

# Therapeutic Hypothermia and Spinal Cord Injury

George Ralls MD, FACEP  
Orange County EMS System  
Eagles 2010



SPORTSCENTER

SC  
BLINDOWN

BILLS TO WIN?

KEVIN EVERETT

GIANTS  
COWBOYS

THE BLITZ

PATRIOTS  
JETS

RANDY MOSS

PATRIOTS  
DOMINATE

BEARS  
CHARGERS

BEARS STRUGGLE

EVERETT

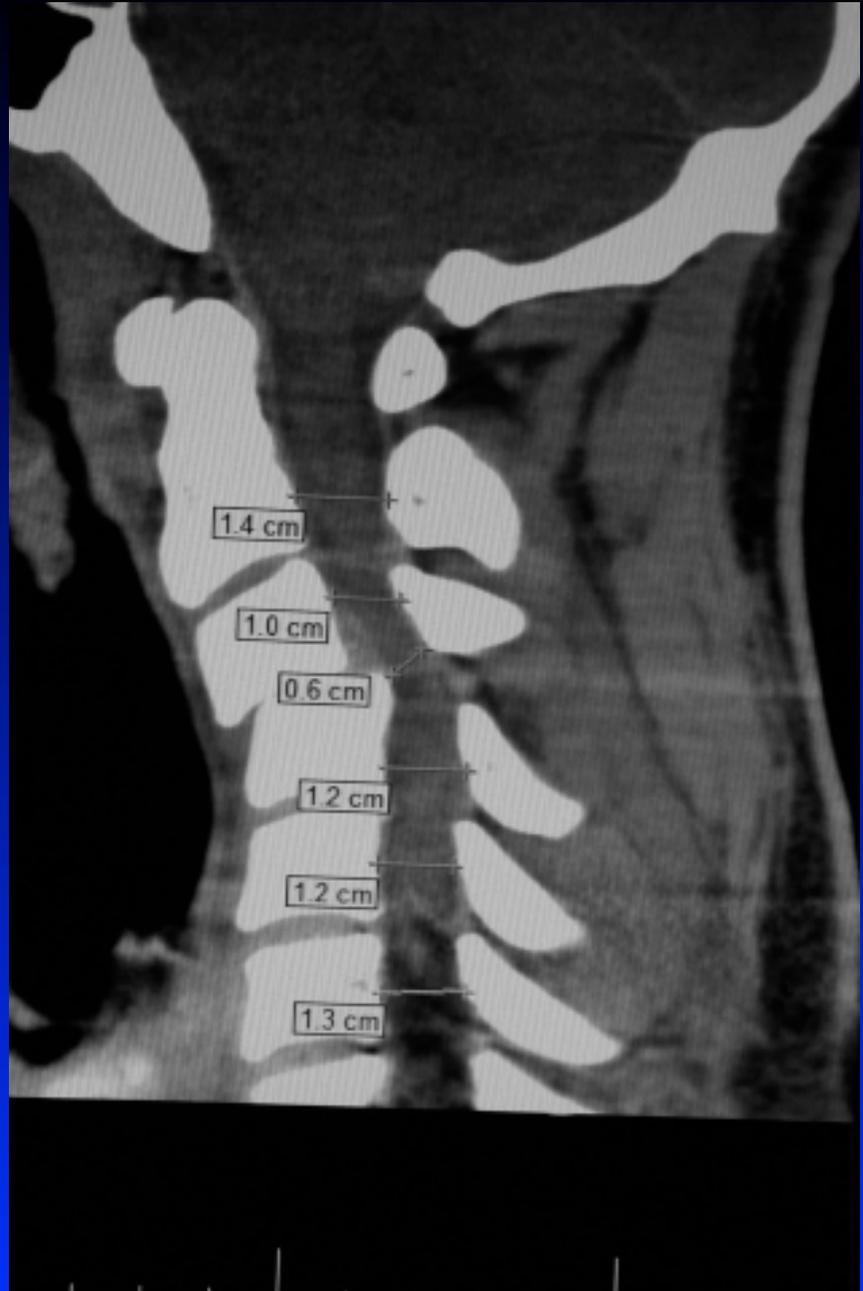
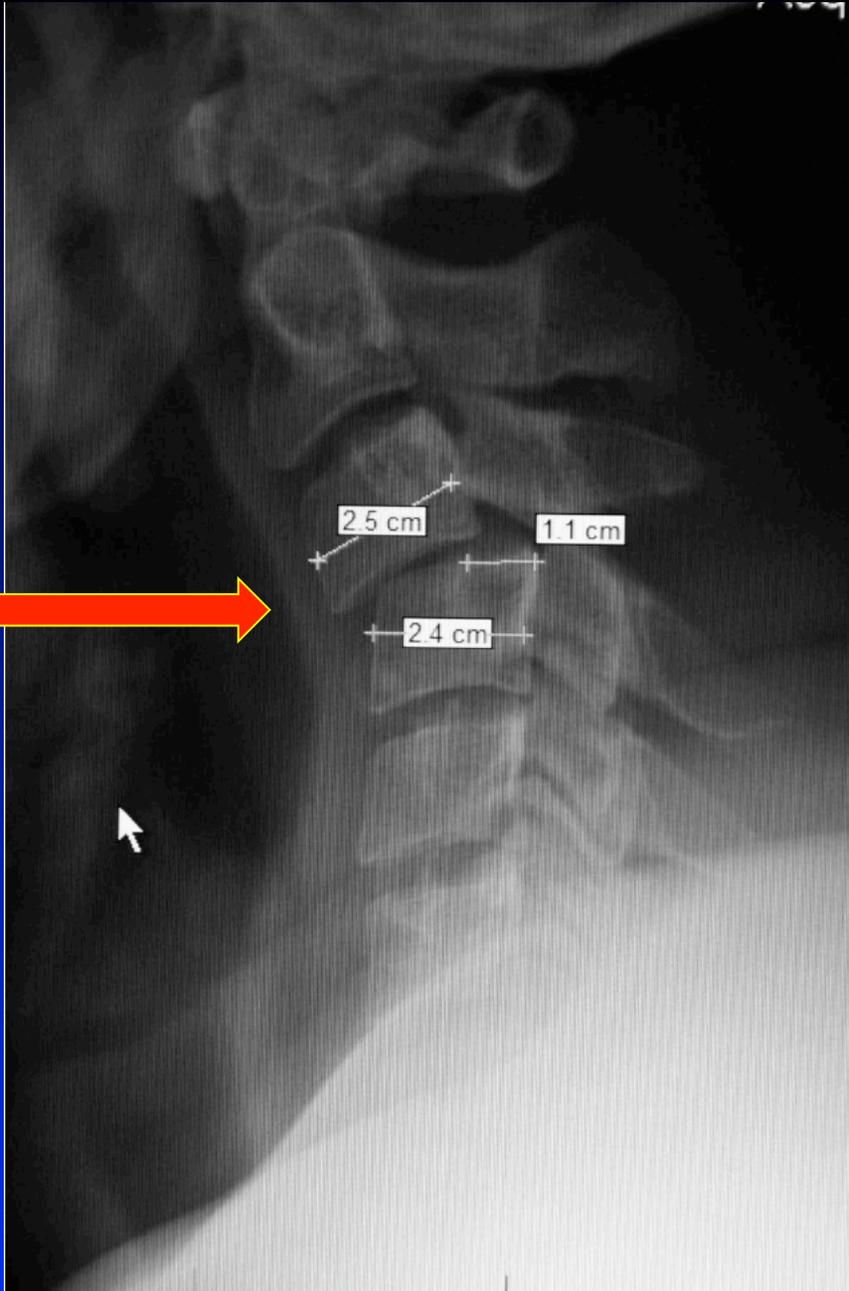
SC

