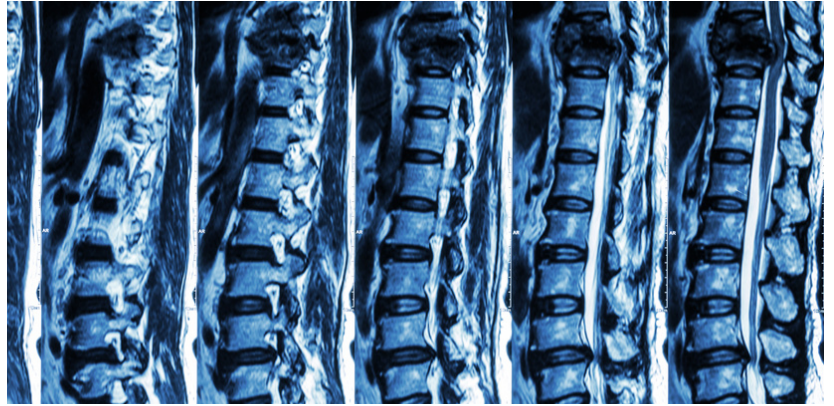


WHY IS CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IMPORTANT?



SPINAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE | CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

Involving consumers in spinal cord injury research bridges the gap between scientific exploration and the real-world experiences of those affected by spinal cord injury (SCI). This approach enriches research with invaluable insights, leading to more impactful outcomes.



KEY BENEFITS OF CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT

Focused research objectives: Consumers provide a unique perspective based on their personal experiences with spinal issues. Their input ensures that research is directed towards the most relevant and urgent needs. This leads to more practical and applicable research outcomes, which are directly beneficial to those living with spinal cord injury. It's a shift from theoretical exploration to creating solutions that make a difference in daily life.

Enhanced quality of life outcomes: Consumer involvement directly affects the development of research outcomes that are truly meaningful. This includes breakthroughs in pain management, mobility aid advancements, and innovative rehabilitation practices. These improvements are focused on enhancing everyday comfort, independence, and the overall wellbeing of individuals affected by spinal issues.

Improved research design and methodology: The insights of consumers help shape research methodologies, making them more effective and practical. This consumer-informed approach results in studies that are more accurate, relevant, and user-friendly, leading to better participation and more reliable findings.

Spinal Research Institute: thesri.org

Antonio Vecchio, Community & Consumer Engagement Manager: antonio.vecchio@thesri.org

The Consumer Engagement Program is supported by the SRI's major partner, the IOOF Foundation. Resources are developed with the support of the John T Reid Charitable Trusts, The Marian and E.H. Flack Trust and the Brian M. Davis Charitable Foundation.