

Safe & compassionate care,

every time

# National Spinal Injuries Centre

The National Spinal Injuries Centre (NSIC) is part of the division of specialist services. It was founded in 1944 by Sir Ludwig Guttman, and over the past 70 years, has led to a dramatic change in the way spinally injured people are nursed and treated within society.



The NSIC comprises five adult wards and a paediatric ward. We aim to provide lifelong care: from time of injury through rehabilitation, discharge into the community, support during pregnancy and delivery, readmission for surgery and on to improved quality of life. We provide a holistic approach with one aim; to improve and enhance the lives of our patients in a proactive way.

The concept of very early admission to a spinal cord injuries centre was pioneered here and this, along with many of our methods of treatment, have been adopted by spinal cord injury centres around the world.

The NSIC works as a multi-disciplinary team with the patient at the centre of our care pathway. Here, nursing means day to day working alongside a dedicated team including psychologists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, doctors and surgeons who work together to rehabilitate our patients.

We have some unique and pioneering sports and arts rehabilitation programmes and are fortunate to be able to use the Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the national centre for disability sport.

We are privileged to be able to develop unique and sometimes life-long relationships with our patients.



## How we support our nurses

Our aim is to develop a workforce that has inquiring minds and are capable of challenging and changing practice in order to improve and develop the care we give.

We are looking for both newly-qualified and experienced nurses to join our dedicated team.

Because of the varied nature of our work NSIC offers newly-qualified nurses an excellent grounding in all the skills you have learnt during your training. You will assess patients, implement and monitor their care plans and be involved in nursing the whole patient, not just the spinal cord injury. As a member of our nursing team, you will be supported and guided through the patient pathway and be able to access rotational posts within all the adult wards to help you gain optimal knowledge in a specialist area.

All our nursing staff are able to access external and internal training courses from degree and masters level qualifications to lectures and study days on all aspects of spinal cord injury.

The NSIC is internationally recognised for being at the forefront of research into spinal cord injuries, the pioneering work it does and for being the birthplace of the Paralympic movement. It is the only Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accredited dedicated spinal injuries unit for children and young people in Europe and the only CARF accredited NHS establishment in England and Wales.

**Join us and you too could be part of something amazing.**

Over twenty-five of our ex-patients took part in the 2012 Paralympics and the 2014 winter Paralympics.

### 3 former NSIC patients won medals in 2012:



- Peter Norfolk
- Robin Womack
- Alex Rickham

**1944 NSIC established with 26 beds, now there are 114.**



**Every year the NSIC treats over 3,500 outpatients and nearly 700 inpatients.**



**Be the future** 