Back to the Future

Leading international specialist clinic for people with spinal cord injury
As a specialist clinic for people with spinal cord injury, we are committed towards their comprehensive rehabilitation and towards providing a comprehensive package of care.
I’m in aongy! I can’t feel my legs. Vceios in the bcaqgorud. I can olny mkae out spaehs. Am I praayerld? Waht now?
Tehy say in the averdt taht it can hpeapn to aynnoe. WliI hvae enguoh meony? – Likciuy we are benefcators.

- - - Blackout - - - Pictures out of focus, borderline experiences. You have to go to the effort of learning how to do things again. A new life begins.

What does the future hold? Can a crisis be an opportunity? – Yes, because the one million or so care days delivered up to now for our inpatients and outpatients are evidence of the future quality of life that people can enjoy after a «blackout».

In emergencies, the Swiss Paraplegic Centre (SPC), the leading international specialist clinic for people with spinal cord injury, is the right place.

Thank you for your interest.

Hans Peter Gmünder, MD, CEO of the Swiss Paraplegic Centre

Administering the best possible treatment for the spinal cord injury in the first few hours. The intermediary between the medical staff and the person.
Integral

Comprehensive rehabilitation during the acute treatment, activation and integration phase. Through specialists in medicine, therapy, care and vocational guidance.

Focused work hand in hand. Based on the latest findings. Professional and purposeful.
Spinal paralysis follows its own laws. We listen, we consider all the factors, we make decisions together. The SPC develops recognised standards and is a reference clinic well beyond Swiss borders.
Inpatient and outpatient medicine
- 24-hour emergency
- Anaesthesiology
- Pharmacy
- Dermatology
- Gastroenterology
- Gynaecology
- Hand surgery
- Ears, nose and throat medicine
- Internal medicine
- Intensive care medicine
- Cardiology
- Continence and Pelvic Floor Centre
- Laboratory
- Neurosurgery
- Neurology
- Neuroradiology
- Neuropsychology
- Orthopaedics
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation
- Plastic and reconstructive surgery
- Pneumology
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Sports medicine
- Pain medicine
- Shoulder surgery
- Tetra hand surgery
- Urology
- Spine and spinal cord surgery
- Dentistry

Nursing
- Intensive care
- Specialist care for people with spinal paralysis and neuromuscular diseases
- Kinaesthetics

Therapy and complementary medicine
- Acupuncture
- Studio for creativity
- Chiropractic service
- Colon hydrotherapy
- Craniosacral therapy
- Feldenkrais therapy
- Art therapy
- Equine therapy
- Speech therapy
- Music therapy
- Neuropsychology
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Podology
- Psychology
- Wheelchair Seating Centre
- Sport therapy
- Hydrotherapy

Advisory services
- Vocational guidance/Work trials
- Nutritional advice
- Peer counseling
- Pastoral and spiritual care
- Social and legal advice
- Stoma advice

Research
- Clinical Trial Unit

Hospitality
- Events coordination
- Catering
- Hospitality
- Seminar and conference facilities

Services
- Patient reception
- Patient administration
- Quality management
- Information technology
- Technology and security
The network of national and international researchers in the SPC’s Clinical Trial Unit take the new medical findings from their important research projects and implement them in their everyday clinical practice.

They are vigorously committed towards improving the capability and the quality of life of people with spinal cord injury. Pure expertise.
Hospitality

The word ‘hospital’ comes from ‘hospitalis’, which means hospitable. Also enjoy personal attention and feel the benefit of first-rate hospitality.

Extending a Warm Welcome
Right on target

Understanding correlations, taking meaningful steps. We don’t do anything by chance. We land direct hits.

We have received the following quality awards:

- Friendly Workspace
- SWISSREHA
- The Continence and Pelvic Floor Centre is certified by the German Continence Society (Deutsche Kontinenz-Gesellschaft [DKG] e.V.) (It is the first time that a centre has been certified in Switzerland; it is also the first continence and pelvic floor centre specialized in SCI to be certified in Europe)
- QQQ – Level III seal of quality: Highest quality award within the hospitality sector (SPC/GZI)
- The ISO certification ISO 9001:2008 for the entire SPC is planned for 11 December 2013
Obstacle-free

Obstacles must be removed. ParaHelp, Swiss Paraplegic Association and Orthotec advise, support and assist people. On matters regarding living arrangements, legal rights and mobility. On building. With culture and leisure activities. With wheelchair sport.

