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Spinal Cord Institute
Institut de la moelle épinière

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The New Spinal Cord Injury Standard (CAN/HSO S3402:2024)
Lay Summary

Praxis Spinal Cord Institute, the Health Standards Organization (HSO), and Accreditation Canada are pleased to announce Canada's New People-Centred Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Standard. Developed with leadership and engagement of people with lived experience (PLEX) of SCI, the new SCI Standard establishes guidelines for care across the continuum that is integrated, safe, reliable, and high-quality. The central focus of the new Standard is on people-centred care that adopts the perspectives of everyone involved in care, including people living with SCI and their chosen caregiver.

Key guidelines emphasize the importance of creating personalized care plans in collaboration with individuals and their families to facilitate smooth transitions, self-management, and return to the community. The Standard also provides guidelines for organizations and teams on how to deliver care that is accessible, equitable, and effective to accommodate the complex and unique health needs of individuals with SCI. Furthermore, it highlights the importance of strong, well-supported teams and safe working environments. It also promotes continuous quality improvement by encouraging organizations to use research, set clear goals, and regularly review their practices. Overall, the Standard aims to ensure that people with SCI receive care that is coordinated, culturally sensitive, and constantly improving.

01 Integration across the Continuum of Care - *ensures seamless transitions and continuity of care across settings.*	02 People-Centred Care - *protects the rights of people receiving care and promotes a safe & respectful environment.*	03 Comprehensive Assessments - *ensure that care teams have a holistic understanding of an individual's health, goals, needs and preferences.*
04 Individualized Care Planning - *means that care is focused around each person's unique needs and expectations.*	05 Workforce Support - *ensures that care teams have the skills and tools to deliver team-based, people-centered care.*	06 Continuous Quality Improvement - *means that teams are regularly evaluating their practices, leading to measurable improvements in care delivery, experiences, and health outcomes.*