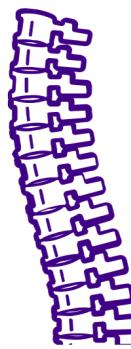


# KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE: PEDIATRIC INPATIENT SPINAL CORD INJURY PROGRAM OUTCOME DATA

**FY 25**

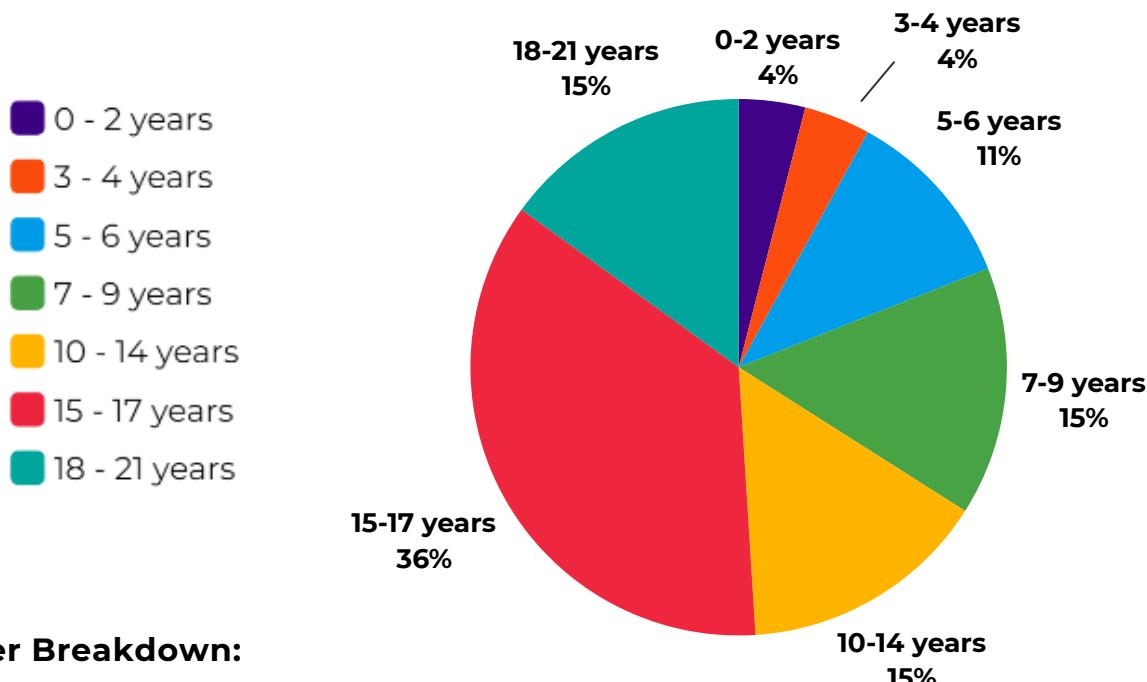


## Who is treated in the Pediatric Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program at Kennedy Krieger?

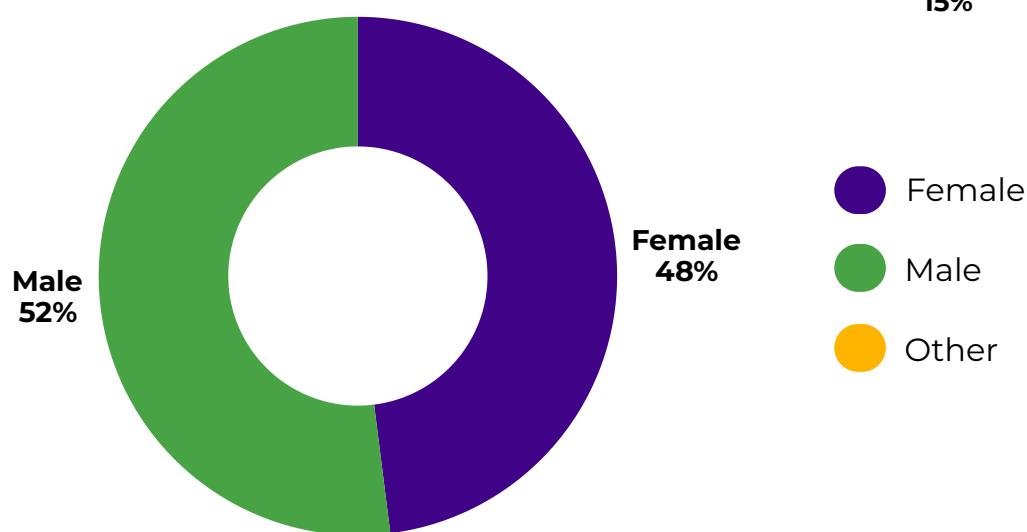
The inpatient program at Kennedy Krieger Institute treats children and adolescents up to and including age 21.