The Spinal Cord Injured outpatient unit at the SPC for lifelong support. However, patients can also come to it with acute problems. Quick and comprehensive. Competent and interdisciplinary. Everything under one roof.

Common objective: The best possible integration back into family life, the working environment and society.
Lateral thinking

There is an ever increasing number of people with spinal paralysis due to illness. And in old age. – What can be done? Can people with spinal paralysis realistically walk again, or is that just wishful thinking?

Striving for innovation poses difficult questions. We are working on innovative, useful answers. Typically SPC.
Win-win

Allaying contact fears. Working with like-minded people. Creating synergies.

The SPC has an excellent network of contacts:

- American Spinal Injury Association
- Clinique romande de réadaptation, Sion
- DMGP German-Speaking Medical Society for Paraplegia
- ESPRM European Society for Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
- IFP International Foundation for Research in Paraplegia
- IMSOP International Medical Society of Paraplegia
- ISCOS International Spinal Cord Society
- ISPRM International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
- Continence and Pelvic Floor Centre with Lucerne Cantonal Hospital Sursee
- Rehab Basel
- SAR Swiss Working Group for Rehabilitation
- SGPMR Swiss Society for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- SSoP Swiss Society of Paraplegia
- SWISS REHA Association of Leading Rehabilitation Clinics in Switzerland
- SWRZ Swiss Spinal Column and Spinal Cord Centre with Lucerne Cantonal Hospital
- Balgrist University Hospitals, Zurich
- Basel University Hospital
- Bern University Hospital
- and lots more
Illuminating

Ideas are good, knowledge is better. Speaking is good, listening is better.

«This huge centre that has everything under one roof is simply wonderful. You can get what you need here.»
Tobias Marti, Patient, Matt

«Where would we go if we didn’t have this institution …? «Allround care» that is unique.»
Edith Wyss, Relative, Grosswangen

«I would never have achieved the independence and the quality of life that I have today without the outstanding doctors, nursing staff and therapists.»
Sayra Erkan, Patient, Istanbul, Turkey & New York, USA

«The SPC really is a world-class institution.»
Oguz G. Erkan, Relative, West Haven, CT, USA

«Here at the SPC, our patients receive the best quality of care after our acute treatment has been completed and also receive long-term support and assistance.»
Dr. med. Ulrich Seidel, Director of Spinal Surgery, Insel Hospital Berne

«I regard the SPC as a highly professional and reliable partner. I particularly value our direct and uncomplicated cooperation.»
Prof. Dr. med. Reto Babst, Head physician for Accident Surgery, Lucerne Cantonal Hospital

«I regard the SPC as the leading competence centre for comprehensive medical care and treatment of paraplegia and tetraplegia, as well as for other causes of paralysis.»
Beat Kälin, lic. iur., LL.M., Asst. Head of Service Procurement, Helsana Insurance
Tough Time Ahead

«The average effort is insufficient. Enough is too little. It takes complete dedication, dogged perseverance, a constant willingness to innovate and to learn, overcoming setbacks and defeats, the time needed for this, getting the timing right, but above all else commitment and unflinching optimism.»

Dr. med. Dr. rer. nat. h.c. Guido A. Zäch, pioneer, founder, senior consultant and honorary president of the SPF

Swiss Paraplegic Foundation

Benefactors’ Association of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation

Swiss Paraplegics Association

Swiss Paraplegic Centre

Orthotec

Sports Medicine Nottwil

ParaHelp

Swiss Paraplegic Research

SIRMED Swiss Institute of Emergency Medicine

GZI Seminar and Conference Hotel

Seminarhotel Sempachersee
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900–1944), French aviator and writer

Ground-breaking, cross-disciplinary treatment concepts. Consistently tailored organisation and leadership structures. Setting the pace for the future.

Our primary objective is to maximise the independence and self-determination of our patients.

“Every strong image becomes reality.”

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900–1944), French aviator and writer