

Olfactory ensheathing cell nerve bridge transplantation: A co-designed clinical trial in 2025

Professor James St John
j.stjohn@griffith.edu.au



CLEM JONES CENTRE
FOR NEUROBIOLOGY
AND STEM CELL RESEARCH



**World-first clinical trial for
treating spinal cord injury**

Key points

- Trial cost >\$15 million
- Co-designed with consumers
- Strong community engagement throughout

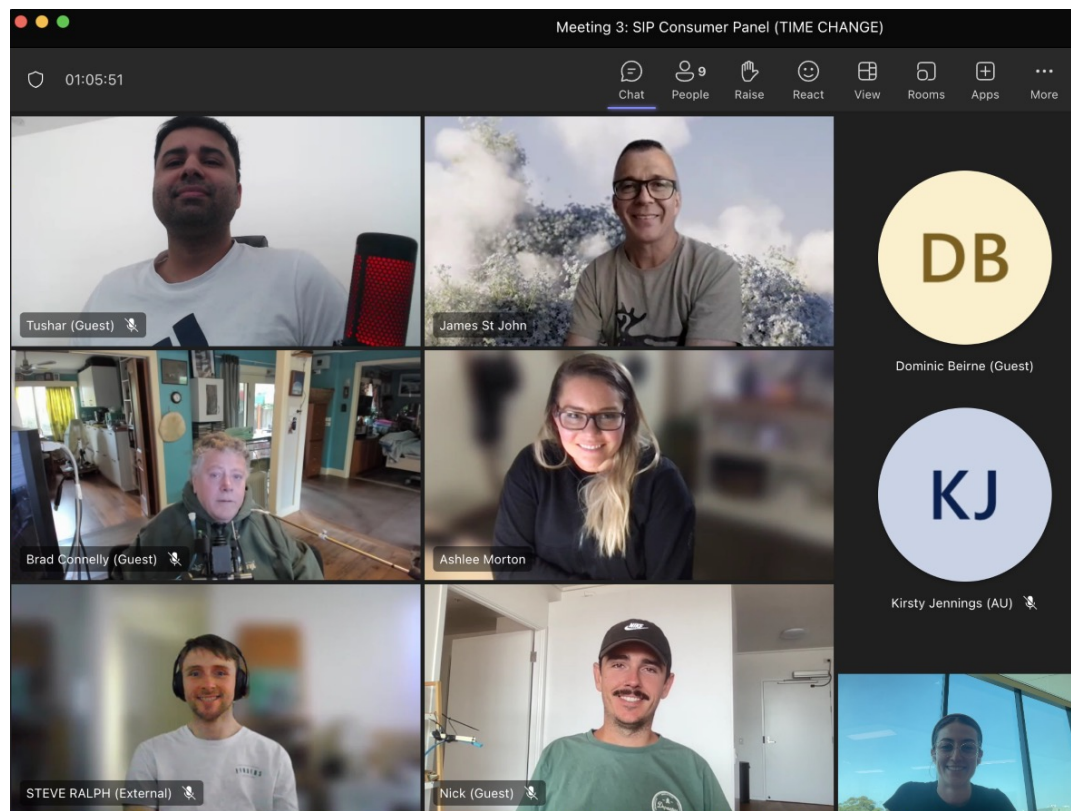
>500 people applied within 3 weeks
= 2.5% of the SCI population in Australia

Lab tours

- 2-3 tours per month
- >1000 people
- Questions from guests are critical
- Helped raise >\$13 million for research and trial

