

Author Year Country Research Design Sample Size	Methods	Outcomes
<p>Vale et al., (1997) USA Pre-Post N=64</p>	<p>Population: Gender: males=29, females=6 (cervical SCI), males=25, females=4 (thoracic SCI); Level of injury: cervical (C3-C7), thoracic (T4-T12); Severity of injury: AIS A-D.</p> <p>Intervention: Prospective assessment of patients treated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with aggressive hemodynamic support (including the use of arterial BP catheters, Swan-Ganz pulmonary artery catheters, intravenous fluids, colloid, vasopressors, and surgery for decompression and stabilization) as necessary to maintain Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) >85 mmHg.</p> <p>Outcome Measures: Neurological improvement as per AIS classification.</p> <p>Chronicity: Patients were studied beginning within 36h of injury. Follow-up examinations were performed for each patient at 6, 12, and 18 mo post injury.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 60% of patients with complete cervical SCI and 33% of patients with complete thoracic SCI improved at least 1 ASIA grade at the last follow-up examination. 2. 92% of patients with incomplete cervical SCI and 88% of patients with incomplete thoracic SCI demonstrated improvement in neurological function 1yr post injury.
<p>Levi et al., (1993) USA Pre-Post N=50</p>	<p>Population: Mean age=39.7 yr; Gender: males=88%, females=12%; Level of injury: cervical; Severity of injury: complete (78%), incomplete (22%).</p> <p>Intervention: Prospective assessment of patients treated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with invasive hemodynamic monitoring and support (including the use of arterial line and Swan-Ganz catheters, fluid replacement, operative stabilization, and dopamine and/or dobutamine) as necessary to maintain Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) >90 mmHg.</p> <p>Outcome Measures: Neurological improvement as per modified Frankel classification.</p> <p>Chronicity: Patients were studied initially within the first week of injury. Follow-up examinations were performed at 6wk following injury.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Neurological function improved by at least one Frankel grade in 20 of 50 (40%) patients. 2. Neurological function remained the same in 21 of 50 (42%) of patients.