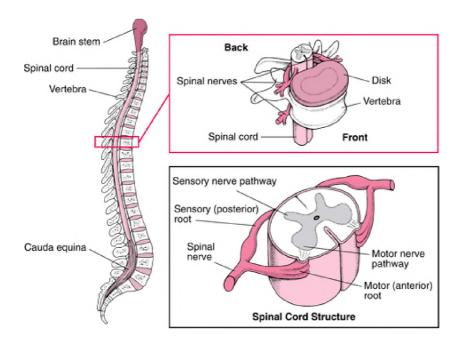
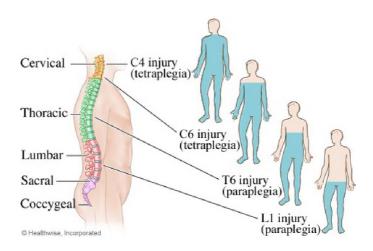
The nervous system is the most important in the human body. It consists of the *central and peripheral system*. Two main structures of the central nervous system are the brain and the *spinal cord*. They cooperate together by receiving signals from outside of the body, controlling and coordinating functions. The spinal cord extends from the *foramen magnum* to L1/L2 vertebra of lumbar part and ends with the *final thread*. Vertebrae and *cerebrospinal fluid* are the main structures that protect the spinal cord from many injuries.

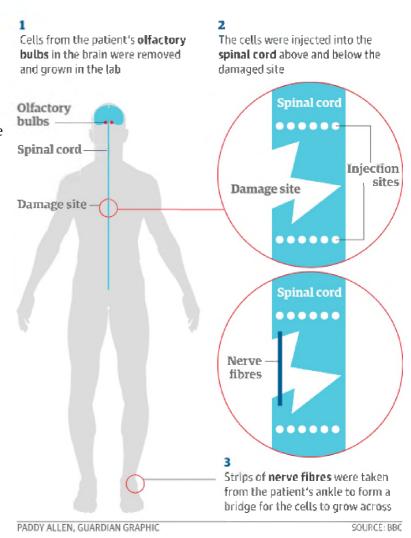


Spinal cord injury produces such symptoms as *numbness*, *weakness*, *loss of sensation* and *paralysis*. These *disorders* allows identification of the level at which the spine is *damaged*. There are two types of spinal cord injury: *complete* and *incomplete*. Complete injury often causes permanent changes in strength, sensation and other body functions below the site of the injury. Incomplete spinal cord injury is when the *motor function* is preserved below the neurological level.



In 2010 the 40 year old fireman from Poland- Darek Fidyka was the victim of a knife attack that left him *paraplegic*.

He was completely paralysed from the waist down. However, scientists in Poland used cells from Mr Fidyka's **brain cavity** to **re-grow nerve cells** which were then inserted into his spine, fixing the broken link. After 19 months of treatment at a Polish hospital, his doctors said he has recovered some **voluntary movement** and some **sensation** in his legs. These are the three steps that doctors made to fix the broken link ∏





Darek Fidyka who is believed to be the first person in the world to *recover* from complete injury of the spinal nerves, can now walk with a *walker*. He considers that in the future he will be able to lead an independent life.

Vocabulary:

central nervous system- ośrodkowy układ nerwowy peripheral nervous system- obwodowy układ nerwowy spinal cord- rdzeń kręgowy foramen magnum- otwór wielki final thread- nić końcowa (ogon koński) cerebrospinal fluid -płyn mózgowo-rdzeniowy *numbness* – drętwienie weakness- osłabienie loss of sensation – utrata czucia paralysis- paraliż disorders –zaburzenia complete injury – uszkodzenie całkowite incomplete injury – uszkodzenie niecałkowite motor function – funkcja ruchowa damaged – uszkodzony paraplegic -paraplegia brain cavity – jama mózgu to re-grow nerve cells – odbudować komórki nerwowe voluntary movement - ruchy dobrowolne sensation – uczucie, wrażenie olfactory bulbs – opuszki węchowe walker – balkonik

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