

HOWARD H. STEEL 2026 CONFERENCE PRECOURSE
December 2 "Mind the Gap: Practical Solutions from No Tech to High Tech in Pediatric SCI"

8:00 AM	Welcome
	Opening Remarks
8:05 AM	Considerations for the Use of Technology in Pediatric SCI
8:25 AM	Q & A
Session 1: Positioning, Postural Control & Mobility Gap #1: Access	
8:35 AM	The Life Experiences of Children With Spinal Cord Injury or Disease and Caregivers Utilizing Seating and Positioning Wheelchair Systems
9:00 AM	From Hands-On Facilitation to Progressive, Functional Support: Translating SATCo Principles Into Device Development
9:20 AM	Adaptive Robotic Head Support: Using a Robot to Compensate for the Weight of a Child's Head
9:40 AM	Q & A
9:55 AM	BREAK
Session 2: Communication Gap #2: Communication and Environmental Access	
10:10 AM	Talking Tech
10:35 AM	Bethany Children's Smart Home Experience: Technology, Accessibility and Independence"
10:55 AM	Q & A
11:10 AM	BREAK
Session 3: Function and Independence Gap #3: Upper & Lower Extremity	
11:25 AM	Upper Extremity Robotics in Rehabilitation
11:45 AM	Lower Extremity Technology
12:20 PM	Q & A

12:35 PM	LUNCH ON OWN
Session 4: Participation Beyond the Clinic Gap #4: Participation	
1:30 PM	Adaptive Car Project or Power-Mobility Training using Modified Toy Bumper Cars in an Early Intervention Setting
1:50 PM	More Than Just a Game: Leveraging Digital Health Tools in Real Life Therapy Sessions
2:05 PM	Adaptive Gaming Solutions for SCI/D
2:20 PM	Building Independence: The Missing Link Between Hospital and Home
2:35 PM	Project STEMpathy: Engineering Solutions for Pediatric Independence
3:00 PM	Q & A
3:15 PM	Considerations to Move Forward in Kids, Intriduction to the Steel 2026 conference
3:30 PM	Conclusion

HOWARD H. STEEL 2026 CONFERENCE		
Thursday, Dec. 3, 2026		
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM		Registration & Breakfast with Partners & Exhibitors
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM		Welcome & Opening Remarks Cristina L. Sadowsky, MD Chair, Steel Assembly
8:45 AM - 9:45 AM		The Stephen M. Haley Memorial Lecture MJ Mulcahey, PhD, OTR/L, CPPC, CLCP, FASIA Thomas Jefferson University
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM		Partner & Exhibitor Recognition
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM		Poster Session 1
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM		Break with Partners & Exhibitors
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM		General Session 1: Musculoskeletal
	5	Peripheral Quantitative Computed Tomography and Blood Biomarkers in Children with Spinal Cord Disorders
	33	Integrating Mechanistic Evidence and Clinical Translation: Transcutaneous Spinal Cord Stimulation for Upper Extremity Recovery in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury
	41	Bone and Muscle Health in Children with Nontraumatic Spinal Cord Related Paralysis
	42	Building New Pathways: A Pediatric Framework for Nerve Transfer Rehabilitation In Cervical SCI
		Exoskeleton-Assisted Ambulation in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury: Early Inpatient Rehabilitation Outcomes
		Q&A
12:15 PM - 1:30 PM		MIDDAY BREAK - LUNCH ON OWN
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	42	COURSE 1: Bridging The Gap: Foundations for Emerging Clinical Translation of Transcutaneous Spinal Cord Stimulation Across Motor Domains and Physiological Functions in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM		Neuromodulation Session
3:30 PM - 3:40 PM		Stretch Break • Transfer to Next Session
<i>Concurrent Sessions</i>		
3:40 PM - 5:10 PM	62	COURSE 2: Pain That Grows Up: Rethinking Pediatric SCI and Multidisciplinary Pain Management
3:40 PM - 5:10 PM	18	COURSE 3: The Role of High-Resolution Ultrasound in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation
Friday, Dec. 4, 2026		

