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**“Bridging the Gap”**

**Physiotherapy management of adults with complete spinal cord injury**

This course aims to bridge the gap between:

* referring hospitals and spinal injuries centres
* acute management and rehabilitation
* professional groups involved in the management of individuals with spinal cord injury (SCI)
* transition from rehabilitation centre to community

The course is divided into two modules, acute and rehabilitation, and aims to give an overview of the physiotherapy principles that contribute to the interdisciplinary management of the adult individual with newly acquired SCI. OTs and nurses have also benefitted from attending this course.

Both modules will have a strong practical emphasis and consideration of the role of the interdisciplinary team with presentations from all members of the interdisciplinary team. Delegates will have an opportunity to practice techniques demonstrated and try out equipment used. Living with SCI will be illustrated through personal perspectives and use of DVD material.

Although the two modules are independent of each other, delegates to the rehabilitation module who have not attended the acute module will be expected to be familiar with SCI specific terminology, such as spinal shock, autonomic dysreflexia, tenodesis grip and the ASIA classification.

Course level: Band 6/7

**Acute Module: Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th September 2018**

This module gives an overview of the multidisciplinary management and considerations of the acute and sub-acute stages post injury with detailed instruction in respiratory care and maintenance of the musculoskeletal system. It includes advice for mobilising into wheelchair and gives an introduction to early rehabilitation. Reducing the risk of complications and maximising the potential and functional outcome of each patient will be explored within the context of acute care.

**Rehabilitation Module: Monday 15th – Wednesday 17th October 2018**

This module gives an overview of the physiotherapy principles which contribute to the interdisciplinary rehabilitation of the adult individual with complete SCI. The focus will be on the biomechanical principles underpinning the specific physiotherapy techniques relevant to SCI rehabilitation. There will be an introduction to other essential elements of rehabilitation such as sport and fitness, postural management and wheelchair selection, and considerations for individuals with high SCI.

**Places restricted to 15 on each module: early booking recommended.**

Number of delegates will be limited to 20.

For further information or to register interest and secure a provisional place, please contact:

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