

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

Recognizing the Contributors to the Updated Guidelines For the Management of Acute Cervical Spine and Spinal Cord Injuries

September 27, 2013


Mr. Speaker, there are an estimated 12,000 spinal cord injuries every year in the United States. These injuries most often result in temporary or permanent loss of sensation and paralysis, and they can forever change the lives of those who have been injured. However, thanks to the dedication of top scientists and medical professionals across the country, we hold out hope for more effective treatments, and one day, a possible cure.


In recognition of September as Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month, we'd like to take this time to acknowledge the leadership of several neurosurgeons who worked diligently to review and update the Guidelines for the Management of Acute Cervical Spine and Spinal Cord Injuries, published in the March 2013 edition of Neurosurgery. This work describes the "state of the literature" with regard to the treatment of patients with cervical spine and spinal cord injuries and is a useful guide to help clinicians make important decisions in the care of their patients.


The contributing members of this work include Mark N. Hadley, Division of Neurological Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Beverly C. Walters, Division of Neurological Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham and Inova Health System in Falls Church, Virginia; Bizhan Aarabi, Department of Neurosurgery, University of Maryland; Sanjay S. Dhall, Department of Neurosurgery, Emory University; Daniel E. Gelb, Department of Orthopaedics, University of Maryland; Mark R. Harrigan, Division of Neurological Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham; R. John Hurlbert, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada; Curtis J. Rozelle, Division of Neurological Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham and Children's Hospital of Alabama; Timothy C. Ryken, Iowa Spine and Brain Institute, University of Iowa; Nicholas Theodore, Division of Neurological Surgery, Barrow Neurological Institute.

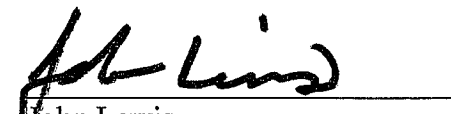
Mr. Speaker, the standardization and refinement of surgical techniques over the last decade embodied in this work is a substantial accomplishment. It is a testament to the experience and dedication of its contributors, and we hope you will join us in recognizing them for their impressive work. Due to their commitment, numerous lives are improved daily through the increased understanding and treatment of spinal cord injuries.


Sincerely,



Jim Langevin
Member of Congress


Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress


Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress


John Lewis
Member of Congress


Bruce L. Braley
Member of Congress


Ed Pastor
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