NFL CLE slow Jr.: 4 rec, 83 yds

ESPN

A screenshot from an ESPN SportsCenter broadcast. In the center, a male host in a suit and tie sits at a desk. To his left is a graphic featuring a portrait of a player with the name 'EVERETT' below it, and the 'SC' logo. To his right is a vertical list of NFL-related headlines under the 'SC BLINDOWN' header. At the bottom of the screen, a ticker displays 'NFL CLE slow Jr.: 4 rec, 83 yds' and the ESPN logo is in the bottom right corner.







## **Spinal Immobilization, IV, O2**

**Cooling interventions immediately**

**IV steroids (Methylprednisolone)**

**Early surgical decompression (3 hrs)**

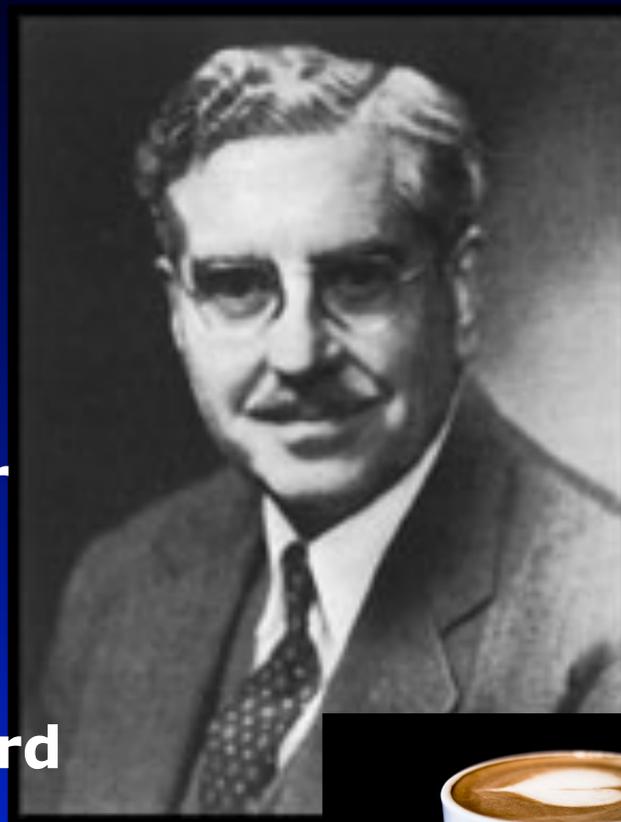


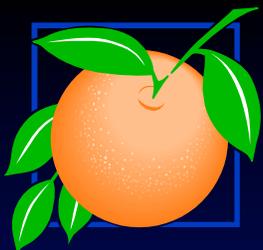


**Dan O'Reilly**  
**"The Miracle Man"**



- **1937** Dr. Temple Fay
  - Cancer Treatment
- **1950's**
  - Cerebral aneurysm repair
  - 24° C – 33° C
- **1960-70's**
  - Local cooling of spinal cord
  - Traumatic SCI
- **1980's**
  - Interest dwindled due to concern about complications





- **2002**
  - **NEJM**
    - **HACA Trial and Bernard studies**
- **2006**
  - **Systematic Literature Review (CJEM)**
- **2007**
  - **Kevin Everett Story**

