

Exploratory Study on Psychosocial Influences of Spinal Cord Injury to Patients: Basis for Medical Social Work Intervention Plan

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Abstract : This study explores the psychosocial influences of Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) on patients in the Philippine Orthopedic Center Hospital in the Philippines, examining their social functioning and proposing interventions for reintegration. Quantitative data were collected through surveys using a concurrent triangulation research design, while qualitative insights were obtained via interviews. Findings revealed significant psychosocial challenges among SCI patients, impacting relationships, family dynamics, work, friendships, parenting, education, and self-care. Demographic profiles indicated variations in psychosocial functioning. The study underscores the importance of tailored interventions for SCI patients based on age, marital status, gender, education, and occupation. Triangulation of data enhanced understanding, revealing four themes: 'Resilient Navigation of Intimacy and Connection,' 'Family Dynamics and Care Challenges,' 'Occupational Hurdles and Work Engagement,' and 'Social and Community Integration Obstacles.' The study proposes a holistic intervention plan, addressing emotional challenges, creating support networks, implementing vocational rehabilitation, promoting community engagement, and sustaining collaboration with healthcare professionals.

Keywords : spinal cord injury, psychosocial influences, social functioning, concurrent triangulation, intervention plan

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