

A Brief Introduction of Hong Kong Spinal Cord Injury Fund

In September 2004, the University of Hong Kong Spinal Cord Injury Fund (HKU-SCI Fund) was born, and the China Spinal Cord Injury Network (ChinaSCINet) was also established in partnership with the HKU-SCI Fund. Out of this collaboration, in June 2006, two non-profit companies, the Hong Kong Spinal Cord Injury Fund (HKSCIFund) Limited (formerly the 'HKU-SCI Fund') and the China Spinal Cord Injury Network (ChinaSCINet) Company Limited, were established.

The goal of the Fund is to restore physical functions to over 3 million people with spinal cord injury around the world.

Our Mission:

- To bring the promising SCI therapies from laboratory to clinic
- to find the most effective and safest therapies to treat spinal cord injury (SCI) through clinical trials
- to make sure that the quality of the trials is of an international standard
- to raise the public awareness of SCI in Hong Kong

The HKSCIFund Ltd. is a registered charitable organization in Hong Kong (Registered Charity Number: 918370). The HKSCIFund is dedicated to raising funds to support the SCI clinical trials conducted in China, the SCI clinical trials conducted by the ChinaSCINet and the promising SCI researches around the world. In addition, HKSCIFund organizes and supports activities to promote and raise public awareness of SCI.

Following are the main scope of activities supported or organized by the HKSCIFund:

- I. Clinical trials conducted by the ChinaSCINet with the support of the HKSCIFund
(Protocol No/Study Title/Registration/Year/Status)
 1. CN100: A Multi-Centre Clinical Study in Spinal Cord Injury Patients in Mainland China and Hong Kong ([NCT00517374](#))/2005-2008/ Completed
 2. CN100b: A Multi-Centre Clinical Study in Chronic Spinal Cord Injury Patients ([NCT00592722](#)) /2007-2009/Completed
 3. CN101: A Three Month, Open-label, Single-arm Trial Evaluating the Safety and Pharmacokinetics of Oral Lithium in Patients Diagnosed with Chronic Spinal Cord Injury ([NCT00431171](#))/2007-2010/Published
 4. CN102a: Efficacy and Safety of Lithium Carbonate in the treatment of Chronic Spinal Cord Injuries: a Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial ([NCT00750061](#)) /2008-2010/Published

5. CN102b: Safety and Efficacy of Umbilical Cord Blood Cell Transplant into Injured Spinal Cord: an Open-Labeled, Dose Escalating Clinical Trial ([NCT01046786](#)) /2010-2013/Published
 6. CN102b_KM: Safety and Efficacy of Umbilical Cord Blood Cell Transplant into Injured Spinal Cord (in Combination with Rehabilitation Training): an Open-Labeled, Dose Escalating Clinical Trial ([NCT01354483](#)) / 2011-2014/Published
 7. CN102c: Safety and Effect of Lithium, Umbilical Cord Blood Cells and the Combination in the Treatment of Acute/Subacute Spinal Cord Injury: a Randomized, Double-Blinded Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial ([NCT01471613](#)) / 2011-2014/Closed
 8. CN302: Effectiveness of Lithium Carbonate for Chronic Neuropathic Pain of Spinal Cord Injury Patients: A Multicenter, Randomized, Controlled Trial ([NCT01855594](#))/2013-2015/Finished
- II. Symposiums, Workshops and Meetings organized by the ChinaSCINet with the support of the HKSCIFund
- A) International Spinal Cord Injury Treatments & Trials (ISCITT)
 - The Sixth ISCITT Symposium, Nanjing, 6-8 September, 2014
 - The Fifth ISCITT Symposium, Shenyang, 10-15 Oct, 2013
 - The Fourth ISCITT Symposium, Xi'an, 4-6 May, 2012
 - The Third ISCITT Symposium, Beijing, 30 October - 1 November, 2008
 - The Second ISCITT Symposium, Guangzhou, 2-5 November, 2006
 - The First ISCITT Symposium, Hong Kong, 17-20 December, 2005
 - B) Workshops
 - Spinal Cord Injury Trial Design Workshop, Hong Kong & Kunming, 26-30 August, 2015
 - Umbilical Cord Blood Cell Processing Workshop, Hong Kong, 14-15 Feb, 2015
 - Umbilical Cord Blood Cell Processing Workshop, USA, 20-24 Jan, 2014
 - Spinal Cord Injury Treatment and Assessment, Xian, 3 March, 2013
 - Investigator Meeting/Workshop on Cell-based Therapies, Hong Kong, 19 April, 2011
 - Surgery & Rehabilitation Workshop, Kunming, 27-28 April, 2009
 - Spinal Cord Injury Outcome Assessment Workshop, Beijing, 24 April, 2009
 - Spinal Cord Injury Research Method Workshop, Xian, 9-13 May, 2008
 - Workshop on Functional and Neurological Assessment of Spinal Cord

- Injury Patients and Treatment Update, Fuzhou, 9-11 December, 2007
- Investigator Workshop on Cell Transplantation Methods for Chronic Spinal Cord Injured Patients, Kunming, 2-4 March, 2007
- Training Workshop on Spinal Cord Injury Research Methods Part 2, USA, 13-16 November, 2006
- Training Workshop on Spinal Cord Injury Research Methods Part 1, USA, 2-12 August, 2006
- Training Course on Spinal Cord Injury Animal Model, Hong Kong, 10-13 July, 2005
- Training Course on Good Clinical Practice (GCP) , Hong Kong, 16 March, 2005
- Training Course on Neurological Assessment of Spinal Cord Dysfunction, Hong Kong, 14-15 March, 2005