During fiscal year 2025\*, 27 children and adolescents with spinal cord injury/dysfunction were discharged from the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program.

**Below is an age breakdown of patients:**



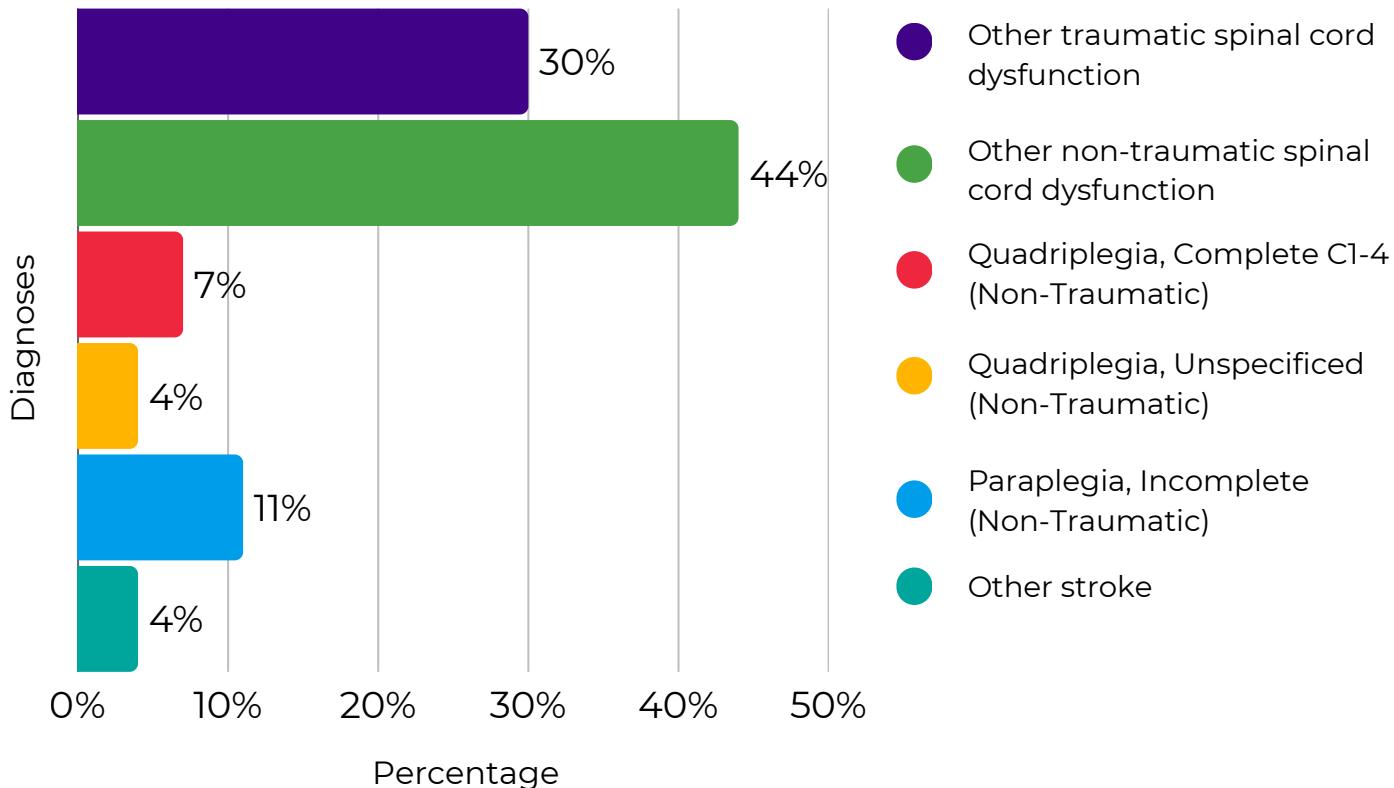
**Gender Breakdown:**



## Diagnoses

The Spinal Cord Injury Program treats children and adolescents who have experienced a variety of causes of their spinal cord dysfunction, both traumatic and non-traumatic

**Below is a breakdown of the most common diagnoses treated:**



## Types of Patients Treated

The patients who come to the Spinal Cord Injury program have functional challenges related to their spinal cord injury. These challenges may include:



BREATHING



BOWEL AND BLADDER DYSFUNCTION



ENGAGING IN ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING  
(self-care)



MOBILITY



PERFORMING DAILY SELF-CARE ACTIVITIES

Patients who are admitted to the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program must be medically stable and able to participate in at least three hours of therapy per day.

