IMPROVING SCI TREATMENT & REHABILITATION IN MALAYSIA

- A Consumer Perspective -

Bathmavathi Krishnan
Association of Women With Disabilities Malaysia
BASIC FACTS

- Malaysia has a population of 28 million.
- Has one of the highest number of motor vehicle accidents
- Results in increase of SCI persons
- Insufficient facilities to treat & provide rehabilitation for SCI
- No dedicated wards or hospitals for SCI
- SCI placed in orthopaedic wards
HOSPITALS IN MALAYSIA TREATING SCI

- University of Malaya Medical Centre
- National University Medical Centre
- Kuala Lumpur Hospital
- Sungai Buloh Hospital
- Seremban Hospital
- Ipoh Hospital
- Penang Hospital
- Kota Bahru Hospital
- Johor Bahru Hospital
- Kota Kinabalu Hospital
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UM</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>922</td>
<td>1044</td>
<td>1126</td>
<td>1312</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>2809</td>
<td>3909</td>
<td>3168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USM</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>1129</td>
<td>1287</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>2564</td>
<td>3924</td>
<td>2952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKM</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>1515</td>
<td>2375</td>
<td>2642</td>
<td>2195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPM</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>1494</td>
<td>2512</td>
<td>3024</td>
<td>2666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTM</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>1052</td>
<td>1652</td>
<td>1249</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [http://medicine.um.edu.my/?modul=RESEARCH&pilihan=%3E%3E___Research_Statistic](http://medicine.um.edu.my/?modul=RESEARCH&pilihan=%3E%3E___Research_Statistic)
Example of Published Research


(.... Rehabilitation professionals were expected to initiate sexual counseling by 62.5% of subjects. **Conclusion:** The effect of SCIs on sexual function is tremendous. Sexual counseling services must be improved and take into account the impact of psychological factors.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCI SUPPORT GROUPS IN MALAYSIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Malaysian Spinal Injuries Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Perwira K9 (Bravehearts of K9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. East Coast Spinal Injury Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Kuching Spinal Injury Association</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT DO SCI NEED?

- Comprehensive Rehabilitation
  - Counselling in Sexuality & Reproduction
  - Pressure Sore management
  - Assistive technology
  - Information on SCI
- Information on latest developments in stem cell therapy
Status Of Stem Cell Research In Malaysia

- Relatively new in Malaysia
- No legislation yet
- Much interest and anxiety among SCI persons
- SCI community has no information on this
Challenges Faced By SCI

- SCI management low priority
- shortage of staff at Hospitals
- shortage of beds in wards, high turnover of patients.
- discharged prematurely before SCI ready to adapt to new condition.
- care at initial stage crucial to prevent secondary complications arising from SCI later
- Lack of information about SCI (those not Internet savvy)
Channels of Communication

- Dialogues & seminars
- Website Forum
- Email group discussions
- Facebook
ADVOCACY

Persons with Disabilities Act 2008
   Sect. 35 – 37 - Access to Health
   Prevention of further occurrence of disabilities
   Availability of health personnel
   Sect. 38 - Lifelong protection and social support system

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
   Article 25 - Health

Ascon SCI Network
Global SCI Consumer Network
Conclusion ...

Platform for SCI consumers to communicate their needs to medical & rehabilitation practitioners & policy makers

Global SCI Network to play a crucial role to bridge the gap between SCI research and application.
Thank You !