

<b>Title:</b>	The effectiveness of a new treatment method for patients with carpal tunnel syndrome
<b>Issue/Rationale:</b>	The adverse effects of carpal tunnel syndrome are making this a major contributor of disability and related costs, financial or otherwise, on the compensation system.
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p>To evaluate the effectiveness of a promising novel treatment that may improve nerve regeneration and hand function in patients with carpal tunnel syndrome by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensively quantifying the functional and physiological consequence of severe medial nerve compression in patients with carpal tunnel syndrome.</li> <li>• Comparing the outcome of conventional carpal tunnel decompression surgery alone versus decompression surgery followed by post-operative electrical stimulation.</li> </ul>
<b>Anticipated Results/Impact:</b>	In addition to improving the quality of life of inflicted individuals, it could also result in major financial savings both for the industries as well as for WCB.
<b>Keywords:</b>	carpal tunnel syndrome, median nerve regeneration
<b>Investigators:</b>	K. Ming Chan, University of Alberta
<b>From-To Dates:</b>	2002–2005
<b>Budget:</b>	\$54,509
<b>Funding Agency:</b>	Workers' Compensation Board–Alberta