Spinal Cord Injury Fellowship and Training Programs

We support many activities to support SCI-related education and training. We are the primary training site for the Harvard Medical School SCI fellowship program and the designated national hub-site for the VA Advanced Fellowship in SCI Medicine. We train residents, nursing students, psychology and social work interns, and post-doctoral fellows. We have made ongoing enhancements to our training programs. Our staff regularly publishes peer-reviewed research, books and book chapters, presents at national meetings and contributes to national SCI training. Several staff have received national recognition for their contributions. We recently hosted our 23rd Annual SCI Symposium to educate health professionals throughout New England.

Spinal Cord Injury Fellowship – Harvard Medical School/Spaulding/VA

The Harvard Medical School/Spaulding/VA Boston Fellowship Program in Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Medicine is an ACGME accredited 12-month training program that offers advanced clinical training in SCI, a strong didactic component, and opportunities for research with protected elective time. The curriculum is designed to provide exposure to the full spectrum of SCI care and includes rotations at VA Boston Healthcare System SCI Center, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, and Brigham & Woman’s Hospital. Requirements include prior completion of an approved residency program in a specialty such as physical medicine and rehabilitation, neurology, internal medicine, family practice, surgery, or other specialties relevant to spinal cord injury. Our fellows have done very well historically with a 100% pass rate for those taking the sub-specialty certification examination in SCI Medicine, administered by the American Board of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Graduates from the program go on to practice SCI care either in an SCI Model System and other academic programs, including our department at Harvard/Spaulding, at a VA SCI Center, or in a private practice setting that includes SCI practice as a major component. For additional information the Fellowship Program Director, Sunil Sabharwal, MD, can be reached at 857-203-6574 or email Sunil.Sabharwal@va.gov.

VA Special Fellowship Program in Advanced Spinal Cord Injury Research

The VA Special Fellowship Program in Advanced Spinal Cord Injury provides two years of post-residency research, education, and advanced clinical learning opportunities to eligible physicians. Fellows spend approximately 75 percent of their time in research and education and 25 percent in clinical care at selected sites. Graduates are expected to be role models in leading, developing, conducting, and evaluating innovative research, education, and clinical care in Spinal Cord Injury. In 2003, VA Boston Healthcare System was selected as the national Hub Site to develop and coordinate the VA Advanced SCI Fellowship Program. For more information, contact the Hub-Site Fellowship Program Director, Sunil Sabharwal, MD, at 857-203-6574 or email Sunil.Sabharwal@va.gov, and see the link below http://www.va.gov/oaa/specialfellows/programs/SF_SCIMinfo.asp.