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM		Registration & Breakfast Partners & Exhibitors	with
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	40	AFM at 10 (One Center's Decade-Long Clinical Experience With Children Affected by Acute Flaccid Myelitis)	
9:00 AM - 9:10 AM		Stretch Break • Transfer to Next Session	
9:10 AM - 10:10 AM	17	COURSE 5: A Roadmap for Implementation of Therapeutic Acute Intermittent Hypoxia in Pediatric Rehabilitation	
10:10 AM - 11:10 AM	44	COURSE 6: "What's the Impact?" Measuring the Effectiveness of Social Media	
11:10 AM - 11:40 AM		Poster Session 2	
11:10 AM - 11:40 AM		Break with Partners & Exhibitors	
11:40 AM - 12:40 PM		General Session 2: Epidemiology	
	8	Adapting the ISNCSCI for Pediatric Use: A Case Series for Children <6 Years of Age	
	28	Development of a Dataset for Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury and first results of Switzerland	
	61	Epidemiology of Infant Spinal Cord Injury Treated in Emergency Departments in the United States and Comparison With the General Infant Population: 2006 to 2022	
	64	Development of an MRI Age-Based Pediatric Spinal Cord Template	
		Q & A	
12:40 PM - 1:40 PM	31	COURSE 7: Bridging the Transition Gap: A Year-Round Transition-to-Adulthood Model for Youth with SCI	
1:40 PM - 2:40 PM make 1.5 hours		MIDDAY BREAK - LUNCH ON OWN	
2:40 PM - 3:40 PM	11	COURSE 8: Development of an Interdisciplinary Work Group to Address Disparities in Care for Patients With Spinal Cord Injury on a Pediatric Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit	
3:40 PM - 3:50 PM		Stretch Break • Transfer to Next Session	
3:50 PM - 4:50 PM		General Session 3: MIXED	
	22	Exploring Patient- Identified Gaps from Inpatient Rehabilitation to the Community in the Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury Population	
	24	Interstate Care Coordination in Complex Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury: A Case Report	
	34	Aquatic therapy for the Pediatric Patient Requiring Mechanical Ventilation	
	38	Early Diaphragm Pacing Prevents Long-Term Tracheostomy in Pediatric Cervical Spinal Cord Injury	

	45	The Importance of Self-Selected Goals: Evaluating a Pilot Intervention to Improve Health Behaviors in Young Adults with Pediatric Onset Spinal Cord Injury
		Q & A
4:50 PM - 5:00 PM		Stretch Break • Transfer to Next Session
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	10	COURSE 9: Reimagining Pediatric FES: Bridging Evidence Gaps in Massed Practice and Task-Specific Training
TBA		PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026		
7:30 AM - 8:00 AM		Breakfast
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM		The Newton C. McCollough Lecture: Mind the Gap, Share the Model: Standardizing Data Collection in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury paedic/Neurosurgical Management of Children and Adolescents with SCI Dr. James A. G. Crispo, MSc, PhD NOSM University
9:00 AM - 10:10 AM		General Session 4: Shoulder
	49	Impact of Pediatric-Versus Adult-Onset Spinal Cord Injury and Dysfunction on Shoulder Pain and Pathology In Manual Wheelchair Users
	54	Comparing Wheelchair Propulsion Biomechanics of Children With Spinal Cord Injury and Spina Bifida
	59	Propulsion Phenotypes and Age at Onset of SCI/D as Predictors of Shoulder Pain in Manual Wheelchair Users Across the Lifespan
	20	Relationships Between Manual Wheelchair Propulsion Pattern and Shoulder Tissue Elasticity in Users with Pediatric SCI/D
	32	Sex Differences in Supraspinatus Tendon Tissue Properties and Shoulder Pain among Young Adults with Pediatric-Onset SCI/D who Use Manual Wheelchairs
	36	Impact of Age of Injury Onset on Peak Normalized Rotator Cuff Muscle Forces and Glenohumeral Joint Contact Forces During Manual Wheelchair Propulsion
		Q&A
10:10 AM - 10:20 AM		Stretch Break • Transfer to Next Session
10:20 AM - 11:20 AM	13	COURSE 10: The Journal of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine (JPRM) as a Catalyst for Clinical Excellence in Pediatric Spinal Cord Care
11:20 AM - 11:50 AM		Awards & Final Announcements
11:50 AM		Meeting Adjourned