## ICE: Induced Cooling by EMS

**Brent Myers MD, MPH**

Medical Director  
Wake County EMS  
Raleigh, NC

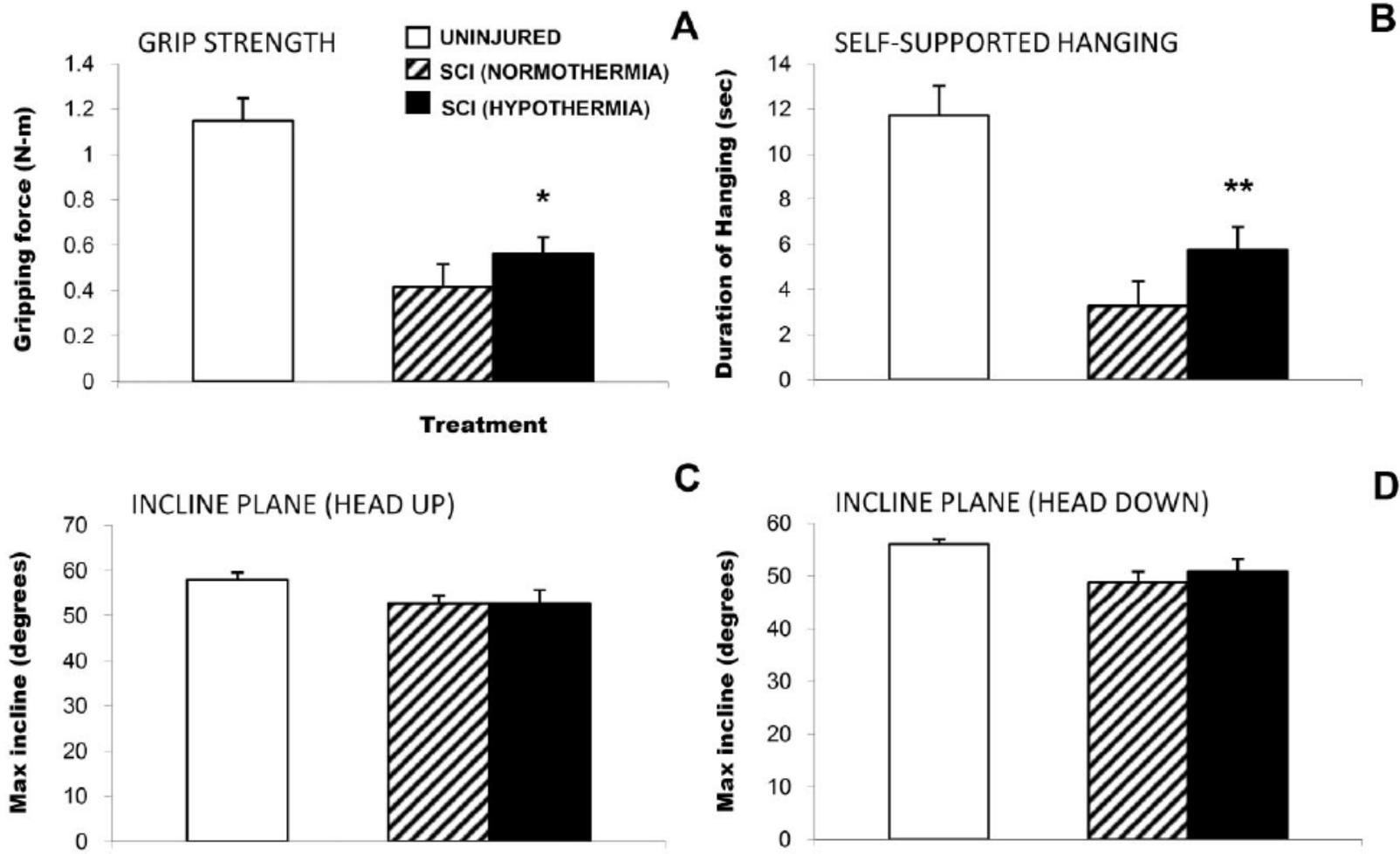
**Paul Hinchey MD, MBA, EMT-P**

Assistant Medical Director  
Wake County EMS



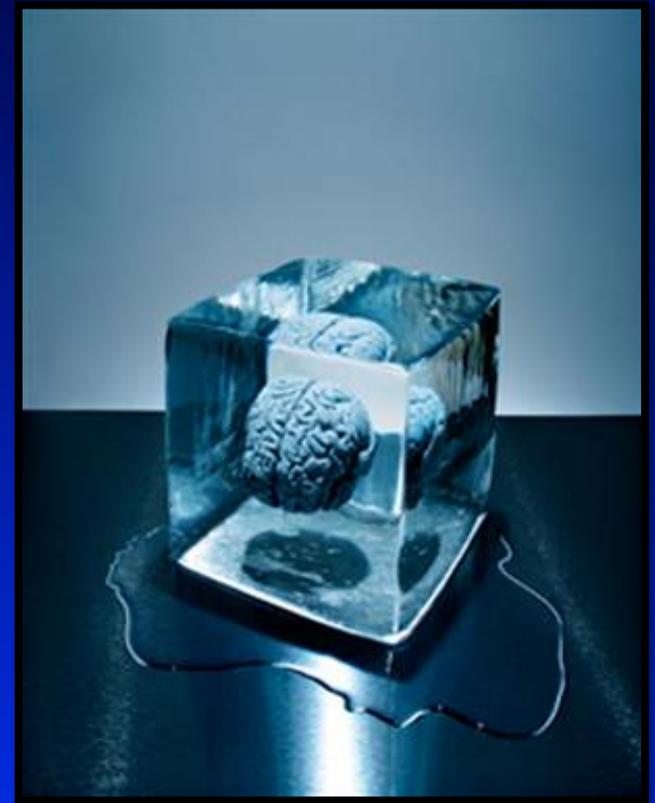


First Author (Reference)	Species	Level	Method	Cooling Start	°C Duration	Other	Outcome
Albin (41)	Dog	T10	WD	0 hrs	12 SC, 2.5 hrs	DO	Positive
Albin (42)	Monkey	T10	WD	4 hrs post	10 SC, 3 hrs	DO	Positive
Ducker (56)	Dog	T11	WD	3 hrs post	3 SOL, 3 hrs	DO	Positive
Kelly (57)	Dog	T10	WD	0 hrs	12 SC, 2.5 hrs	DO	Positive
Black (58)	Monkey	T10	WD	1 hrs post	4-8 SOL, 5 hrs	±DO	Negative
Tator (14)	Monkey	T9-10	ICD	3 hrs post	5, 3 hrs	±DO	Positive
				3 hrs post	36, 3 hrs	±DO	Positive
Campbell (59)	Cat	T9	WD	3 hrs post	4 SOL, 3 hrs	DO	Positive
Hansebout (15)	Dog	T13	ICD	0 hrs	4 EP, 4 hrs		Positive
Kuchner (52)	Dog	T13	ICD	15 mins post	6 SOL, 4 hrs		Positive
Eidelberg (60)	Ferret	Mid-T	SWL	1 hr post	10 EP, 3 hrs		Positive
Wells (61)	Dog	T13	ICD	4 hrs post	6 EP, 1-18 hrs		Positive
Green (43)	Cat	T10	WD	1.4 hrs post	6-18°C, 3 hrs	DO	Positive
Martinez-Arizala (17)	Rat	T8	WD	Pre & post	31-32°C, 4 hrs	DI	Positive
