

# It takes two to tango revisited – a qualitative study on the integration and participation of people with SCI from an insider perspective

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and colleagues.



The project is inspired by a study on integration and disability called „It takes two to tango ...“

(van de Ven L, Post M, de Witte L, van de Heuvel W. It takes two to tango: the integration of people with disabilities into society. Disability & Society 2005; 20 (3): 311-329 )



# Background

- Social integration and participation are considered as major goals in SCI rehabilitation.
- However, nobody really knows how to get there or how to measure it!
- (Clinical) Research often stops where processes of integration or exclusion start to unfold.
- It is unclear what people with SCI themselves understand by integration and participation.



# Main Study Objectives I:

- to reconstruct the concepts of integration and participation from the experiences of people living with SCI;
- to come to definitions of integration and participation rooted in people's life worlds;
- to identify perceived determinants of integration and participation (over the course of living with SCI);
- to learn about strategies people apply in order to reach satisfactory levels of integration and participation.



# Main Study Objectives II:

- to compare these issues with regard to (amongst others)
  - different European countries.



# Study Design

- Qualitative survey with guided narrative interviews.
- Population: Adults with SCI living in the community.
- Currently, the interview guide is being pre-tested with 15 persons (quota with respect to gender, para-/tetraplegia).
- Up to now, extremely positive response in Switzerland.



# Future Challenges

- Sampling in different European countries?

- Funding for European study?

Idea:

Parallel to the pilot in Switzerland a grant for an expanded study will be submitted to the EU.

- Data management and analyses!



# Further information, ideas, critique?

Please do not hesitate to contact us under:

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Thanks for your attention!

Any questions?

