

# SPINAL CORD INJURIES

Spinal cord injuries include any damage suffered to the vertebrae, discs, tendons or nerves that make up the spinal cord.

Thoracic spine



Every year, around 17,000 spinal cord injuries occur in the United States.

Lumbar spine



Of all spinal cord injury patients, only 12% are employed after one year of suffering their injury.

Sacrum



## HOW THEY HAPPEN

In cases where the causes of spinal cord injuries are known:



Falls are the third leading cause of SCI.



Physical labor is the second leading cause of SCI.



The leading cause of SCI is motor vehicle accidents.

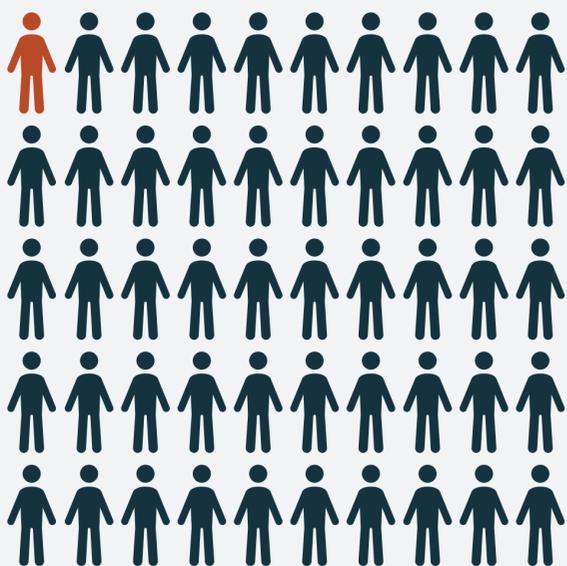
## WHEN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LEADS TO SCI

In a medical setting, SCI can be caused or worsened by:

- Incorrectly positioning a patient during surgery
- Failure to monitor spinal cord function during spinal surgery or aortic aneurysm surgery
- Improper chiropractic spine manipulation
- Failure to immobilize spine following trauma
- Failure to recognize spine fracture or dislocation after trauma



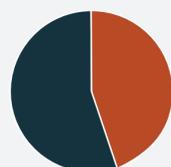
## PARALYSIS AND SPINAL CORD INJURIES



Around **1 in 50 people** in the U.S. have some form of paralysis.

The lifetime costs of living with paralysis range from **\$1.6 MILLION TO \$4.7 MILLION** for an average 25-year-old SCI patient, depending on the severity of the paralysis.

Those costs do not include indirect costs of an injury, including lost wages or lost productivity.



Spinal cord injury is the second-leading cause of paralysis, accounting for **27.3%** of all cases.

If you have been injured due to medical negligence, contact Cirignani, Heller & Harman, LLP to learn more about your options.

**CALL US TODAY AT 312.346.8700**

[www.chhlaw.com/spinal-cord-injuries](http://www.chhlaw.com/spinal-cord-injuries)

References:

<https://www.nscisc.uab.edu/Public/Facts%202016.pdf>

<https://www.christophereeve.org/living-with-paralysis/stats-about-paralysis>

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