

Collaboration Drives Impact

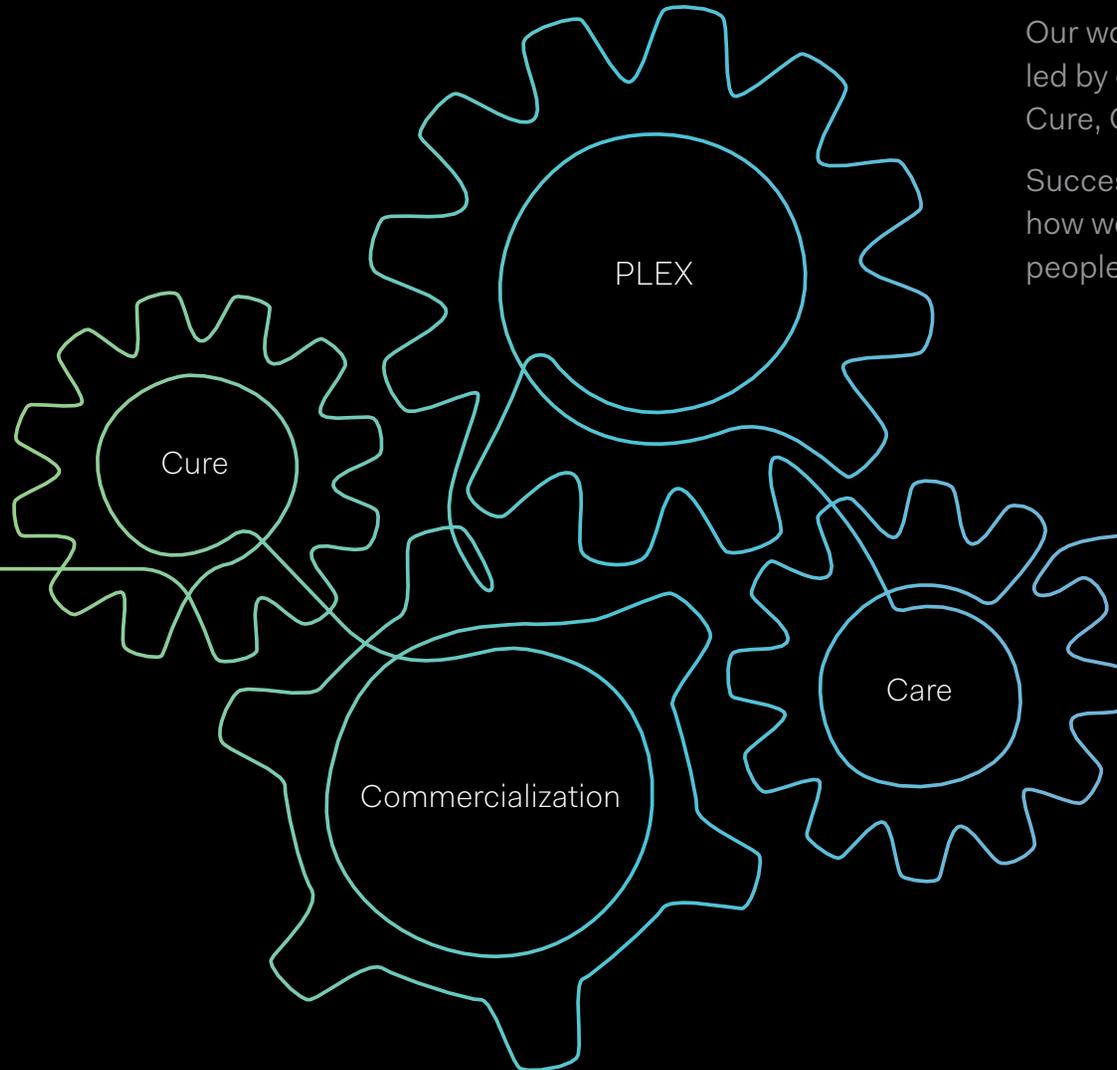
Making a difference in the lives
of those living with SCI



PRAXIS

Spinal Cord Institute
Institut de la moelle épinière

What We Do



Praxis is a Canadian-based not-for-profit organization that leads global collaboration in spinal cord injury (SCI) research, innovation and care. We accelerate the translation of discoveries and best practices into improved treatments for people with spinal cord injuries.

Our work is driven by the priorities of people with SCI and led by our four teams — PLEX (people with lived experience), Cure, Care and Commercialization.

Success means **IMPACT**; we measure our success through how we make a difference and improve quality of life for people living with SCI and the SCI community.

Table of Contents

- 02 What We Do
- 03 Table of Contents
Land Acknowledgement

Impact Stories

- 04 ProACTIVE Toolkit
Encouraging Physical Activity
Boosts Outcomes
- 06 Improving Patient Outcomes in Interior Health
Bringing Lived Perspectives to Local SCI Care
- 08 Indigenous Initiatives
Same, But Different
- 10 Sitting Solutions
Kalogon's Wheelchair Cushion
Reduces Pressure Injury Risk
- 12 Spinal Cord Stimulation
More Than Just the Ability to Walk
- 14 CASPER Study
Pressure Research Delivers Life Changing
Tech and Clinical Best Practices

