



[What is Inflammation of the Spinal Cord?](#)

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When an individual's [spinal cord](#) experiences a sudden shock to its system due to a strong impact, a virus, or birth defect, it affects the mobility and sensation of the infected person. However, this is only the first of the many issues that the person experiences. In many cases, it is possible for the [injury](#) to worsen as the spinal cord becomes more inflamed.

Medical professionals claim that many injuries to the spinal cord not only affect an individual's nerves but it also causes [inflammation or swelling](#) every single year. In fact, it has been reported that there are 8,000 new spinal cord related cases reported every single year. Almost half a million people in the United States alone have spinal cord injuries and have to deal with the secondary problem of inflammation.

Inflammation of the spinal cord is considered secondary but nonetheless equally threatening. It also can affect whether or not the damage is permanent or temporary. This is one of the main reasons why doctors work hard to prevent [inflammation of the spinal cord](#). This can be extremely difficult to control because our bodies naturally respond to sudden impact with swelling. Upon impact, an individual's immune system reacts and releases cells that move towards to affected area. Once these cells reach their destination, they release a chemical that makes the fluids increases. If this happens to an individual's arm or leg, this would not cause a problem. In fact, the individual would only see is a bump from the skin expanding, and eventually with an ice pack, the swelling subsides.

However, in the case of the spinal cord, there is no expansion because the space where the fluid builds up is limited, and this causes additional pressure on your nerves and even cause internal bleeding. If the pressure is not relieved in any way, permanent damage to your spinal cord is what will happen. This is why doctors would advice surgery to relieve the pressure.

One kind of disorder that can develop is known as Syringomyelia that is a fluid cyst in the spinal cord. This cyst can grow and cause immense permanent damage to your spinal cord. Usually this cyst starts around the neck area which is already the highest red zone in spinal injuries because it will affects everything beneath the neck, such as sensation and mobility, including paralysis.

Another kind of spinal cord inflammation is Myelitis that is a rare condition that afflicts less than a quarter of a million people in the United States. There are over 7 kinds of Myelitis, but generally it is caused when the membranes around the spinal cord begin to swell. As a result, the individual

may experience symptoms including pain, speech changes, violent spasms, feeling of suffocation, bloating, chills and constipation.

It is also possible for inflammation of the spinal cord to be caused by bone fragments or foreign objects applying pressure on the nerves, and the best way to remove this kind of pressure is through surgery. For damaged vertebrae, realignment through surgery is also the best solution.

In conclusion, if an individual experiences a violent or sudden impact to the head or back, you must seek medical attention immediately. Sometimes, the pain will only start to be felt after a day, and without medical attention, it could cause permanent damage. Therefore, the sooner they are able to get medical attention, the better is their prognosis for full and complete recovery and the more likely they can avoid spinal cord inflammation.

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