

Title:	The effectiveness of a new treatment method for patients with carpal tunnel syndrome
Issue/Rationale:	The adverse effects of carpal tunnel syndrome are making this a major contributor of disability and related costs, financial or otherwise, on the compensation system.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate the effectiveness of a promising novel treatment that may improve nerve regeneration and hand function in patients with carpal tunnel syndrome by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensively quantifying the functional and physiological consequence of severe medial nerve compression in patients with carpal tunnel syndrome. • Comparing the outcome of conventional carpal tunnel decompression surgery alone versus decompression surgery followed by post-operative electrical stimulation.
Anticipated Results/Impact:	In addition to improving the quality of life of afflicted individuals, it could also result in major financial savings both for the industries as well as for the Workers' Compensation Board.
Keywords:	carpal tunnel syndrome, median nerve regeneration
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From-To Dates:	2002 – 2005
Budget:	\$54,509
Funding Agency:	Workers' Compensation Board – Alberta