Message from our Leadership

- 16 Collaborating Drives Impact

Praxis Vision

- 17 Mission, Vision and Values

Statistics Summary

- 18 Impact Metrics

Fundraising

- 19 Collaboration and Community
Outreach Creates Awareness

Making a Difference

- 20 Praxis Active Partners
- 21 Donor List
- 22 Board and Committees

Financial Section

- 24 Statement of Operations
and Fund Balances
- 25 Statement of Cash Flows

Contact Information

- 26 Contacts and Corporate Information

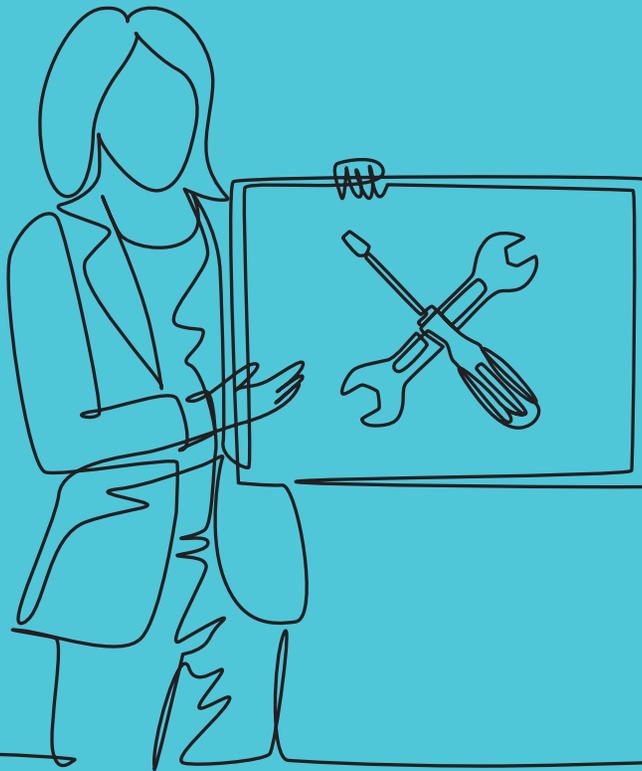
Praxis Land Acknowledgement

Praxis Spinal Cord Institute would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we are located is on the unceded traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, specifically the shared traditional territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səlil'ilw'əta? (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) First Nations.



Encouraging Physical Activity Boosts Outcomes

ProACTIVE toolkit helps boost fitness during SCI rehab and beyond



When individuals return to living in the community after a spinal cord injury, there is a significant reduction in physical activity. This lack of activity impacts an individual's health and recovery. To address this, researchers and physiotherapists are combining peer coaching with exercise guidelines from the [ProACTIVE toolkit](#) to set motivational milestones.

For many patients with an SCI in B.C., the recovery process starts with acute stage clinical management right after the injury. Once stabilized, care often moves into rehabilitation in the hospital, followed by a return to the community. The initial two phases are closely supervised but in the community many individuals are unsupported and can end up with reduced physical activity and poor health outcomes.

The [ProACTIVE toolkit](#) was developed with support from Praxis with input from more than 300 members of the SCI community in B.C. Developed by physiotherapists and researchers from UBC Okanagan, the toolkit focuses beyond rehab towards physical activity, promoting leisure time activity and wheeling or active transportation. Current guidelines state that people with SCI should aim for 20 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity aerobic activity and three sets of eight to ten repetitions of strength training exercises for each major functioning muscle group twice a week for fitness. For cardiometabolic health, they should also aim for 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity aerobic activity at least three times per week.

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A recent study funded by Praxis has looked at the impact peer coaching and support had on physical activity levels among those returning to the community, using the ProACTIVE toolkit as a framework and guide for exercise. Participants and physiotherapists found the results highly encouraging.

“Well, I would have to talk about the mental health aspect (of it)... there have been times where it was really dark. The (mental health boost is the) most important benefit that I’m getting from this, even though the physical benefit is massive as well. So, it is kind of tough, but I think without the mental the physical wouldn’t be possible.”

ProACTIVE study participant with SCI

“ The ProACTIVE project has changed how we provide support for our patients as they are discharged, by allowing us to start a conversation with them about overall physical activity and know that there is someone (SCI-BC peers) available in the community to follow up and continue to support them. Prior to this project, often therapists had no opportunity to provide a cardiovascular fitness program to patients, and the ProActive toolkit has given us a standard way to start this conversation.”

Therapists at GF Strong, Vancouver BC

“ This project allows patients to return to physical activity with the focus of incorporating it into their normal lives instead of being focused solely on their “rehab exercises”, which often are seen as temporary. For patients not yet ready to start a cardiovascular fitness routine when they are discharged from GF Strong, they can be followed up by SCI BC peers to support them when they are ready.”

Therapists at GF Strong

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Bringing Lived Perspectives to Local SCI Care

Outreach brings best practices for SCI care to remote and rural practitioners

Praxis BC Interior Regional Clinical Liaison, Shannon Rockall, and Community Liaison, James Hektner hosted a series of supplementary education sessions for clinical practitioners to tackle the lack of local specialized services for SCI. Using an integrated knowledge translation (IKT) model that involved panel sessions with people living with experience of SCI (PLEX), James and Shannon hosted [both hands-on and virtual workshops](#).

Sustaining a spinal cord injury causes varying degrees of paralysis in addition to lifelong risk from secondary complications such as pressure injury. Without proper care, these are often extremely debilitating or even fatal. Secondary complications are difficult to diagnose and to treat unless care providers are fully prepared. And treatment often needs prolonged bed rest and hospitalization, both of which impact quality of life.

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Quality of care and support for spinal cord injury is essential for quality of life and connecting back into the community.

However, the standard of care often depends on where you are treated and where you live. Best practices in care are often limited to urban centres of excellence so people living with SCI are often required to travel to the Lower Mainland to access specialized services. As a solution, SCI workshops that bring local providers up-to-speed can help fill knowledge gaps and bring best practices into action.

Feedback showed that sessions made an impact on the attendees. Pre- and post-session polling showed not only enthusiasm for the format and the topics covered, but also increased confidence and awareness of the issues raised. Attendees noted how important it was for them to hear directly from PLEX and how much more aware they felt of priorities in care. Feedback also showed increasing awareness of common secondary issues, such as pressure injuries and respiratory health.

