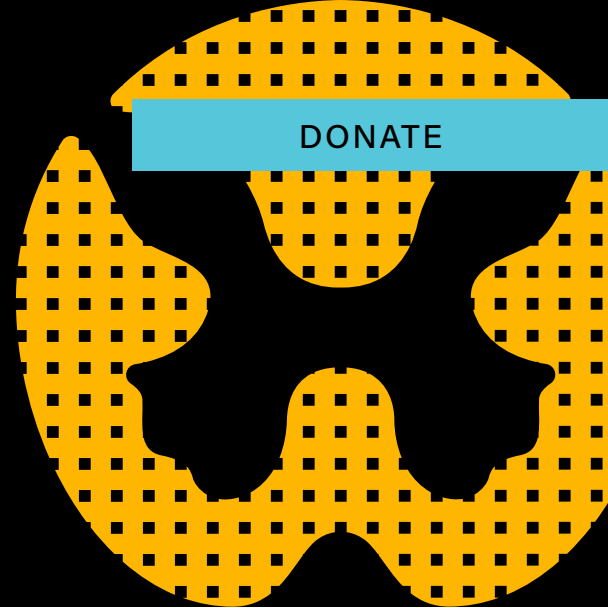


Praxis PLEX Engagement

Engaging people with spinal cord injury (SCI) in clinical research and their own health decision-making is critical to achieving meaningful advances in SCI care.



Translating Ideas Into Impact

At Praxis, we partner people living with spinal cord injury with researchers, care providers and innovators.

Engaging people with lived experience in our research helps ensure meaningful participation in decision-making, improves study design and adds confidence that our work is relevant and valuable to the SCI community.

Praxis persons with lived experience (PLEX) program partners with community organizations worldwide to facilitate collaboration between PLEX, researchers, funders, policymakers, care providers and industry. We employ an integrated knowledge translation (IKT) approach, involving end-users of knowledge (PLEX, clinicians, decision and policymakers) throughout the entire research continuum, increasing relevance and reducing costs.

We are recognized as a world leader in IKT and have advised major research organizations, including the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the National Institutes of Health in the USA.

To view this world class approach, visit <https://ikt.ok.ubc.ca/>



PLEX engagement is founded on the understanding that those affected by a decision have a right to be a part of the decision-making process and that their input will influence that decision.¹



PLEX of Spinal cord injury include people with SCI, their family and friends, as well as PLEX-focused community organizations and advocacy groups. Engagement occurs when PLEX have a meaningful and active role in decision-making, setting priorities, conducting research, and translating research knowledge for the benefit of its intended users.

¹ Public Participation Pillars, IAP2.

Our Funders

Praxis is proud to be supported by



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Meet the Praxis PLEX Team

The PLEX Engagement Program includes four individuals living with SCI. It was created to engage the SCI community to become more involved in research, health care and advocacy.



John Chernesky
PLEX Engagement Program Manager

With over 25 years of lived experience of SCI since being paralyzed, John has participated in dozens of research studies in addition to being a co-investigator on a number of research projects. He works closely with PLEX to ensure research is addressing their priorities. He is a recognized leader in engagement and integrated knowledge translation and has presented to researchers, clinicians and PLEX around the world.



Chris Marks
Regional Community Liaison

Chris has over a decade of experience advocating for inclusion and mobility at provincial, municipal and individual levels for BC. Chris has over 15 years of lived experience with a spinal cord injury after he was paralyzed as a passenger in a single-vehicle incident.



James Hektner
Regional Community Liaison

James works to strengthen partnerships between the community, research and health care systems by engaging peers and networking with patient partner health initiatives and researchers. After a motor vehicle accident in 1997, James has nearly 25 years of lived experience with a T-6, AIS-A SCI.



Richard Peter
Indigenous Peoples' Liaison

Richard is a proud member of the Cowichan Tribes on Vancouver Island. He is a Paralympic athlete and a multi-Gold medalist representing Canada. With over 40 years of lived experience with a T10, AIS-B SCI, he has developed extensive connections through his longstanding community involvement within the Indigenous and spinal cord injury communities.



Learn more about the passionate individuals who drive our mission. Visit the Praxis PLEX Engagement Team [online](#) and find the [roadmap](#).



Interested in speaking opportunities with the PLEX Engagement Team? Contact John Chernesky jchernesky@praxisinstitute.org.



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