

All About Spinal Cord Injuries

by [John Demas](#) on 08/05/10 at 10:37 am

[Spinal cord injuries](#) cause a myriad of different problems for the infected individual. You see, the spinal cord is about 17 to 18 inches long and although it doesn't seem very long, when it is involved in a sudden and heavy impact, this can cause a lot of damage. In fact, the location of the damage is important because the higher affected area affected, the more extensive the damage tends to be.

Sadly, many of the hundreds of thousands of *spinal cord injuries* could have been avoided if the right precautions were taken such as wearing seatbelts or protective gear when playing contact sports, or by simply being alert when crossing the street.

The initial impact response for [any accident](#) is to leave the victim alone as long as he can breathe, and wait for the medical emergency team to handle transporting the victim to the nearest hospital. There are two main concerns with spinal cord injury: the initial and direct injuries, and the secondary injuries that could arise as a response to the initial impact.

After a spinal cord injury, it is very important to deal with the initial damage and stabilize the patient. This means treating any open wounds, ensuring proper respiratory function, and removing any bone fragments or foreign objects that may cause swelling.

Next, one has to wait patiently to further evaluate the damage. In addition, one hopes that little to no inflammation occurs from the initial impact because this will aggravate the situation and can cause possible paralysis (temporary or permanent).

Doctors will then look for responses to stimuli such as talking, pinching or tickling body parts like fingers and toes to see if there is any response. If there are none, this is not yet any indication of paralysis as sensation and the ability to move can be improved through therapy. With this in mind, physicians believe that the after care of a spinal cord injured individual is just as important as the initial care.

Much has been said about the emotional trauma to a person with [spinal cord injuries](#), and often it is their emotional state that could hamper their progress and healing. Admittedly, the road to recovery is going to be tough but there are solutions that have been put in place that can help the family and victim deal with the sudden changes in their lives. For instance, they can seek the help of support groups, civic organizations, and even their church to help them with their struggles. If the patient is a victim and was just in the wrong place at the wrong time, then he can seek compensation through insurance claims and civil lawsuits.

What is important though is to believe that things can get better because the power of the mind and spirit can oftentimes cause miracles to happen. Nothing is impossible if you believe and work on getting better. This means therapy and the right rehabilitation program.

***[Demas & Rosenthal](#)** has been representing injury victims for nearly twenty years. We are committed to offering the highest quality representation and level of service. We have extensive experience handling a variety of brain injury and have the resources to take on major corporations and insurance companies; Please do not rely or act solely upon the information provided in this article. Please consider getting a consultation immediately. The **[best personal injury law firms](#)** will provide a free consultation. **[Demas & Rosenthal](#)** will provide a free, confidential consultation if you were injured. The free consultation offer extends to family members as well.*