Outreach increases knowledge and clinical practice skills to ensure higher quality care is delivered locally. More sessions are planned, and they're already oversubscribed; the team will continue establishing networks and communities of practice in the region.

Feedback from workshop participants:

“Learned a lot about how experiences can be so different even with similar injuries ‘on paper’. Good reminder to be person-centered and listen to my clients.”

“What I liked best about the workshop was hearing the functional and lived-experience perspectives. I can do my own reading about spinal cord injury medically; however, it was SO valuable to talk to someone about it and hear about different functional options for functional differences.”



Same, But Different

Indigenous Experience of SCI in Canada

Inequity in care for people living with SCI in Canada isn't confined exclusively to geographical location. Although remote and rural communities often lack access to best practices for SCI diagnostics and care, Indigenous Canadians experience greater challenges living with SCI than the rest of the population. This stems mostly from the enduring legacy of colonialism. Indigenous people with lived experience of SCI face barriers to diagnosis, care and support that often remain unrecognized and unacknowledged. Our [work with Indigenous and research communities](#) seeks to better understand these challenges and collaborate to find solutions.

Praxis supports Indigenous academic research positions—two post-doctoral research positions and one contract professorship—to address ethical concerns and cultural boundaries when it comes to Indigenous health data. Part of the research into Indigenous SCI needs and priorities will come from data collected for the [Praxis-led Canadian National SCI Registry*](#), but before this happens, all involved need to understand that there is a duty of care towards the data that acknowledges the ethical concerns and cultural boundaries. There is reticence around self-identification and government interaction, and unwillingness to continue with what is a deficit model for describing Indigenous health and social issues. Establishing ethical frameworks and understanding the cultural implications of collecting and storing clinical data is essential for establishing a strong foundation.

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We are also working at the community level, supporting the creation of Indigenous-led SCI Networks to identify and then advance solutions to health issues and barriers.

Richard Peter, Indigenous Peoples' Liaison at Praxis, facilitates outreach to connect with Indigenous individuals and organizations as well as SCI associations, health care providers, researchers and public policy decision makers.

In November 2022, supported by a diverse, multi-disciplinary team at Praxis, Richard facilitated the first **Indigenous SCI Gathering** held with SCI BC in Vancouver, BC. As initial outreach to enable inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in SCI research and health care, the gathering heard from diverse voices and experiences. All attending gave personal insight into life as an Indigenous person with a disability, hearing about funding, access to wheelchairs, housing and loss of community. There's a diversity of needs that are not being addressed currently and the goal is to expand these gatherings into a regional SCI-focused Indigenous network to address this.

Indigenous perspectives are critical to Praxis' mission of improving quality of life and health outcomes for people with lived experience of SCI (PLEX). Collaborating with Indigenous researchers and communities helps prioritize and accelerate relevant research and innovation that addresses the particular SCI issues facing the Indigenous SCI community.

"Impacts for Indigenous health data governance in registries, biobanks need to be understood – there's a duty of care, responsibility towards data that acknowledges and acts on ethical concerns and cultural boundaries."

Dr. Melanie Jeffrey,
Praxis-funded postdoc researcher

"The challenge is bringing the right people to the table; what we know best is our people."

Attendee, first gathering Nov 2022

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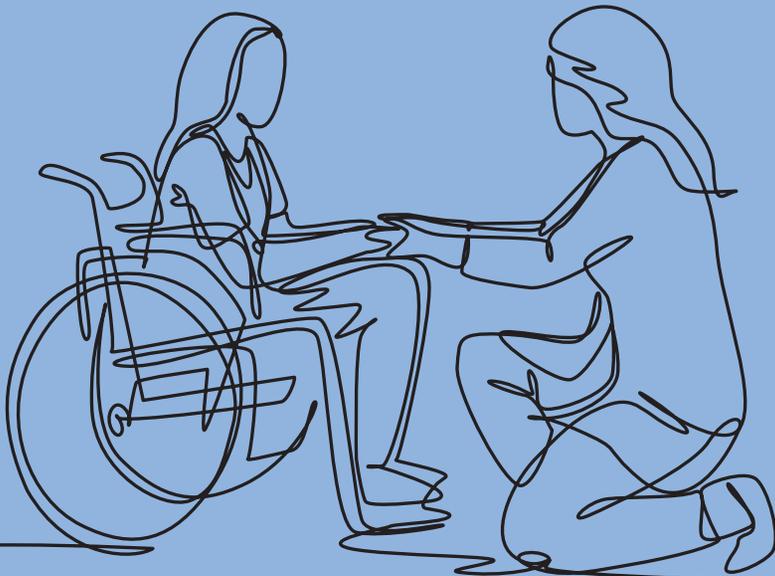


Sitting Solutions

Smart tech seat cushion automates, relieves and reduces pressure injury risk for wheelchair users

Spinal cord injury isn't just paralysis; it means living with heightened risk of serious and life-threatening secondary complications. One of these is the innocuously sounding bed sore, aka pressure injury. It comes from prolonged immobility in one position that results in skin damage through abrasion and loss of circulation. It might sound like just a break in the skin but to people living with SCI, it's serious. Healing can be prolonged, often requiring bed rest, and yes – sometimes it leads to death.

Wheelchair users are under constant risk of pressure sores from remaining in a seated position and need to constantly shift position to maintain skin health.



Impact Story

KALOGON'S WHEELCHAIR CUSHION REDUCES PRESSURE INJURY RISK

Kalagon, a Praxis commercialization program alum, has developed a solution. Their pressure-relieving seat cushion aims to help wheelchair users avoid pressure injuries and pain by automating regular changes in seated position multiple times per day. Machine learning helps 'orbit' support around the cushion to redistribute bodyweight through patent-pending air cell technology.

