Abstract

Spinal cord injury (SCI) is defined as damage to any part of the spinal cord or nerves. Its impact can range from just being a painful nuisance to causing irreversible changes in strength, movement, and even body functions. Modern medicine has not yet reached a point where spinal cord damage can be reversed; however, further injury can be prevented and various technologies have been developed in attempt to regain lost functionality. The NASCIC survey is an attempt to gain an understanding of where the priorities of SCI patients lie, and what risks they are willing to take to have the desires underlying their priorities realized. The objectives of the experiment are to determine what attributes are important to patients, what types of treatments are they willing to consider, and whether either of these is related to the demographic of the patients.