Author Year Country Research Design PEDro Sample Size	Methods	Outcomes
Alibai et al. 2015 Iran RCT PEDro= 8 $N_{initial}$= 27, N_{final}= 20	**Population**: Mean age= 40.1±9.5yr; Gender: male= 90%, female= 10%; Level of injury: cervical; Severity of injury: complete= 60%, incomplete= 40% **Treatment:** Patients were first administered methylprednisolone per standard protocol. Patients were then randomly assigned to receive erythropoietin or placebo. The EPO dosage was 500 IU/mL immediately and 24 hours later. **Outcome Measures:** Assessed baseline, 1, 6, and 12 months post-injury: ASIA sensory and motor scores. **Chronicity:** Individuals were studied within 8 hr of sustaining injury.	1. No significant differences between EPO and placebo groups on ASIA motor scores at any time point (p>0.05). 1. No significant differences between EPO and placebo groups on ASIA sensory scores at any time point (p>0.05).
Costa et al. 2015 Italy RCT PEDro= 7 $N_{initial}$= 19, N_{final}= 19	**Population:** Mean age= 27.67y Gender: male= 94.7%, female= 5.3%; Level of injury: cervical, thoracic; Severity of injury: AIS A or B **Treatment:** Participants were randomized to receive either methylprednisolone or erythropoietin treatment groups for 48 hours. **Outcome Measures:** ASIA motor and sensory, MAS, Penn Score, VAS, SCIM. Evaluated at baseline, day 3, 7, 14, 30, 60, and 90. **Chronicity:** Screened and enrolled within 8 hours of sustaining injury.	1. No between-groups difference on ASIA motor and sensory, MAS, Penn score, VAS or SCIM (p>0.05) at day 90.
Alibai et al. 2014 Iran RCT PEDro=6 N=30	**Population:** Age range=18-65 yr; Gender: male=77%, female=23%; Level of injury: cervical-thoracic; Severity of injury: complete=47%, incomplete=53%. **Treatment:** Patients were randomly assigned to receive either recombinant human erythropoietin (rhEPO) + methylprednisolone sodium succinate (MPSS; 500 unit/kg of rhEPO) or placebo + MPSS. MPSS was administered according to National Acute Spinal Cord Injury Study (NASCIS) III guidelines. **Outcome Measures:** The following after 1 week, 1 month, and 6 months: neurological recovery using the AIS. The following after 6 months: sexual dysfunction. **Chronicity:** Individuals studied were admitted to hospital within less than 6 hr after trauma.	1. Patients who received rhEPO + MPSS recovered significantly more neurological function according to the AIS compared to patients who received placebo + MPSS after 1 week (p=0.046), 1 month (p=0.021) and after 6 months (p=0.018). 2. There were no significant differences in sexual dysfunction between patients who received rhEPO + MPSS and patients who received placebo + MPSS (p>0.05).
Xiong et al. 2011 China Prospective Control Trial N=63	**Population:** Mean age=53 yr; Gender: male=62%, female=38%; Level of injury: cervical-thoracic; Severity of injury: complete=14%, incomplete=86%. **Treatment:** Patients who developed ischemia-reperfusion injuries during spinal decompression surgery received either erythropoietin (EPO) + methylprednisolone (MP) or MP alone. MP was delivered intravenously according to National Acute Spinal Cord Injury Study (NASCIS) II guidelines. EPO was injected intramuscularly three times a week (3000U/vial) for 8 weeks.	1. Patients who received EPO + MP experienced significantly higher neurological recovery based on the ASIA scale compared to those receiving MP alone after 1 week, 1 year, and 2 years (p<0.05). 2. Patients who received EPO + MP achieved significantly higher ADL scores than patients who received MP alone 1 week and 1 year after treatment (p<0.05). 3. Three patients who received EPO + MP and two patients who received

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	Outcome Measures: The following after 1 week, 1 year, and 2 years: neurological recovery using ASIA score (motor function and sensory function), activities of daily living (ADLs), and adverse event outcomes. **Chronicity:** Individuals were studied at 1 week, 1 year and 2 years post spinal surgery.	MP alone experienced adverse event outcomes that resolved after treatment. No statistical tests were performed to determine significant differences between the two groups.