

Malignant Spinal Cord Compression and rehabilitation needs

People with Malignant Spinal Cord Compression often experience significant functional losses coupled with the emotional distress associated with advancing disease. However published evidence specifically examining the need, availability and effectiveness of rehabilitation with Malignant spinal cord compression patients is limited.

Due to the nature of the disease and presentation at late stage of disease the focus of rehabilitation is different from those diagnosed with traumatic spinal cord compression. The duration of time spent with a hospital environment is often short and ability to access specialist local or home based rehabilitation programmes is often very limited.

What are the rehabilitation needs of those newly diagnosed with a malignant spinal cord compression?

Are these needs being identified, and met?

What is the availability of local rehabilitation and the barriers to accessing such services?

What is the impact of the rehabilitation needs not being identified and met?