clearly stated PICOs with results presented in forest plots including meta-analyses as appropriate. Systematic reviews examining incidence or prevalence of SCI or of a secondary condition will also be prioritised.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Narrative reviews will be considered but only if the topic is of wide interest to readers and has not already been extensively reviewed, or the authors can demonstrate that the review adds new insights to a previous review on the topic. Authors are encouraged to seek feedback about suitability for publication of narrative reviews from the Editorial Office before submitting.</td>
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- Cover letter
- Title page (excluding acknowledgements)*
- Structured Abstract*
- Keywords*
- Introduction*
- Methods*
- Results*
- Discussion*
- Acknowledgements*
- Conflicts of Interest*
- References*
- Figure legends*
- Tables
- Figures

Clinical trials must be prospectively registered if commenced after 1st Jan 2018, and reported according to CONSORT guidelines (see details in the Editorial Policies).

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- The title should be brief, informative, of 150 characters or less.
- The title should be possible reflect the study design.
- The need for ventilator support following recent spinal cord injury: a retrospective chart audit.
- The running title should consist of no more than 50 letters and spaces. It should be as brief as possible, convey the essential message of the paper and not contain abbreviations.
- Authors should disclose the sources of any support for the work, received in the form of grants and/or equipment and drugs.
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- **Setting** (eg. hospital in Gothenburg, Sweden; University-based laboratory in Chicago, IL, USA; community in Sydney, Australia; hospitals from multiple countries in Asia.)
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- **Results**
- **Conclusions**: Framed with respect to the objectives and primary results
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