

## Stem cell research begins for spinal cord injury repair

The state's stem-cell institute has awarded \$20 million to [UC Irvine](#) researchers, along with a private company, to prepare the way for human testing of a treatment for spinal-cord injuries in the neck region — one that could restore movement and independence for some of the 1.3 million spinal-cord injury sufferers in the United States. The treatment, developed by the [husband and wife research team, Aileen Anderson and Brian Cummings](#), along with [StemCells Inc.](#) of Newark, Ca., would involve injecting versatile human neural stem cells into the neck area.

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