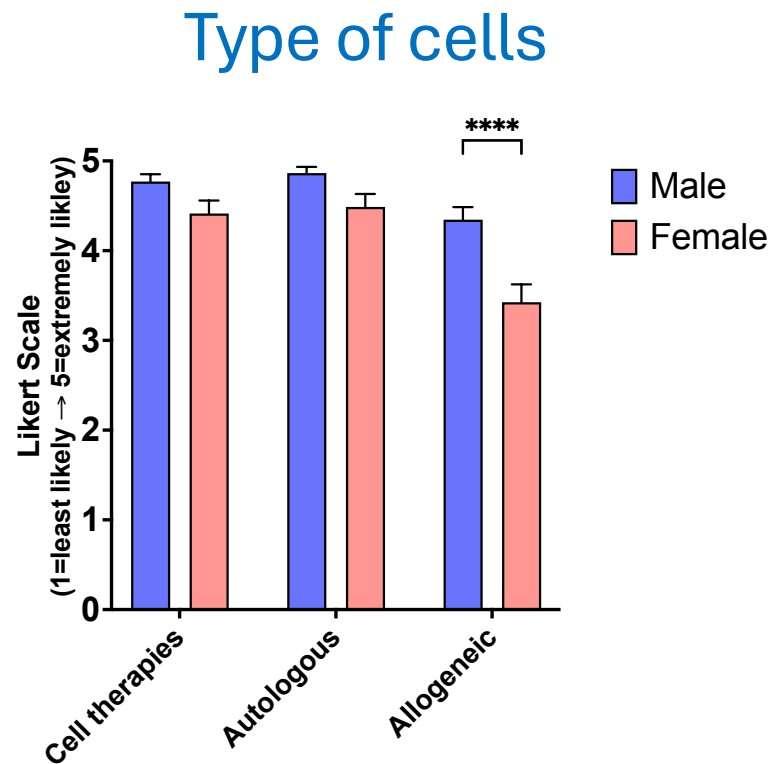


Spinal Injury Project Consumer Panel – established in 2017



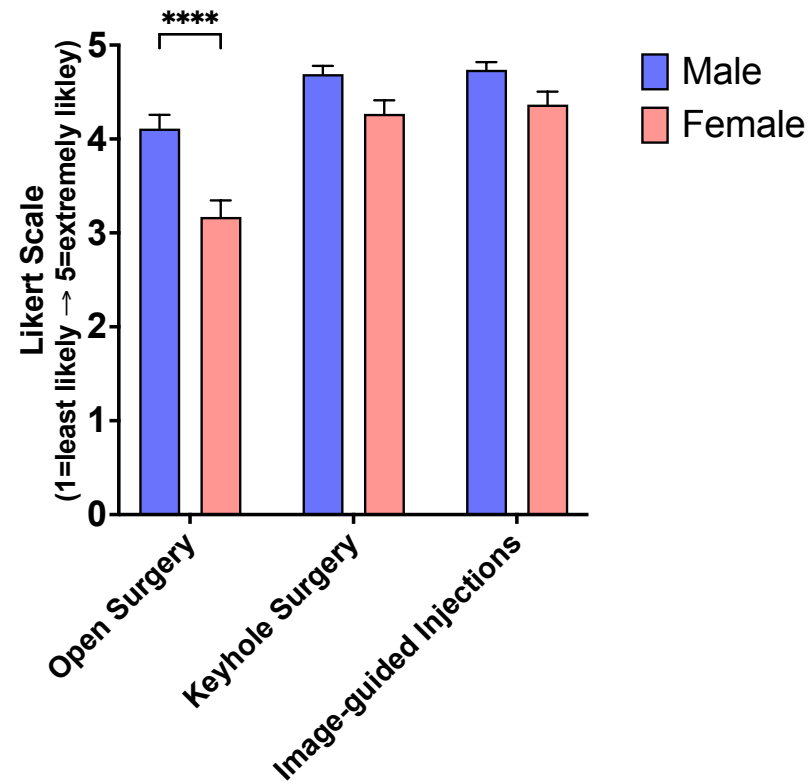
- >120 applied within two weeks
- Voice for the SCI community
- Meet once a month
- Review research design, grant applications, advertising
- Co-investigators on grants

