

Author Year Country Research Design Score Sample Size	Methods	Outcome
Hirschfeld et al. 2008 Germany Cohort Level 2 N = 37	<p>Population: 64 participants with SCI who were primarily mechanically ventilated through TOT; 32 were treated with PNS and 32 were treated with MV over 20 years.</p> <p>Treatment: MV or PNS.</p> <p>Outcome Measures: Incidence of RI.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incidence of RI was equal during 120 days prior to use of final device (1.43 in PNS group and 1.33 in MV group) whereas after PNS, the incidence of RI was 0 compared to 0.14 for MV group. 2. Two vs. 0 returned to work and 9 vs. 2 returned to school on PNS compared to MV group, respectively.