"Kalagon is freedom," said John Miller, one of Kalagon's first users. "I've been able to take pain-free road trips for the first time in 18 years; I've worked in the garden longer than I used to; I've traveled to see my grandchildren. Kalagon gave me my life back."

From [TechCrunch](#)

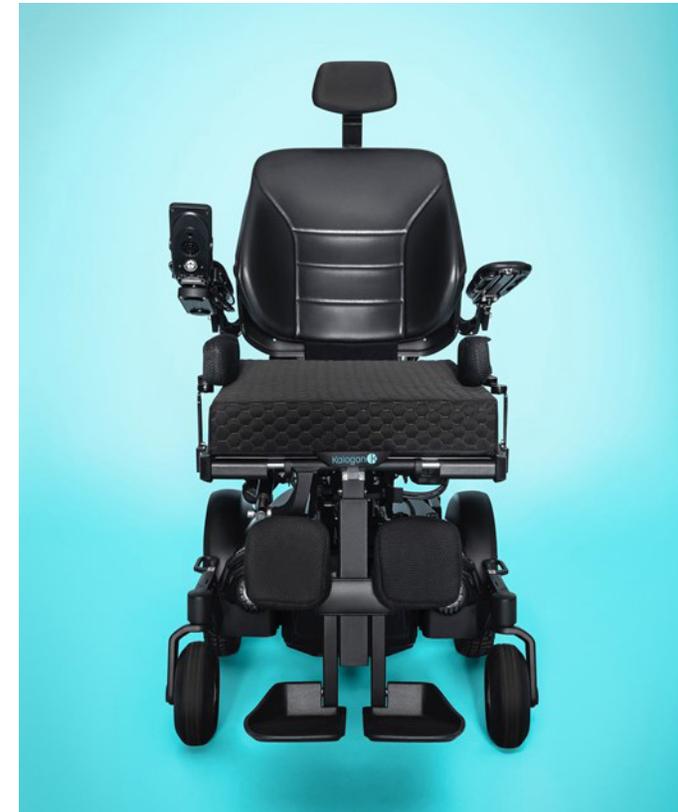
As part of Praxis's SCI incubate program, the Kalagon team were mentored by people with lived experience of SCI (PLEX) for user experience feedback to further refine the technology.

The device, which analyzes pressure points in real-time, adjusts the user's seating position so that blood flow through at-risk tissues is maintained. This aims to avoid damages and proactively prevents pressure sores. User studies are ongoing but recent success includes attention from Veterans Affairs in the United States, where the cushion is under evaluation in 20 of their hospitals. Kalagon also received a successful seed funding round that raised \$3.3 million along with support from the U.S. Air Force.

"Significant improvements in overall comfort, accelerated healing, and an ability to sit two times longer."

Early Kalagon Orbiter Smart Cushion User

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More Than Just the Ability to Walk

A life-changing therapy with potential for multiple benefits



Praxis Spinal Cord Institute support and outreach for spinal cord stimulation (SCS) research across Canada is helping to raise awareness for this exciting new treatment in spinal cord injury care. Grant funding, engagement with people with lived experience, an SCS research hub, commercialization mentoring, and literature reviews all help to translate opportunities from research into the hands of users.

SCI is more than just paralysis; it disrupts many other body systems, leading to issues with bowel and bladder emptying, temperature regulation, sexual dysfunction, blood pressure maintenance, and respiratory function among others. These seriously impact quality of life and can precipitate conditions such as autonomic dysreflexia that can be fatal.

SCS reduces many of the secondary complications arising post SCI and has the potential to impact quality of life.

A lot of the secondary complications that arise post-SCI that impact quality of life could be managed or abolished with SCS of specific spinal regions.

On-going research shows that non-invasive spinal cord stimulation therapy re-awakens dormant spinal circuits following an injury, and this restores partial bladder, bowel, and sexual function.

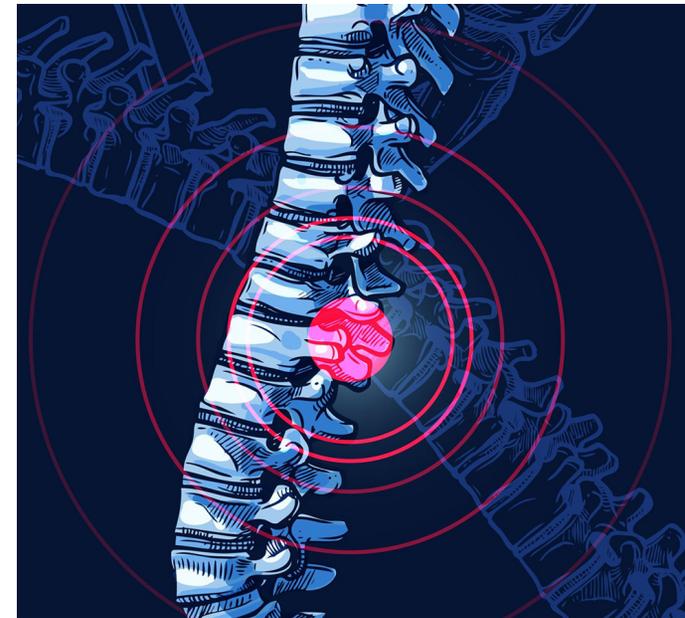
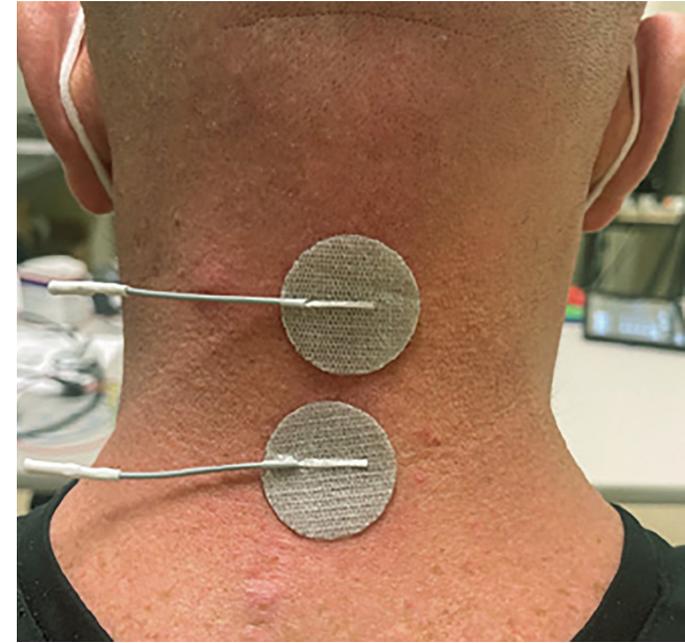
John Chernesky, Praxis PLEX Program Manager, has been living with SCI for more than 25 years. He took part in one of the Praxis-partner studies on spinal cord stimulation and its impact on SCI. Although the study focused on upper extremity function, John noticed better sleep, bowel and cardiovascular function increased strength and endurance, improved hand grip and fine motor skills. The impact extended down into his torso and lower limbs.