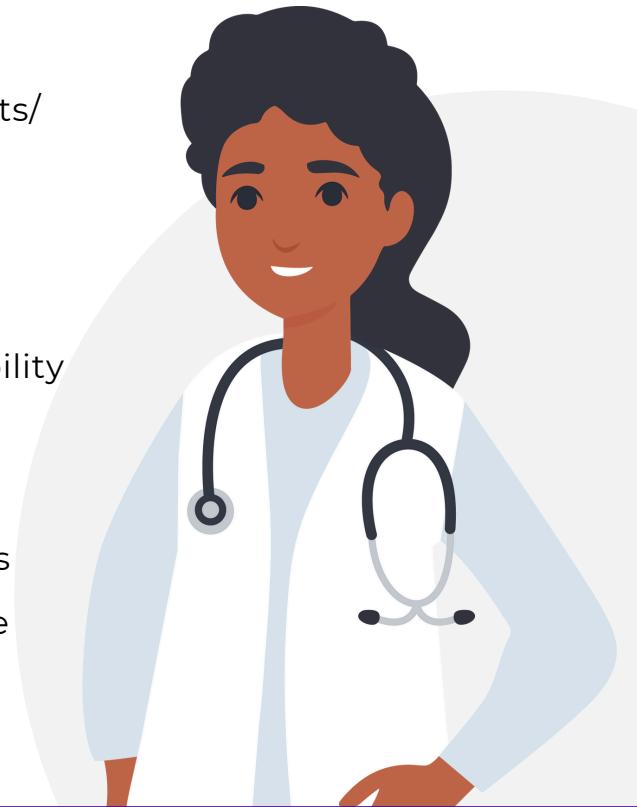
Children with tracheostomies and those requiring mechanical ventilation or diaphragm pacing systems are welcome on the inpatient unit.

More than half of our patients require ventilators and our program has successfully helped many patients wean by discharge.

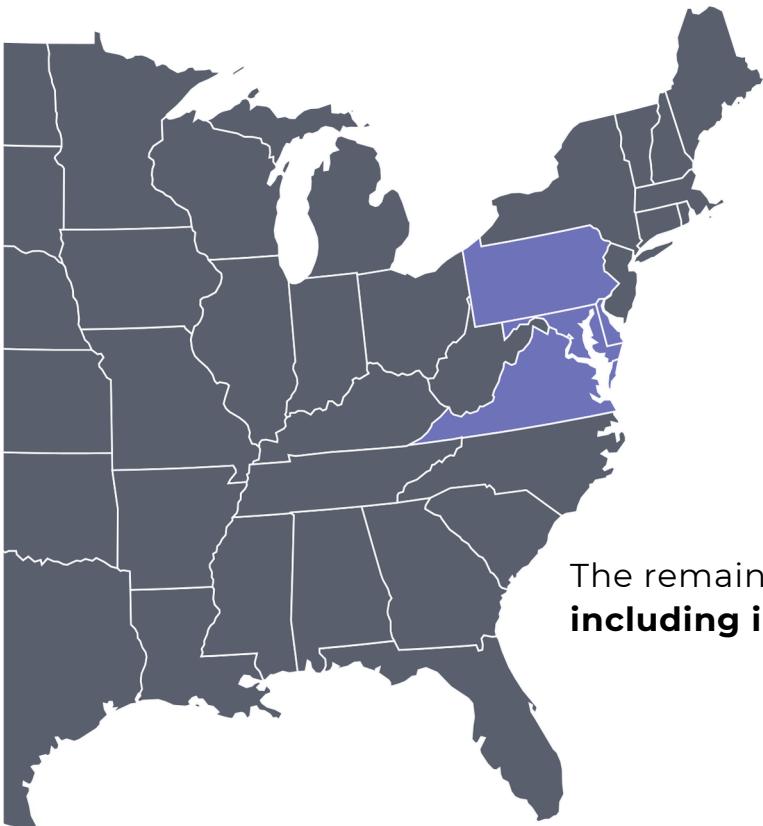
## Interdisciplinary Treatment Team

This inpatient team may include:

