The New Acute SCI Accreditation Standards: Comparison to the Perioperative Accreditation Standards

**Identified ROP’s:** There are 8 in Acute SCI Standards and 9 in Perioperative Standards. The 8 in Acute SCI are the same as those in Perioperative with only the order and location of some changing. The additional ROP in the Perioperative Standards is regarding use of a surgical safety checklist in the OR and not SCI specific or new.

**Addition to the Falls Prevention ROP:** additional guidelines regarding education to staff and family on safe handling of SCI patients during transfers

**SCI Specific Additions:**

- Require up to date SCI specific information including: access to information regarding SCI assessment and treatment, general education (i.e. unit functioning, communication and equipment), access to information regarding SCI secondary complications and consequences and access to SCI specific evidence based practice guidelines
- Require evidence of linkages with community partners
- Access to specialists such as urologist and plastic surgeons
- Intake procedure for traumatic and non-traumatic SCI
- Working with Critical Care and other areas to provide SCI care and expertise
- Require a process to identify and address workload assigned to staff to ensure safety to staff and patients
- Team assesses and documents autonomic assessment where indicated
- Team knows how to perform SCI specific assessments such as the ASIA Assessment Scale.
- Evidence of communication and coordination with Rehab facility and the community

**Pre- and intraoperative content in Perioperative standards not reflected in SCI acute standards:**

- pre-op teaching and assessment, i.e. PONV
- preparing, positioning the patient for the OR procedure
- procedural safety in OR, including medical devices and equipment, sterile supply, medications, infection control, intra-op documentation
- handoffs between OR, PAR and post-op unit