Spinal cord stimulation has the potential to be a game changer in the lives of many people living with SCI, but only where there is access to and support for clinical trials and commercialization of technology. Praxis support for spinal cord stimulation therapy has included grant funding and research support, engagement with and user feedback from PLEX, and commercialization mentoring for medical device innovation, which accelerates stimulation technology into clinical use.

“The positive effects were substantial; with an increase in strength and endurance, particularly in gross motor function, over a much longer time period with reduced fatigue and enhanced recovery.”

John Chernesky
([SCI Line interview](#) – taking part in SCS study)

*[Text-hyperlink](#)



Pressure Research Delivers Life Changing Tech and Clinical Best Practices

Research informs acute SCI care to enhance recovery, avoid further neurotrauma



Maintaining adequate spinal cord perfusion pressure (SCPP), for the circulation of blood to the spinal cord at the time of injury and during recovery improves neurological recovery. Praxis has supported surgeon-scientist Dr. Brian Kwon and his team at the University of British Columbia (UBC) as they lead research on personalizing SCPP management to each SCI patient's need. Data from these studies have shown that prompt and consistent intervention in the acute phase of injury maintains adequate SCPP and improves neurological recovery.

The work has been taken even further through the CASPER (Canadian-American Spinal Cord Perfusion Pressure and Biomarker) study. This [multicentre clinical study](#) funded by Praxis is developing protocols for use in clinical acute care. The study is also looking at whether draining cerebral spinal fluid helps maintain spinal cord perfusion to minimize further tissue damage.

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Praxis support for UBC study is developing protocols for use in clinical acute care.

New recommendations from the [AO Spine/Praxis Spinal Cord Institute Clinical Practice Guidelines](#) were presented for the first time at the [Global Spine Congress 2023](#) in Prague, May 31–June 3.

Praxis support of work from the Kwon lab has also led to development of next generation med tech for monitoring oxygenation and hemodynamics in the injured spinal cord. An implantable biosensor, based on Near-Infrared Spectroscopy technology, is implanted at the injury site during initial SCI trauma management surgery. It then gives real-time read outs so clinicians can optimize SCPP management during the acute phase of injury.

This new medtech, which is heading for commercialization in a partnership grant with the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, is part of a U.S. Defense Advanced Research Project Agency grant to revolutionize SCI treatments using innovative, implantable technologies.

“Results are already impacting standards of care for SCI in BC, with Praxis and AOSpine supporting the development of clinical practice guidelines to ensure this evidence is available worldwide.”

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Message from our Leadership

COLLABORATING DRIVES IMPACT

Collaboration brings up images of partnership, two or more teams coming together to work on a common project. As a global hub of research and innovation, collaboration is an essential part of our life, driving impact in the spinal cord injury community for health, wellness and a world without paralysis. Praxis—translating theory into action—happens best with teamwork; our best results come through collaboration.

For example, active collaboration created the ProACTIVE Toolkit that guides post-rehab activity for patients sustaining an SCI returning to the community; input from physiotherapists created a workable and practical resource that supports a return to active living post-injury.

“Collaboration is more than just multiplying effort; collaboration drives equity, diversity and inclusion for meaningful engagement.”

Collaboration avoids tokenism in research, in innovation, and in commercialization. A common thread running through all our work at Praxis is engagement with people living with SCI (PLEX). This kind of collaboration shows up as mentorship for companies and entrepreneurs developing medical technologies that address the many secondary complications following SCI.

Collaboration also shows as equity, diversity and inclusion. Indigenous experience of SCI, healthcare and disability is often overlooked, meaning that without their voices, we fail in simple foundational actions such as gathering clinical data and providing clinical care. Collaboration with Indigenous communities, PLEX and academics opens us up to learn about and respect cultural practices and community priorities that should influence our work.

In addition to thanking our volunteers and personal donors in and around the SCI community, we acknowledge the generous financial support from the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia and Genome BC. We're also grateful for the generosity and professionalism shown by our professional partner networks, the exemplary leadership of our dedicated Board of Directors, and the Praxis team. Each guides our vision and implements our work, driving theory into practice and knowledge into action. From the strength of these collaborations, Praxis continues to transform the lives of people with SCI.



