E-Poster

EP-458

# Clinical Insights Into Neuropathic Pain in Spinal Cord Injury Tunisian Patients

**Topic:** Pain

Mariem Gaddour, Habib Hajji, Maha Ammar, Aziz Ajili, Iheb Nticha, Nourhene Dridi, Ines Loubiri, Rihab Moncer, Sonia Jemni

*Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Sahloul University Hospital, Sousse, Tunisia*

## BACKGROUND

Neuropathic pain in spinal cord injury (SCI) patients is a common complication that adds to the range of impairments and disabilities they experience, making their management even more complex. Despite its frequency, neuropathic pain in SCI patients has not been studied across the Arab world. Through this study, we aim to characterize this type of pain, detail its management, and ultimately identify the factors associated with neuropathic pain.

## METHODS

This is a retrospective analytical study based on the medical records of patients referred for the management of traumatic SCI at the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation department of Sahloul university hospital, Sousse, Tunisia. We documented the clinical assessment of each patient. For neuropathic pain, we specified the pain's location, side, time of onset in relation to the trauma, variability throughout the day, duration, sensory symptoms reported by the patient, pain intensity, and prescribed treatments.

## RESULTS

We included 108 patients followed for traumatic SCI in this study. Among them, 41 patients experienced neuropathic pain, with DN4 scores higher than 7/10 in 17% of cases, predominantly in areas below the lesion. This pain was persistent and became chronic in 80.4% of cases. The most commonly reported symptoms were electric shock sensations (53.6%) and tingling sensations (36.5%). The two most commonly prescribed drugs were pregabalin and tegretol (carbamazepine). Statistical analysis did not identify any factors associated with neuropathic pain, which can occur in any patient regardless of their condition, context, or the severity of the spinal trauma.

## CONCLUSION

Neuropathic pain is perceived as one of the most severe complications accompanying neurological disability in SCI patients, with diverse clinical and symptomatological presentations. Gaining a thorough understanding of the different clinical and therapeutic aspects of neuropathic pain is essential to optimizing patient care and reducing the resulting impairments and disabilities.

**Statement of Disclosures**

None

**Doi:** 10.5606/archisprm.2026.EP-458

**Corresponding Author:**
Mariem Gaddour
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Sahloul University Hospital, Sousse, Tunisia
**Email:** gadmariem@gmail.com