



Male Fertility

After a Spinal Cord Injury

How Paralysis Affects Male Sexual Reproduction

For men with spinal cord injuries, their sexual reproduction abilities will be affected. Most paralyzed men will have erectile dysfunction as well as decreased sperm motility. It is also difficult for most paralyzed men to ejaculate. Also, the average percent of motile sperm in men with a spinal cord injury is 20% compared to 70% in non-disabled men.



Sperm Motility Affected by Catheter-Use

The type of bladder management a person uses can affect their sperm motility differently. Those who opt for an indwelling catheter will have the lowest motility rate at 5%. Those who intermittently cath will typically have the highest sperm motility rate at 27%.

Pregnancy Rate & Live Birth Rate Unaffected

If a man with a spinal cord injury decides to have a baby with his partner, even if he needs to undergo sperm retrieval the pregnancy rate in these couples is 51% percent, with a 40% live birth rate. These numbers are the same as the non-disabled population.

Find More Resources at



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Source

Ibrahim, E., Lynne, C.M. and Brackett, N.L. (2016), *Male Fertility Following Spinal Cord Injury: An Update*. (2010), *Male Fertility Following Spinal Cord Injury: A Guide For Patients*. Craig Hospital. "Male Fertility after Spinal Cord Injury."