Bill Barrable
Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Ian Rigby
Chair, Board of Directors



Our Vision

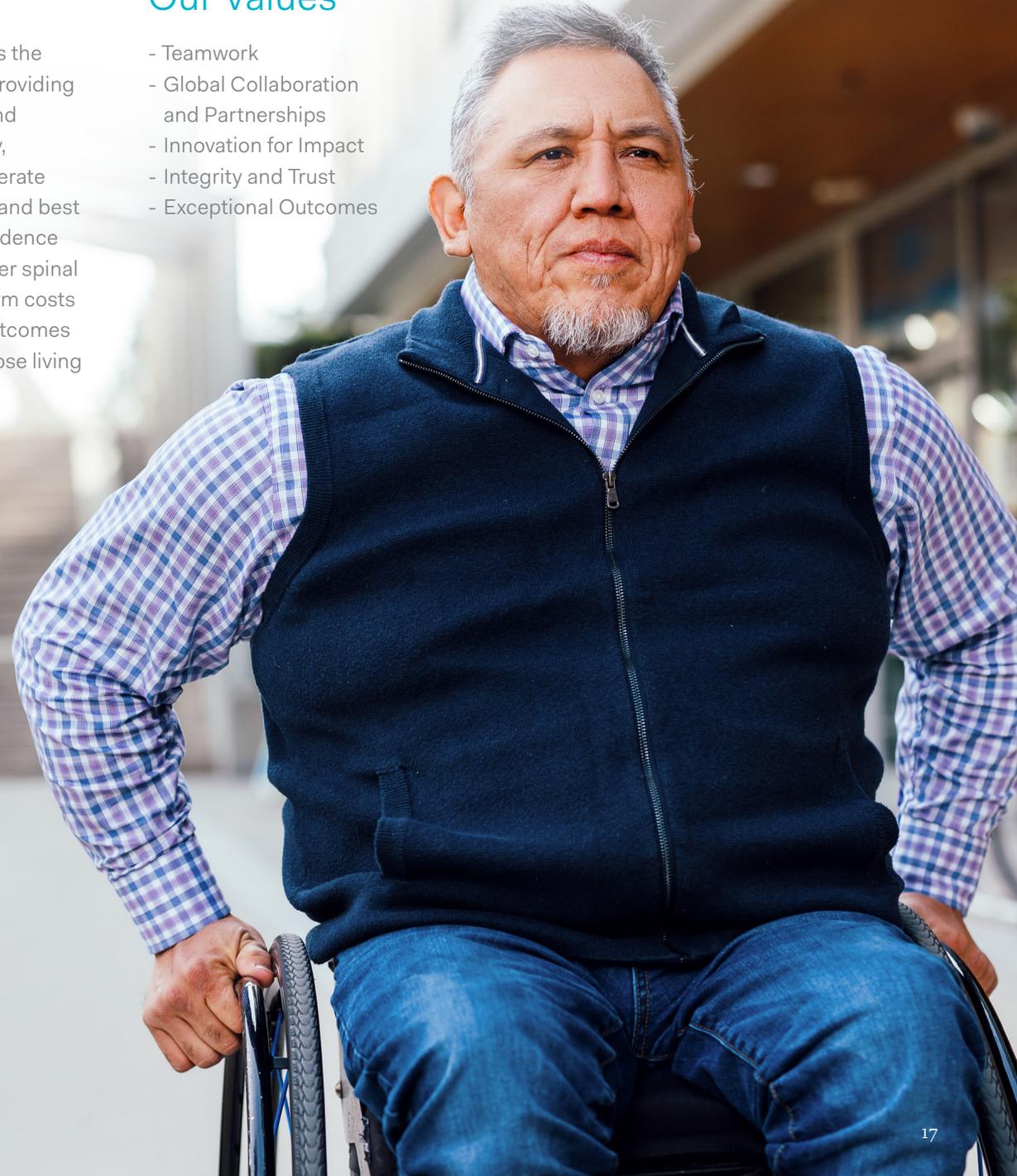
A world without paralysis after spinal cord injury.

Our Mission

To lead collaboration across the global SCI community by providing resources, infrastructure and knowledge. Also, to identify, develop, validate and accelerate the translation of evidence and best practices to reduce the incidence and severity of paralysis after spinal cord injury, reduce long-term costs and improve health care outcomes and the quality of life for those living with spinal cord injury.

Our Values

- Teamwork
- Global Collaboration and Partnerships
- Innovation for Impact
- Integrity and Trust
- Exceptional Outcomes





Encouraging Collaboration on a National and Global Scale

84

Active partners national and internationally



Improving Spinal Cord Injury Care, Accelerating Cure-Based Research

30

Participating facilities in Praxis-led Canadian National SCI Registry*

6,552

Canadians with spinal cord injury benefited from the implementation of best practices

50%

Praxis-led Canadian National SCI Registry network accredited with Accreditation Canada's Qmentum Standards for Spinal Cord Injury

\$2,135M

Grant funding distributed to support and accelerate SCI research and best practice implementation (Cure and Care Apr2022/Mar2023)



Engaging People with Lived Experience

1,445

Enrolments in Praxis-led Canadian National SCI Registry (April 2022 - March 2023)

11,615

Total participants in Praxis-led Canadian National SCI Registry*

5

Praxis people with lived experience team members



Driving Innovation since 2019

28

SMEs supported**

55

Grad students engaged in Ideation Clinic - a facilitated innovation development program

18

Total number of prototypes ready for demonstration in an operational environment

9

Number of products, processes, services or technologies to market

54

Entrepreneurs trained since start of accelerator programs

2,160

Total hours of 1:1 mentorship with SMEs

\$840K

Venture funding provided to SMEs to advance innovations in spinal cord injury cure and care

\$21.5M

Leveraged funding provided to participants developing new life-changing products after participation in Praxis programs

* Rick Hansen SCI Registry (RHSCIR)

** SME - small-to-medium enterprise

Note: these metrics cover life of institute unless otherwise specified

Collaboration and Community Outreach Creates Awareness

Shim's Ride is an annual cycling event in Victoria, BC that fundraises for spinal cord injury research and innovation. Shim's Ride was started by friends of Mathew Szymanowski aka "Shim", who was profoundly injured during a bike ride.

