

The Department of Neurosurgery at Vanderbilt University,
Belmont University School of Physical Therapy, and
The Center for Neuroscience, University of Alberta

Volunteers Needed for a Novel Study to Restore Standing and Walking In Paralyzed Individuals

Spinal cord injury (SCI) affects over 250,000 people in the United States with 12,000 new cases occurring each year. It is a devastating injury resulting in either temporary or permanent loss of ability to move or feel the arms and legs, loss of ability to control bowel and bladder function, and paralysis in general. Animal research in the past 15 years by scientists and engineers (Dr. Mushahwar and others) have shown that it is possible in animals to restore standing or walking through precise control of hair-like, micro-wires into the spinal cord. We believe that such exciting technology can be offered to humans with similar types of injury.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center is conducting a clinical trial in order to determine whether this technology is even feasible in humans. This requires some individuals (T3-T8 level of injury) who have a complete spinal cord injury to volunteer to undergo a surgery by which electrical stimulation through these small wires are tested in the lower spinal cord to prove this concept. Our strategy offers a novel, ground breaking study that will likely lead to a new generation of medical devices to restore standing and gait in SCI individuals. We are particularly interested in rehabilitation solutions for SCI individuals that have been injured in OIF/OEF campaigns.

To see if you are eligible, please view enrollment and study details at

<https://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/root/vumc.php?site=neurosurgery&doc=48069>

or call ISMS Study Coordinator/Study Nurse – Wuraola Adesinasi,
APRN, 615-875-5853

Vanderbilt University
1500 21st Ave South; RM 4333
Village at Vanderbilt
Nashville, TN 37212

Date of IRB Approval: 04/19/2019

Institutional Review Board

