Experiences with navigating and managing information in the community following spinal cord injury

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BACKGROUND

40% of Victorian patients readmitted to hospital with a secondary condition within two years.

$5.6M
To describe, from the perspective of people living with SCI, their experiences with navigating and managing information in the community.
METHODS

22 participants

- In-depth semi-structured interviews
- September-October 2015
- Analysed using a qualitative thematic framework approach
DEMOGRAPHICS

- 73% male
- 55% over 50
- 68% lived in a metro location
- 50% had transport-related injuries
RESULTS

- Sources of information
- Using SCI information
- Issues encountered
SOURCES OF INFORMATION

• Multiple sources of information
• Desire to act as a source of information and share knowledge
MULTIPLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION
MULTIPLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION
DESIRE TO ACT AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE
USING SCI INFORMATION

• Appraisal of SCI related information
• Learning to appraise information
• Delivery of information in a useful format
• Information used as a springboard for further searching
APPRAISAL OF SCI-RELATED INFORMATION
APPRAISAL OF SCI-RELATED INFORMATION

VideoScribe
LEARNING TO APPRAISE INFORMATION
ISSUES ENCOUNTERED

• Feeling isolated
• Difficulties encountered with access to information through health professionals
• Lack of information led to missed opportunities
• Frustration at the uncertainty surrounding SCI
FEELING ISOLATED
DIFFICULTIES WITH ACCESS TO INFORMATION THROUGH HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
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CONCLUSION

- Provision of support to people with SCI early after injury to navigate and manage information
- Education to improve health literacy
- Greater linkage with GPs prior to rehabilitation discharge
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THANK YOU

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