To study the frequency of causes of readmissions in chronic spinal cord injury
A. Raza Qureshi a, K. Ahmad, F. Javed Khan
Armed Forces Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
aCorresponding author.

Keywords: Hospital readmissions; Chronic spinal cord injury
Introduction.—Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), one of the leading causes of disability. There is concomitant rise in the complications and readmissions. Patients lacking initial physiatrist care at SCI units and follow-up, land up in complications leading to readmissions, morbidity and mortality.

Methods and methods.—A descriptive study recruiting 51 readmitted SCI patients from Apr 2010 to Apr 2011. The cause of readmission was established and data was analyzed to see frequency of causes of readmission.

Results.—Forty-six (90.2%) were male and 5 (9.8%) females. Mean age 21 years. Thirty-eight (74.5%) patients were AIS A, 5 B, 5 C and 3 in AIS D. Causes were neuropathic pain 27.5%, spasticity 27.3%, pressure ulcers 19.6%, gastrointestinal 9.8%, urinary tract infection 7.8%, DVT 3.9%, heterotopic ossification 2% with burns reported 1%.

Discussion.—In a 5 years’ study conducted in Turkey, 56 out of 733 treated patients of SCI were hospitalized due to spasticity (25%), pressure sores (17.9%), urinary infection (16.1%), spinal surgery (8.9%), urological surgery (5.4%), pain (5.4%) and further rehabilitation (21.4%). This study showed that the number of cases with neuropathic pain were 27.5% which is less internationally.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rehab.2014.03.837