Abstract #	Category	Title
STEEL 2026 AWARD ELIGIBLE TOP POSTERS		
56	Award-Eligible	Transcutaneous Spinal Stimulation to Map and Modulate Residual Motor Pathways in Pediatric Spina Bifida
51	Award-Eligible	Interventions to Address Impairments, Activity Limitations, and Participation Restrictions in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury: A Systematic Review
6	Award-Eligible	Musculoskeletal Changes and Treatments in Paediatric Spinal Cord Disorders: A Scoping Review
7	Award-Eligible	Developing an Australian Paediatric Spinal Cord Registry
46	Award-Eligible	Improving Lives, One Flush at a Time: The Impact of Transanal Irrigation on Continence and Quality of Life in Children with Neurogenic Bowel Dysfunction due to Spinal Cord Injury
STEEL 2026 POSTERS		
4	Poster	Investigation of Body Composition Indices and Functional Outcome Questionnaires in Children with Spinal Cord Disorders
37	Poster	Benchmarking Standards of Care and Education for Pediatric Patients with Spinal Cord Injury and Dysfunction
60	Poster	Case Report: Therapeutic Interventions During Rapid Functional Improvement Following Spinal Cord Decompression in a 13-year-old Female with Chronic Spinal Cord Dysfunction
9	Poster	Reimagining Bladder Management in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury: Activity - Based Therapies as a Pathway to Independence
12	Poster	Exoskeleton-Assisted Ambulation in Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury: Early Inpatient Rehabilitation Outcomes
14	Poster	Use of Microprocessor KAFOs to Increase Independence following Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury
15	Poster	Translating Transcutaneous Spinal Stimulation to Pediatric SCI Rehabilitation: Clinical Guidelines for Practice
16	Poster	Acute Intermittent Hypoxia with Activity-Based Therapy in a 12-year-old Female with Tetraplegia
19	Poster	High-Intensity Gait Training in an Adolescent Patient Post SCI
23	Poster	READY Model of Pediatric Rehabilitation Education in Spinal Cord Injury
25	Poster	Trends in Pediatric Firearm-Related Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury: A Retrospective Cohort Study
26	Poster	Transcutaneous Spinal Stimulation is Safe and Feasible in Complex Spinal Cord Injury
27	Poster	Diaphragmatic Pacing System in Pediatric Patients with Cervical Spinal Cord Injury: Clinical and Ventilatory Outcomes
29	Poster	The Life Experiences of Children With Spinal Cord Injury or Disease and Caregivers Utilizing Seating and Positioning Wheelchair Systems: A Dissertation

47	Poster	Capitalizing on Locomotor Networks and Rescuing Motor Neurons After Surfer's Myelopathy and Paralysis: A Multimodal Activity-Based Restorative Therapy (AB-RT)
48	Poster	From Hands-On Facilitation to Progressive, Functional Support: Translating SATCo Principles Into Device Development
50	Poster	Minding the Translational Gap: Transcutaneous Spinal Cord Stimulation Device Proof of Principle to Elicit Locomotor-like Stepping Responses in Non-Injured Adults and Children with Spinal Cord Injury
52	Poster	That's Good Enough: A Clinical Step Beyond in Two Children with Chronic Acute Flaccid Myelitis
57	Poster	Altering Spinal Cord Excitability Enables Lower Limb Cycling in a Gravity-Neutral Position in Children with Motor-Complete Spinal Cord Injury
58	Poster	From Lower Limb Paralysis After Lower Motor Neuron Injury to Swing Phase Independence
63	Poster	Therapy Dosage and Functional Outcomes Among Pediatric Patients with Spinal Cord Injury Participating in Interdisciplinary Day Rehabilitation Programs
65	Poster	Surgical Procedures After Pediatric Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury in the United States: A National Inpatient Study