



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



INDIVIDUALS WITH SPINAL CORD INJURY ARE NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

The purpose of this study is to **investigate the short-term effects of 3 approved FDA drugs (ciproheptadine, carbidopa-levodopa, and atomoxetine) on motor responses when delivered in combination with hand training exercises**. The goal is to learn how to better strengthen connections between the brain and spinal cord after spinal cord injury, and if this connection is improved by one(or more) of the drugs. Multiple aspects of nerve transmission and muscle response will be measured via noninvasive brain and spinal cord stimulation, along with muscle strength and hand task ability tests.

There are seven visits in total, including an initial evaluation and clinical assessment session. You will be required to participate in all visits at least one-week apart. Each visit will last roughly 5 hours or less. We plan to enroll 28 participants with spinal cord injury over a two-year period. Please note, there is *no expectation of long-term benefit from this study*.

ENROLLMENT IS OPEN TO VETERANS AND NON-VETERANS

- **ARE YOU** between 18 and 65 years of age?
- **DO YOU** have a cervical spinal cord injury (SCI) of more than 12 months with some finger and/or wrist movement?
- **ARE YOU** willing / able to attend seven laboratory sessions at the Bronx James J. Peters VA Medical Center (JJPVAMC)?

Please note, for your safety, we will screen for multiple factors that might increase risk of participating, such as seizures, heart disease, implanted electrical devices, pregnancy, and others. These may exclude you from participating.

For further information please contact the research coordinators, weekdays between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. Please quote the protocol number (Drug Study) when reaching out.

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JJPVAMC Institutional Review Board approved protocol: 1685818
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Compensation will be provided.