



Model Systems
Knowledge Translation
Center

Quick Review of Model System Research

Effectiveness of Group Wheelchair Maintenance Training for People with Spinal Cord Injury: A Randomized Controlled Trial

What is the study about?

This study's aim was to assess the effectiveness of group wheelchair maintenance training.

What did the study find?

This study found that after the training program, participants saw an improvements in their ability to complete maintenance (capacity) and how often they did maintenance (performance) for both manual (MWC) and power wheelchair (PWC) users with spinal cord injury (SCI).

Who participated in the study?

Individuals who participated in the intervention were manual wheelchair users (N=80) and power wheelchair users (N=67). The total sample size was 147.

How was the study conducted?

This study was a randomized controlled trial with a group who received the intervention immediately and a waitlisted control group who received the intervention after a 6-month delay. The intervention was a training program consisting of two 120-minute classes with the goal of teaching participants how to take care of a wheelchair at home.

How can people use the results?

Individuals with SCI who use either a manual or power wheelchair and their families can use the results of this study to learn more about wheelchair maintenance (materials are available in-article links).

Reference

Worobey, L. A., Kirby, R. L., Heinemann, A. W., Krobot, E. A., Dyson-Hudson, T. A., Cowan, R. E., Pedersen, J. P., Shea, M., & Boninger, M. L. (2016). Effectiveness of Group Wheelchair Skills Training for People With Spinal Cord Injury: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Archives of physical medicine and rehabilitation*, 97(10), 1777–1784.e3. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apmr.2016.04.006>

Disclaimer

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