Neurosciences: At a Glance

1,446 stroke patients were treated in 2013.

Scripps performed 88 neurointerventional procedures last year.

More than 200 electrodes have been implanted in deep brain stimulation procedures since the program was founded.

Neurosurgeons performed 710 neurosurgical procedures.

The Brain Injury Day Treatment Program cared for 75 patients in 2013, representing a 27 percent increase from the previous year.

More than 115 patients were treated for multiple sclerosis.

678 patients benefited from inpatient rehabilitation, which includes treatment for traumatic brain injury, stroke, and spinal cord injury.

All Scripps hospitals with an emergency room are designated as Primary Stroke Centers by The Joint Commission (TJC).

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla was among the first in the nation to receive Comprehensive Stroke Center ranking by TJC.

Comprehensive Neurologic Care Offered at Scripps

Neurologic care at Scripps Health offers patients access to physicians and staff from across the organization to enhance the quality of care patients receive and to deliver services in unprecedented ways.

From treatment of traumatic brain injuries to headache medicine, Scripps’ neurosciences program cares for patients through specialized treatment methods. The care teams never lose sight of the fact that patients recover best when supported from the beginning of their treatment through recovery and rehabilitation. Scripps medical staff includes neurologists and neurosurgeons as well as a range of support staff, who all work together to provide a comprehensive approach to care.

Scripps offers neurologic care for the treatment of brain cancers, cerebrovascular disease including stroke and aneurysms, headaches including migraine, chronic pain and the management of movement disorders including Parkinson’s disease.
Stroke Care Across San Diego County

When stroke happens, “time is brain.” Scripps provides comprehensive stroke care from the onset of stroke symptoms all the way through to stroke rehabilitation. Our stroke rehabilitation programs recognize the unique challenges stroke patients and their families face.

All Scripps hospitals with emergency departments are designated primary stroke centers by The Joint Commission (TJC) and focus on helping stroke patients recover strength and mobility, relearn essential skills and develop new ways to compensate for decreased functionality. Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla is one of the first hospitals in the United States to receive the Comprehensive Stroke Center designation by The Joint Commission and the American Heart Association.

The comprehensive approach to stroke care includes a range of health care professionals who work with patients and their families to set goals for recovery. To encourage success, Scripps offers a unique range of stroke rehabilitation activities that include recreational outings, support groups, work and home space evaluations, conditioning and more.

Advanced Medical Technology Available at Scripps

Scripps has the only Ekso robotic skeleton in San Diego. The wearable robot allows paraplegic patients to get back on their feet and walk with the assistance of a physical therapist and is also being used to treat rehabilitation patients recovering from a stroke. In addition, Scripps has the only gait lab in San Diego County to serve the adult civilian population. The sophisticated analysis lab uses cameras and sensor pads to identify and aid in the treatment of patients who have walking abnormalities.

Groundbreaking Research for the Treatment of Parkinson’s Disease

Melissa Houser, M.D., neurologist and medical director of Scripps Clinic’s Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Center, and co-investigator Jeanne F. Loring, Ph.D., professor and director of the Center for Regenerative Medicine at The Scripps Research Institute, are conducting research through which skin cells are taken from Parkinson’s disease patients who meet select criteria, cultivated in vitro and turned into pluripotent dopamine-producing brain cells. The plans, which will require Food and Drug Administration approval, are to implant these cells back into the donor patients’ brains. The goal is for the cells to integrate inside the brain and produce enough dopamine to alleviate the worst symptoms of Parkinson’s disease.