- Aquatic specialists
- Assistive technology professionals
- Behavioral psychologists
- Child life specialists
- Developmental pediatricians
- Hospitalists
- Nurse care managers
- Nurse practitioners/nurses
- Occupational therapists/ assistants
- Orthopedists
- Orthotists
- Physiatrists
- Physical therapists/ assistants
- Pediatricians
- Psychologists
- Seating and mobility specialists
- Social workers
- Special educators
- Speech-language pathologists



## Where do patients live who are seen by the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program?

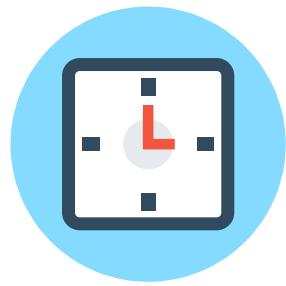


In fiscal year 2025, **56% of patients came from Maryland**, with **11% coming from the surrounding states of Washington, DC, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Delaware.**

The remaining **30%** came from **outside the region, including internationally.\***

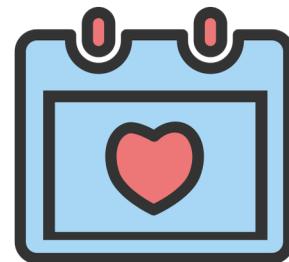
## **How much therapy do patients receive while being treated in the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program?**

Patients being treated in the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program have at least four hours of therapy Monday-Friday. On Saturdays, patients typically receive 2 hours of therapy.



## **What happens if a patient gets acutely sick or has a medical emergency while an inpatient at Kennedy Krieger?**

Kennedy Krieger has Pediatric Advanced Life Support-certified staff on-site 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with the equipment and processes in place to respond to medical emergencies.



Due to our proximity to and affiliation with The Johns Hopkins Hospital and other community hospitals, we are able to treat patients with intensive, but stable medical needs, such as those requiring a ventilator for breathing.

Occasionally, these more intensive medical needs require unplanned transfers to acute care. **In fiscal year 2025\*, 2 patients in the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program required an unplanned transfer to an acute care setting.**

## **How is a patient and their family involved in the care received from the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program?**

Kennedy Krieger is committed to providing person and family-centered care which is a collaborative approach to the planning and delivery of services. Our services reflect the person and family-centered care principles of participation; collaboration; information sharing; dignity and respect; and are aligned with the mission, vision, and values of the Institute.



Individuals served and their family members are encouraged to participate in treatment planning, goal setting, family meetings, and education and training sessions.

## How long do most inpatients receive treatment from the Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury Program?

Treatment varies from one patient to another, based on their needs and goals.

**In fiscal year 2025\*, the average length of stay for all children with spinal cord injury was 44 days.**

Children with acute spinal cord injury, especially those requiring mechanical ventilation, may be treated as long as 60 to 90 days, if needed.



These lengths of stays are similar to the length of stays at other similar pediatric rehabilitation hospitals nationwide.

## What kinds of improvements might patients receiving treatment from the Spinal Cord Injury Program be expected to make?

Kennedy Krieger Institute uses The Functional Independence Measure for Children (WeeFIM) for standardized pediatric outcomes measurement. This system is used by pediatric inpatient, outpatient, and community-based rehab programs worldwide and provides a simple, consistent, uniform tool that measures function in children.

**96%** of patients met or exceeded their WeeFIM goals



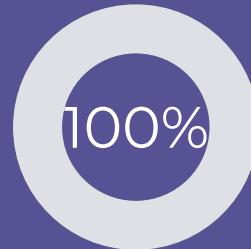
Patients made improvements in their self-care skills and mobility skills that were similar or exceeded improvements made at other pediatric rehabilitation hospitals nationwide.

Inpatient rehabilitation is the start of an ongoing lifelong program of restoration and rehabilitation focused on improving function, maintaining health and preventing known complications of spinal cord injury. At discharge, patients receive a written home and community rehabilitation program that can be shared with local therapists who may not be as familiar with spinal cord injury rehabilitation. This allows patients to continue to reach ongoing rehabilitation goals.

## What do patients and their families say about their experience at Kennedy Krieger Institute?



100% of patients said the people at Kennedy Krieger helped me improve and become more independent



100% of caregivers rated the quality of overall services received as average, good or excellent

## **Does Kennedy Krieger have special accreditation?**

Kennedy Krieger Institute is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and The Joint Commission.

Every three years, both organizations review the Institute to ensure all its programs meet or exceed the very high standards it sets for the care of its patients.



***\*FY 25 represents the dates from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***