The group chose to focus on supporting health technology and collaborating with Praxis. The group of friends are keen to support medtech innovation that answers the priorities of the SCI community to relieve or prevent debilitating secondary complications that are common following injury.

Working together with Praxis, their team not only brings communities together but also raises awareness and funds for people living with SCI. In the summer of 2022, the Shim's Ride team collected over \$24,000 from their event—a criterium bike race—through donations and merchandise sales.

Community outreach and partnership with Praxis helps Shim's Ride meet their goal of improving the quality of life for Shim and the greater SCI community.

“Working with the team at Praxis made it easy for us to focus on the event itself and reach out to our community. Collaborating with Praxis to support the SCI community makes sense; we know that our vision aligns with theirs and that our donations make a meaningful impact in the lives of people living with SCI. Working for a second summer with the Praxis team helps us support programs to accelerate technology into use.”

Shim's Ride

Image Above: Praxis at Shim's Ride 2022; Chris Marks, Andrew Forshner, Richard Peter, Bill Barrable (from left to right)

Image Below: Praxis at Shim's Ride 2022



Making a Difference

IN THE LIVES OF THOSE LIVING WITH SPINAL CORD INJURY

Praxis Active Partners

Canadian

Canadian Friends of Hebrew University

India-Canada Centre for Innovative
Multidisciplinary Partnerships to Accelerate
Community Transformation and Sustainability
(IC-Impacts - Canadian-Indian Research
Collaborative in SCI Innovations)

The University of British Columbia
– Faculty of Medicine
– Faculty of Human and Social Development,
School of Health and Exercise Sciences
– School of Biomedical Engineering

Michael Smith Health Research BC

International Collaboration
on Repair Discoveries (ICORD)

Vancouver Coastal Health Authority

Simon Fraser University
– Department of Gerontology
– Faculty of Engineering

University of Alberta
– Donadeo Innovation Centre for Engineering
– Faculty of Medicine
– Faculty of Nursing

University of Toronto
– Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical
Engineering (IBBME)
– Innovations & Partnership Office

University of Calgary
– The Governors of the University of Calgary
– Clinical Research Unit (CRU)

Health Standards Organization

Spinal Cord Injury BC

Genome BC

University of Waterloo - Centre for
Bioengineering and Biotechnology

McMaster University – Faculty of
Health Sciences

University of Manitoba
– University of Manitoba Spinal Cord
Research Centre

University Health Network

The Governors of the University of Alberta

Eastern Regional Health Authority

Regional Health Authority B

Université de Montréal - Department of
Specialized Medicine

Naqi Logix

Focal Lines Technologies

Game Changer Technologies

Inteligex

University of Saskatchewan

Nova Scotia Health Authority

Lawson Research Institute

Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation

Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

Unity Health Toronto

Sunnybrook Research Institute

CHU de Québec – Université Laval

Centre Intégré Universitaire de Santé et de
Services Sociaux (CIUSSS) Nord-de-L'Île-
de-Montréal

Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de
services sociaux de la Capitale-Nationale
(CIUSSS-CN)

Centre Intégré Universitaire de Santé et de
Services Sociaux du Centre-Sud-de-L'Île-
de-Montréal

Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de
services sociaux de la Capitale-Nationale
(CIUSSS-CN)

La Corporation de L'Ecole Polytechnique
de Montréal

Canadian Spine Outcomes and
Research Network

International

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Indian Spinal Injuries Centre

Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

International Spinal Cord Society (ISCOS)

Comphy SA

inContAlert

Battelle

Munevo

ONWARD

AO Spine

New Zealand Spinal Cord Injury Registry

Praxis-led National Spinal Cord Injury Registry Facilities

GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre

Vancouver General Hospital

Foothills Hospital

Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital

Royal Alexandra Hospital

University of Alberta Hospital

Royal University Hospital

Saskatoon City Hospital

Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute -
Lyndhurst Centre

St. Michael's Hospital

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Toronto Western Hospital

Hamilton Regional Rehabilitation Centre

Hamilton General Hospital

Parkwood Institute

University Hospital

Victoria Hospital

Ottawa Hospital - Rehabilitation Centre

Ottawa General Hospital

Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus

Institut de réadaptation en déficience
physique de Québec

Hôpital du Sacré-Coeur de Montréal

l'Institut deréadaptation Gingras-Lindsay-
de-Montréal Rehabilitation Institute (IRGLM)

Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre

Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre

L.A. Miller Rehabilitation Centre

Saint John Regional Hospital

Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation

General Hospital - Health Science Centre

Our work would not be possible without the
significant contribution of individuals living
with spinal cord injury.

Also, the projects highlighted in this year's
annual report are made possible through the
generous support of our funders.

Government of Canada

Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Financé par le
gouvernement
du Canada

Canada

Province of British Columbia

 BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Genome British Columbia

 Genome
British Columbia

Making a Difference

IN THE LIVES OF THOSE LIVING WITH SPINAL CORD INJURY

Donor List

Advocates

\$25,000-\$100,000

Shim's Ride

Benefactors

\$2,500 - \$10,000

Robert Half Talent Solutions

Bill Barrable

Benjamin Beattie

Champions

\$500 - \$2,500

Jeremy Abitbol

Ben Almond

Stephanie Cadieux

Jeff Charpentier

Sean Gjos

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Dockside Physiotherapy

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Andrew Forshner

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Yasmin Passos

Omair Rahman

Arushi Raina

Kalogon

Supporters

\$250

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Bichtar Mahal

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Vanessa Noonan

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AeroTrack Technologies Inc.

