
PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR A FOCUS GROUP ON AN ELECTRIC-ASSIST WHEELCHAIR SYSTEM

Researchers at Simon Fraser University and the British Columbia Institute of Technology are conducting a study to get feedback a novel wheelchair electric-assist system. The information gathered in the focus group will be used to investigate feasibility of the device and inform future revisions of the design.

To be eligible for this study, you must:

- have a mobility limitation that requires you to use a manual wheelchair, spinal cord injury (C7-C8 or lower) or other disability that affects ability to walk (e.g. CP, MS, post polio)
- must have used an electric-assist wheelchair system such as the SmartDrive or the Alber E-Motion, either for ongoing personal mobility or a previous research study
- be 16 years of age or older
- be able to effectively communicate in English

If you are eligible and choose to participate, you will be asked to attend a 90 minute session in which you will be asked to contribute to a focus group discussion related to wheelchair electric-assist systems. You will be shown a demonstration of an existing device and invited to give feedback. The session will be held at the Centre for Applied Research and Innovation at the BCIT Burnaby Campus, located at 4355 Mathissi Place in Burnaby.

All enrolled persons will be provided compensation for their participation.

To learn more about this research or to sign up for the focus group, please contact:

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PARTICIPANTS NEEDED...

For a peer physical activity counselling program for people with traumatic and non-traumatic Spinal Cord Injuries (including Spina Bifida)

This study aims to explore the influence of a Smartphone Peer Physical Activity Counseling (ALLWheel) program on level of physical activity in a group of manual wheelchair users with a spinal cord injury. The ALLWheel program is a 10-week program that is led by a peer who uses technology to communicate with study participants.

To be eligible for this study, participants must:

- Be between 19-64 years of age
- Reside in BC
- Have been living with a traumatic or non-traumatic spinal cord injury (SCI) for at least 1 year
- Have been using a manual wheelchair for mobility for one or more months
- Be able to self-propel for at least 100 meters
- Currently do not meet the physical activity guidelines (minimum 20 minutes of moderate to vigorous aerobic activity twice per week AND strength training exercises consisting of 3 set of 8-10 repetitions for major muscle groups twice per week)
- Able to effectively communicate in English

For this study, participants will be randomly selected to take part in either an intervention group, who will be fully engaged in the ALLWheel program with a peer-coach, or in a control group, who will be provided physical activity resources and recommendations but will not have access to a peer-coach. Participants in both groups will be asked to participate in three data collection time points. This study will require no more than 13 hours of time in total over a 6-month period.

Participants will be given an honorarium for their participation. This research study has been reviewed and approved by the BCIT Research Ethics Board.

To sign up or learn more about this study, please contact:

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