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A disaster in human life of such magnitude as a sudden transection or severe injury to the spinal cord which throws the body completely out of gear inevitably disrupts the psycho-physical existence of the individual. An implicit assumption behind much of the early research was that SCI itself produce not only major physical consequences but also grave psychological consequences which made these people inherently different from non-disabled individuals. Most of the studies conducted in the past for assessment of psychological problems in SCI patients has been conducted in western countries and very little research evidence is available on this problem in India. Most of the research based on the subjective and anecdotal evidences rather than empirical evidences. The need for systematic and elaborate research has been pointed out in a recent study in India by Somasundaram et.al. (1992). The present study in India is an effort to look into the various aspects of psychological disorders of adjustment, anxiety and depression in SCI victims. The following study was formulated for "The assessment of psychosocial factors such as adjustment, anxiety and depression among SCI patients." The following hypotheses were formulated.

Hypothesis

1. There would be a significant difference in the level of adjustment, anxiety and depression between the SCI and Non-SCI groups.

2. Acute patients would have more adjustment problems than chronic patients, whereas no such difference would be found in
their respective control groups.

3. Acute patients would have more anxiety than chronic patients, whereas no such difference would be found in their respective control groups.

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For testing the above hypotheses, a ex-post-facto reseach with multi group design was done. Standardised scales were used to assess the different variables. The study was conducted on a sample of 80 subjects who were divided into two groups of 40 each in patient and control groups. The subjects of patient group were further divided into two groups of 40 each on the basis of duration of injury i.e. acute patient group and chronic patient group. The key attendents were taken as subjects for control group and two control were formulated i.e. acute control group and chronic control group. The data were collected with the help of standardised scales. Each patient and their attendents under study were interviewed at Medical College and Hospital, Rohtak separately.

The obtained data were subjected to statistical analysis. To test the significance of difference between two primary groups i.e. patient and control group the t-test was used, then DRT was employed for testing the significance of difference between four groups.

The results of the research indicate that the all the predictions made by the researcher have proved and supported by
the previous researches. It has been concluded that SCI lead to depression, anxiety and adjustment problems in the patients. These problems were more in acute phase than chronic treatment phase. The patient group had more adjustment problems, depression and anxiety as compared to their key attendents and family members. The adjustment deterioration was more in social and vocational areas than other areas of adjustment.

The implication of the study lies in its applied utility. The insight gained by the study has opened new vistas for future research.