Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services

Helping people with traumatic brain injuries and spinal cord injuries live more independently.

Please share this brochure with others Texans who may have a loved one with a traumatic brain injury or traumatic spinal cord injury so they can benefit from our program.
When Texans have life-changing injuries, Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services (CRS) facilitates their rehabilitation and recovery, helping them live more independently. CRS serves individuals who have experienced

- **Traumatic Brain Injury** (TBI)
- **Traumatic spinal cord injury** (TSCI)

TBIs and TSCIs can occur through motor vehicular accidents, falls, assaults or violence, and sports injuries, among others. CRS provides services for people with TBIs or TSCIs to function as independently as possible in the home and community by improving their mobility, self-care and communication skills. Participants receive personalized treatment plans based on their specific needs.

CRS can pay for rehabilitation services on the treatment plan within certain limitations. Participants must first use all available personal medical benefits, such as medical insurance, Medicare or Medicaid, before they can use CRS program funding to pay for services.

**Participant eligibility**

CRS participants must meet all the following criteria:

- Have a traumatic brain injury (TBI) or traumatic spinal cord injury (TSCI) that was caused by an external physical force and significantly affects the person’s ability to perform daily activities.
- Be at least 15 years of age.
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident and a Texas resident.
- Be willing to participate in services.
- Be medically stable enough to participate in rehabilitation activities.
**TBIs and TSCIs**

**Traumatic brain injury (TBI):**
An injury (not degenerative or congenital) caused by an external physical force that results in temporary or permanent impairment of cognitive abilities or physical functioning and partial or total functional disability or psychosocial maladjustment.

**Traumatic spinal cord injury (TSCI):**
An acute, traumatic lesion of neural elements caused by an external physical force in the spinal canal resulting in any degree of temporary or permanent sensory or motor deficit, and/or bladder or bowel dysfunction.

**Interest list and waiting list**
When an interested person calls CRS, program staff add them to the interest list. Then, when the person is determined eligible and a plan of service has been completed, they move to the waiting list. Wait time for services varies. People receive services on a first-come, first-served basis. An application for services should be completed as soon as possible, but the applicant must be medically stable and able to participate in rehabilitation services in order to determine eligibility and start services.

**Importance of having strong supports**
Having a family member with a serious injury can be overwhelming. CRS counselors help participants and their families identify community resources and service providers. Together with CRS, the participant and family create an Individualized Written Rehabilitation Plan to outline appropriate services for the person’s needs.

*CRS helped when I was assaulted and left paralyzed.*
CRS helped me and my three kids when a car crash left me paralyzed from the neck down.

Rehabilitation services available

- **Inpatient comprehensive rehabilitation medical services**: Medical experts provide medical care, rehabilitative therapies and medical equipment to stabilize the injury and start to restore function in a rehabilitation hospital setting.

- **Post-acute rehabilitation services**: Provided as recommended by an interdisciplinary team based on participant need.
  
  - **Post-acute brain injury services**: Services to address deficits in functional and cognitive skills, including behavior management, coping skills development and compensatory strategies. The services may be provided in a residential or non-residential setting.
  
  - **Post-acute spinal cord injury services**: Services to address deficits in functional skills such as transferring and other activities related to daily living. The services are provided in the home and in the community (non-residential) settings.

- **Outpatient therapies**: Rehabilitation at a hospital or clinic to help participants perform daily activities affected by their injury, including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy and cognitive therapy. Participants return home after treatment.

Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services
hhs.texas.gov
877-787-8999

The CRS program was founded in 1991 with dedicated funding to address the needs of people with TBI or TSCI. The CRS program receives financial support through General Revenue funds allocated by the Texas Legislature, court fees charged on convictions of criminal felonies and misdemeanors, and subrogation recovery.