Making a Difference

IN THE LIVES OF THOSE LIVING WITH SPINAL CORD INJURY

Board and Committees

Praxis Board Members

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Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Calgary

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CEO, Engineering Services Canada, SNC-Lavalin

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Co-Founder & CEO, Saa Dene Group of Companies

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Director, Translational Pain Research, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Nava Swersky Sofer
International Speaker, Innovation & Commercialization Expert Co-Chair, Directors Leading Change

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Dr. Kristine Cowley
Assistant Professor, Physiology & Pathophysiology, University of Manitoba
Director, Spinal Cord Research Centre, University of Manitoba

Dr. Graham Creasey
Paralyzed Veterans of America Professor of Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Emeritus, Stanford University

Dr. Richdeep Gill
Minimally Invasive Upper Gastrointestinal & Bariatric Surgeon Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Calgary, Peter Lougheed Hospital

Dr. Hans Keirstead
Chairman & CEO, AIVITA Biomedical Inc.

Katie Lafferty
CEO, Heart & Stroke Foundation Canadian Partnerships for Stroke Recovery

Dr. Ian Rigby
Emergency Room Physician, Foothills Medical Centre Chair, Praxis Board of Directors

Dr. Christine Sang
Director Translational Pain Research, Brigham and Women's Hospital Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School

Dr. Simon Sutcliffe
Former President of the BC Cancer Agency
Vice Chairman, Omnitura Therapeutics

Rob Wudlick
Treasurer & Co-Founder, Get Up Stand Up

Commercialization Committee

Shari Hughson, **Chair**
Adjunct Professor & Entrepreneur Advisor, Smith School of Business at Queens University

Ben Almond
CEO, Engineering Services Canada, SNC-Lavalin

Jeremy Abitbol
Vice President, Northleaf Capital

Sean Gjos
Vice President, SaNOTize Research and Development

Peter Guo
Partner, Leader, Enterprise Risk Services, MNP

Dr. Christine Sang
Director, Translational Pain Research, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Nava Swersky Sofer
Innovation & Commercialization Expert Co-Chair, Directors Leading Change

Making a Difference

IN THE LIVES OF THOSE LIVING WITH SPINAL CORD INJURY

Board and Committees

Fund Development Committee

Ben Almond , **Chair**
CEO, Engineering Services Canada,
SNC-Lavalin

Jeremy Abitbol
Vice President Northleaf Capital

Jauvonne Kitto
Co-Founder & CEO, Saa Dene Group
of Companies

Nicole McKinney
Founder & Co-Creator WAKING THE
unConscious CEO, BC@D Group Inc.

Fred Rego
Founder & CEO, AeroTrack Technologies
Teacher, Global Startup School at Tamwood
Careers Advisor, Volition Advisors

Harbir Toor
CFO Eyam Health

Investment Committee

Pat Brady
Director, Industry Innovation Programs,
Genome BC

Jenny Yang
Angel Investor, Building and Scaling
Tech Startups

Dr. Tamer Mohamed
Founder & CEO Aspect BioSystems, Board
of Directors The Stem Cell Network, Advisory
Board Member The Knowledge Society

Bob Yant
President and Founder Axonis, Former
Director Christopher and Dana Reeve
Foundation, Founder Cure Medical

Audit & Finance

Harbir Toor, **Chair**
CFO, Eyam Health

Members:

Dr. Ian Rigby
Emergency Physician, Foothills Medical
Center, Peter Lougheed Hospital
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine
at the University of Calgary

Jeremy Abitbol
Vice President, Business Development,
Northleaf Capital

Jeff Charpentier
Retired CFO in the Biotech Sector

Governance Committee

Dr. Christine Sang, **Chair**
Director Translational Pain Research,
Brigham and Women's Hospital Associate
Professor, Harvard Medical School

Members:

Dr. Ian Rigby
Emergency Physician, Foothills Medical
Center, Peter Lougheed Hospital
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine
at the University of Calgary

Jeff Charpentier
Retired CFO in the Biotech Sector

Praxis Spinal Cord Institute

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND FUND BALANCES

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2022	2023	2022
Revenue:		
Grants and contributions	\$ 7,819,487	\$ 7,272,200
Donations and sponsorships	56,743	559,388
Investment income	23,677	28,367
Other income	412,631	258,494
	8,312,538	8,118,449
Expenses:		
Translational research	2,656,229	2,016,330
Best practice implementation	1,627,456	2,575,889
Commercialization	1,433,319	852,641
Informatics	1,179,598	1,193,906
Consumer engagement	356,999	439,011
Fundraising	106,939	104,409
Management and administration	479,033	487,243
	7,839,573	7,669,429
Excess of revenue over expenses	472,965	449,020
Unrestricted fund balance, beginning of year	1,197,828	748,808
Unrestricted fund balance, end of year	\$ 1,670,793	\$ 1,197,828

Praxis Spinal Cord Institute

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2022

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 472,965	\$ 449,020
Items not involving cash:		
Depreciation of capital assets	79,136	102,661
Unrealized gains (losses) on investments	3,866	(25,154)
	555,967	526,527
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(6,525,627)	(3,447,049)
Prepaid expenses	(16,503)	48,092
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	392,706	(343,743)
Deferred contributions	7,172,513	2,517,789
	1,579,056	(698,384)
Investing:		
Purchase of capital assets	(28,706)	-
Purchase of short-term investments and investment funds	-	(750,000)
Purchase of long-term investments	(152,865)	(51,040)
Proceeds from short-term investments	758,606	2,052,791
	577,035	1,251,791
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	2,156,091	553,407
Cash and cash equivalents (bank indebtedness), beginning of year	538,556	(14,851)
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 2,694,647	\$ 538,556

Contact Information

For Praxis Spinal Cord Institute's complete audited financial statements, please visit our website: praxisinstitute.org

Praxis Spinal Cord Institute

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