

The VA Healthcare Network of Upstate New York at Albany has established a new clinic team specializing in the unique health needs of individuals with spinal cord injuries and/or diseases.

This team will provide comprehensive assessments, evaluations, treatments and education to maintain and/or improve the quality of life.

This interdisciplinary treatment team will also provide coordination and continuity of care to patients with older spinal cord injuries/disabilities who may need sustaining or intermittent care, sports and recreation activities and/or assistance with advocacy issues.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the highest quality health care to patients with spinal cord injury and spinal cord disease through the coordinated management of all medical and social issues relating to this specialty care group.

We provide this care in a timely and efficient manner to provide the best possible care to our veterans.

Spinal Cord Injury Spinal Cord Disease Clinic

- ❖ Offers convenient access to individualized management of the health issues of spinal cord injury/spinal cord disease patients and their families
- ❖ Offers continuity of care and services through:
 - Outpatient annual evaluations
 - Outpatient Spinal Cord Injury/Spinal Cord Disease Care Clinic
 - Consultative services to primary care clinics
 - Assistance in addressing psychosocial needs
 - Benefits counselling
 - Special needs services such as dental, nutrition, urology, respiratory, pastoral care, chemical dependency and mental health services
 - Assessment of functional abilities, mobility, equipment and treatment options by rehabilitation therapy specialists such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Recreation Services

Focus

Commitment to meeting the needs of spinal cord injury and spinal cord disease patients and their families through:

- ❖ Coordination of care
- ❖ Initial spinal cord injury/spinal cord disease exam with six month interval examination and testing
- ❖ Patient and family education
- ❖ Assessment of functional abilities and needs
- ❖ Assistance to promote or enhance quality of life



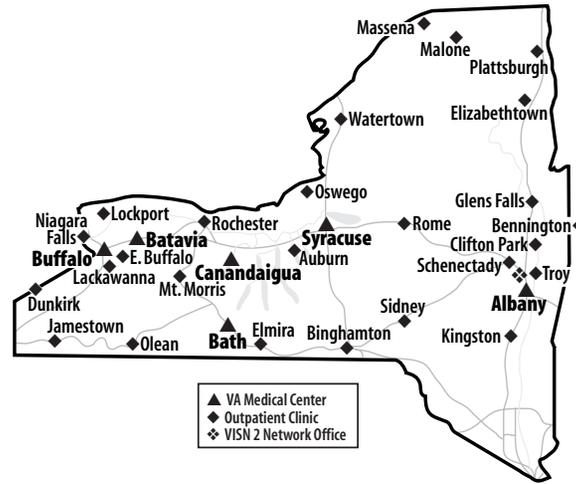
VA Healthcare Network
 Upstate New York at Albany
 STRATTON VA MEDICAL CENTER
 113 Holland Avenue
 Albany, New York 12208
 (518) 462-3311

Our team consists of the following :

- ◆ **Rehabilitation Physician:**
 Barbara Bates, M.D. Ext. 2416
- ◆ **Nurse Practitioner:**
 Rachel L. Palmieri, MS, N.P. Ext. 2853
- ◆ **Registered Nurse:**
 David Koonz, RN Ext. 2591
- ◆ **Social Worker:**
 Gina Nunziato, MSW Ext. 3236
- ◆ **Physical Therapist:**
 Melinda Fry, PT Ext. 2415
- ◆ **Occupational Therapist:**
 Rose Hajec, OTR/L Ext. 2413
- ◆ **Recreation Therapist:**
 Michele Ferrauilo, CTRS Ext. 2298
- ◆ **Clinic Appointment Clerk:**
 Ginny Pool Ext. 2591

Spinal Cord Injury/Spinal Cord Disease
 Clinic is located on Ward 5B

Reaching Us Is Easy



VA Healthcare On The Web
<http://www.va.gov/visns/visn02/>

You'll find more than 1400 pages designed to make it easy for veterans to access accurate, up-to-date information about VA healthcare. You'll also find specific information on VA Women Veterans Health Services.

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 Upstate New York at Albany



Spinal Cord Injury Spinal Cord Disease Program

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