

Volunteer Information and Questionnaire

Exoskeletons for SCI: A Feasibility Study

Study Information for Volunteers

Researchers at the National Spinal Injuries Centre (NSIC), Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury are planning and recruiting volunteers for a study to evaluate both walking and psychological outcomes after using an exoskeleton, the ReWalk™ device. The ReWalk™ suit is a light, wearable brace support suit featuring motors at the hip and knee joints, rechargeable batteries, an array of sensors, and a computer-based control system. Users wear a backpack device and braces on their legs, and select the activity they want from a remote control keypad located on their wrist, see Figure 1. The device allows ambulatory functionality in persons with lower limb disabilities. The ReWalk™ offers users the ability to stand from a seated position, to sit down, walk, and to ascend and descend stairs.



Figure 1: The ReWalk™ device from three views. The back pack holds the battery. Crutches required for stability are not displayed.

In this study, 10 volunteer participants with chronic spinal cord injury will undergo a 10-week training schedule for ambulation with the ReWalk™ device at the NSIC. We are seeking volunteers having a chronic (>12 months) spinal cord injury, aged 18 to 55 having a level of lesion at level C7 (Cervical Myotome 7) or below. Due to limited budget and resources, it should be noted that we are not in a position to reimburse travel related – or any other – costs made by volunteering participants; travelling expenses will not be reimbursed.

If you are - or know somebody who might be - interested in participating in this study and answer all following questions with a yes, we cordially invite you to contact one of the researchers (contact details next page).

Questionnaire

Please initial box

I have a neurological deficit as a result of a spinal cord injury sustained 1 year, or longer, ago.

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My age is between 18 and 55 years old.

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My level of injury is C7 or below.

[Note: Tick yes when you are not entirely sure.]

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I understand that travel, or accommodation related expenses will not be reimbursed by the researchers.

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I am interested to participate in this study and kindly request to be approached by a member of the research team to discuss more details and assess whether I am a suitable candidate for the research project.

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Contact details

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