

CASE STUDY

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital



Using Technology to Stay Ahead of Your Competition

Overview

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital is a national leader in specialized rehabilitation programs for traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke and pulmonary conditions for children and adults. They have been using Ekso GT with Variable Assist since April 2014. While their initial focus was for use with SCI patients, more recently their use of the gait-training device was expanded to include rehabilitation of patients with lower extremity weakness due to spinal cord injury (SCI) and stroke, in their rehabilitation institution.*

Challenge

As a cutting edge hospital, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital keeps its eye on the future of medical possibilities and is heavily invested in technologies that drive better patient outcomes. After acquiring a robotic weight supporting treadmill solution, they discovered an important transitional step was missing between that platform and traditional manual gait training tools.

Solution

After carefully researching their options, Madonna decided to purchase the Ekso GT with Variable Assist software because of the ability to progress their patients during gait training. They estimated at least 5 percent of their hospital patients with spinal cord injury would benefit from rehabilitation with the Ekso GT gait training system and believed that the total number could grow as use expanded to other patient populations.

Implementation

Initially it took Madonna longer than anticipated to increase the Ekso GT's use while its physical therapy staff adjusted to the technology. However, in under a year Madonna witnessed greater frequency of use. This is due in part to using the Ekso GT with Variable Assist Software (VAS) with patients presenting with lower extremity weakness due to SCI and Stroke.* In January, Madonna booked 35 Ekso GT sessions and the number continues to climb weekly. As the program's popularity increases, Madonna is training more therapists and recently purchased a third training course to teach additional PTs.

Highlights

Q&A with Chris Lee to learn more about Ekso GT at Madonna

Q: What has been your patients' reaction to the Ekso system?

A: There is a lot of excitement about this technology. Some

"We felt this technology would fit our patients' needs well. Additionally, having this type of technology helps make the case for why patients should travel regionally to receive services at our facility. I think our staff has embraced it as another technological tool for aiding recovery. It's versatility and the range of patients it fits has been pleasantly surprising to us."

Christopher A. Lee,
MSPT, FACHE Vice President of Rehabilitation
Madonna rehabilitation hospital

patients/families specifically state that they came here to use the technology as part of their rehabilitation and want to be sure they have the opportunity. Those who use it give it very good reviews.

Q: How has having the Ekso GT impacted your hospital's reputation?

A: Use of the Ekso is a significant benefit in my opinion. I think the technology is at a place now where any facility that does not have it will not be viewed as a serious regional provider.

Q: What are the benefits that are unique to Ekso GT gait training device?

A: It enables a wide range of people to benefit from over ground gait training as part of a rehabilitation program.

Q: What do you see as the next step with Ekso Bionics?

A: We would like to add a second unit at some point.

*for full indications for use please visit www.eksobionics.com