C) Investigator Meetings

- Multicenter Study of Transplanting Umbilical Cord Blood Cell to Treat Chronic Spinal Cord Injury, Xi'an, 2 March, 2013
- Investigator Meeting and Workshop on Cell-based Therapies, Hong Kong, 19 April, 2011
- ChinaSCINet Investigator Meeting in Annual Congress for the World Academy for Multidisciplinary Neurotraumatology, Hong Kong, 14 November, 2009
- Asia International Hotel, Guangzhou, 5 November, 2006
- W.M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience, Rutgers University, New Jersey, 7 August, 2006
- Investigator Meeting on Review of Observational Study, Guangzhou, 18-19 February, 2006
- Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, 18 December, 2005
- North Garden Hotel, Beijing, 15-16 October, 2005

D) International Meetings

- 7th AMN Congress & 16th Annual Scientific Meetings of HKNS Neurotraumatology: Head Injury & Spinal Cord Injury, 12-14 November, 2009
- The International Conference of Stem Cells & Regenerative Medicine for Neurodegenerative Diseases, 22-24 April, 2010

III. Clinical trial conducted in China Kunming Tong Ren Hospital with the support of the HKSCIFund

“A Randomized and Controlled Clinical Trial of Surgical Decompression/Untethering Combined with Weight Bearing Rehabilitation for Patients with Chronic Spinal Cord Injury”

The purpose of this study is to investigate the efficacy of surgical decompression/untethering, combined with weight bearing rehabilitation, on neurological recovery following chronic spinal cord injury. The first Untethering/Rehabilitation clinical trial is being conducted to 30 chronic SCI patients. The clinical trial was started in July 2015 and completed successfully in June 2018.

IV. Researches and SCI Activities supported by the HKSCIFund

1. Treatment of lumbosacral spinal cord injury by using neurotization and transplantation of motoneurons derived from induced Neural Stem Cells (iNSC) and Muse cells, Prof. Wutian Wu, University of Hong Kong (2012)
2. U2 FP CNS Regeneration Project to develop an optimized combination therapy to promote axon regeneration with recovery of bladder function, Prof. Jerry Silver, Case Western Reserve University (2016)
3. PTEN/SOCS3 genetic deletion in CNS for SCI regeneration, Prof. Zhigang He, Harvard Medical School; Prof. Os Steward, University of California and Prof. Kai Liu, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (2014)
4. Research to identify rehabilitation needs and rehabilitation programme for individuals with spinal cord injuries (SCI), Dr. Amy Fu, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2015-2019)
5. Ultrasound Evaluation of Spine Health, Dr. Yong Ping Zheng, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2015-2019)
6. Developing neural repair strategies in lumbosacral injury models, Prof. Zhigang He, Harvard Medical School and Prof. Kai Liu, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (2015)
7. Elimination and Overcoming CSPG Barriers to Promote Functional Regeneration of Chronic SCI, Prof. Jerry Silver, Case Western Reserve University (2015)
8. “Working 2 Walk” Symposium organized by Unite 2 Fight Paralysis, USA (2012-2019)
9. Research on Lumbo-sacral Repair of SCI, W.M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience, The Spinal Cord Injury Project, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, USA (2014-2016 & 2019)
10. Research on SCI of ICORD (International Collaboration On Repair

Discoveries) – Faculty of Medicine, The University of British Columbia, Canada (2014-2019)

11. Site Visit to International Spinal Cord Injury Treatment Center, Kunming Tongren Hospital, 27-28 August 2018
12. Kunming Working Group (KWG) Meeting for Repairing Spinal Cord Injury, 8-10 September 2019

V. Fundraising events held since establishment

1. “Kung Fu Hustle” Charity Film Premiere”, 6 Dec 2004
2. “Perfume” Drama Premiere, 5 May 2005
3. 1st International Spinal Cord Injury Treatments and Trials (ISCITT) Symposium Gala Dinner, 19 Dec 2005
4. The Gold Club 7th Anniversary Charity Hair Show, 16 Mar 2006
5. Brain Awareness Week, Hong Kong 2006, 6-8 Apr 2006
6. Missions Hills Cup Charity Gala Dinner, 9-11 Aug 2007
7. TV Variety Show at TVB “長江 7 號呈獻:脊髓再生愛心創明天”, 2 Feb 2008
8. The Year of Jacky Cheung World Tour Concert 2007-Hong Kong Grand Finale, 3 Feb 2008
9. ADDICTION Boutique Grand Opening, 10 Oct 2008
10. Fundraising Gala Dinner and TV Variety Show at ATV, 20 Apr 2011
11. Fundraising Gala Dinner and TV Variety Show at ATV, 28 Jun 2013
12. Fundraising Gala Dinner 2016, 11 Sept 2016
13. Fundraising Concert 2017, 25 Nov 2017

VI. SCI Awareness Activities organized by HKSCIFund

1. Promotion of the China Spinal Cord Injury Network in Beijing, 12-13 Mar 2005
2. School talk to promote public awareness of spinal cord injuries in Hong Kong, Ma Tau Chung Government School, Kowloon, 19 Mar 2005
3. HKSCIFund TV documentary: "I can stand up again.", 16 Dec 2008
4. Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Day & Celebration of Difference Maker, 21 Apr 2011
5. The Youth Difference Makers Award (YDMA), Jun 2011-Jul 2012
6. The Youth Difference Makers Award (YDMA), Sept 2013-Jul 2014
7. The Youth Difference Makers Award (YDMA), Sept 2015-Sept 2016
8. The Youth Difference Makers Award (YDMA), Sept 2017-Sept 2018
9. Launch of SCI Prevention Education Programme, 5 Jul 2018