Online survey of Australians with lived SCI experience

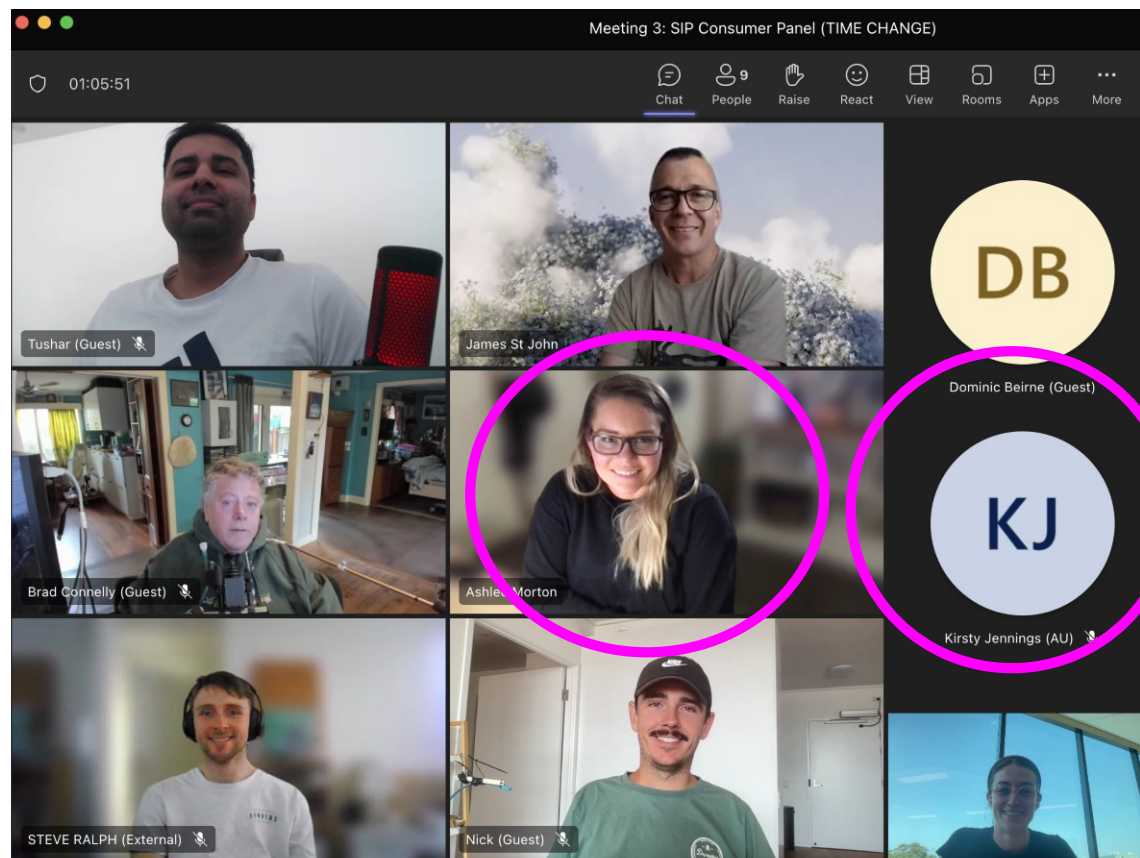


N= 180 respondents

Type of implantation



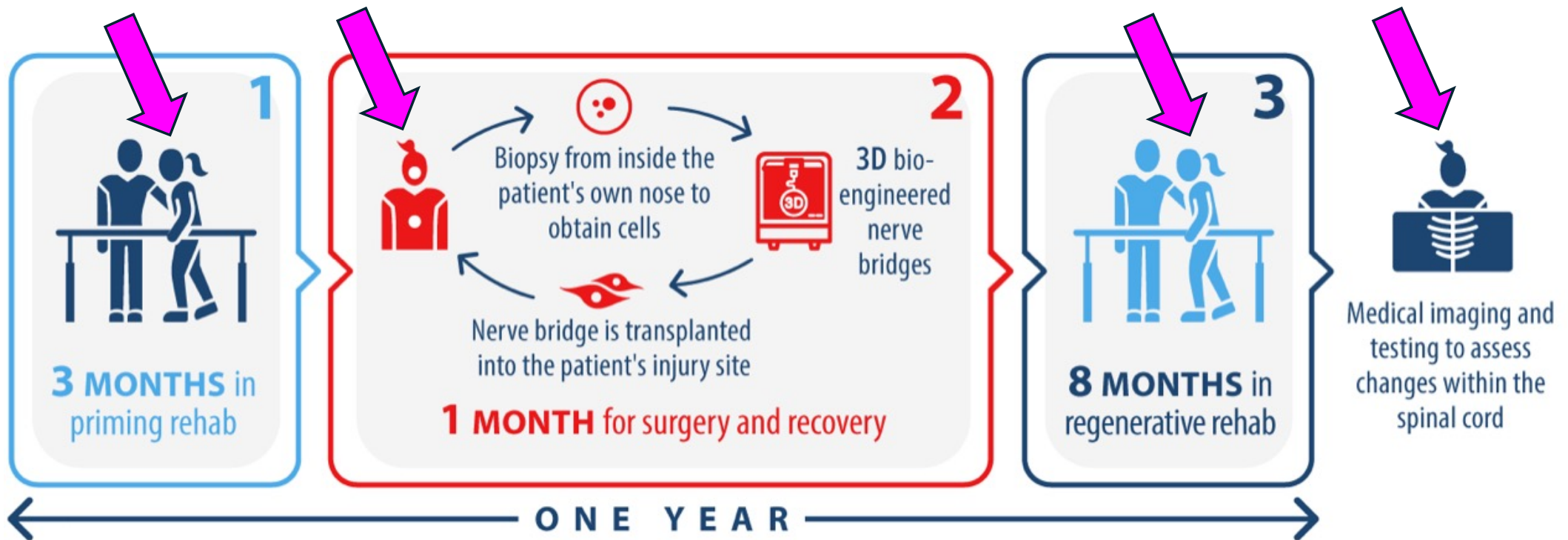
Spinal Injury Project Consumer Panel



Spinal Injury Project Consumer Panel



Deliberate female characters in advertising





INSTITUTE FOR
BIOMEDICINE
AND GLYCOMICS



Queensland
Government



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

Medical Research
Future Fund



Perry Cross
Spinal Research
Foundation
To Cure Paralysis For All™

Brazil Family Foundation

Nicola and Andrew Forrest