Yu (18)	Rat	T10	WD	Post	33°C, 4 hrs	DI	Positive
Chatzipanteli (47)	Rat	T10	WD	Post	33°C, 4 hrs	DI	Positive
Dimar (39)	Rat	T10	WD	Post	19°C, 2 hrs	DI	Positive/
Lo (21)	Rat	C5	WD	Post	33°C, 4 hrs	DI	Positive



# Hypothermia is Neuroprotective

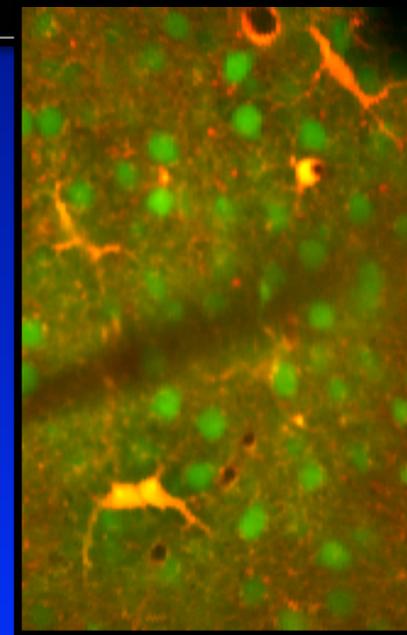
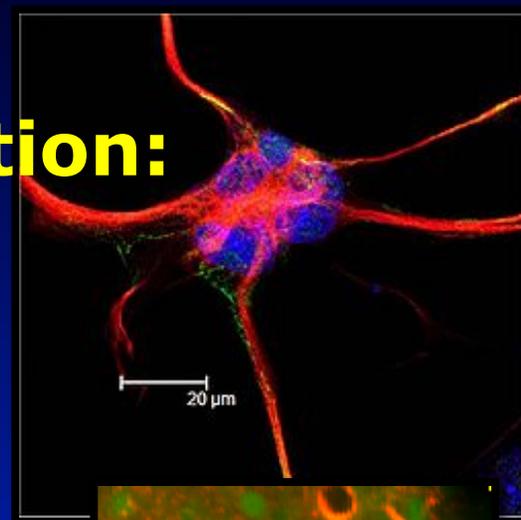
- Cardiac arrest
- Traumatic brain injury
- Stroke/SAH
- Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm repair
- Cold water drowning

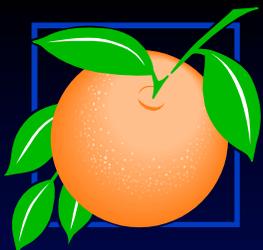




## Mechanism of Neuroprotection:

- **Suppression of injury induced inflammation**
- **Suppression of gliosis**
- **Reduces oxygen free radical production**
- **Reduces overall metabolic demand**





- **Human Studies:**
  - 2009 Levi, et al
  - Retrospective analysis
  - 14 patients
  - Safety study





- **First patient enrolled in 2006**
- **Acute C-SCI**
- **Complete SCI/Non-penetrating**
- **Injury confirmed by radiography**
- **Cleared by trauma service for other injuries**



- **Intravascular Catheter**
- **Target temp: 33°C**
- **Time to Initiation:**
  - 3-33 hours
  - Mean 9 hr 10 min
- **Duration:**
  - 48 hours at target

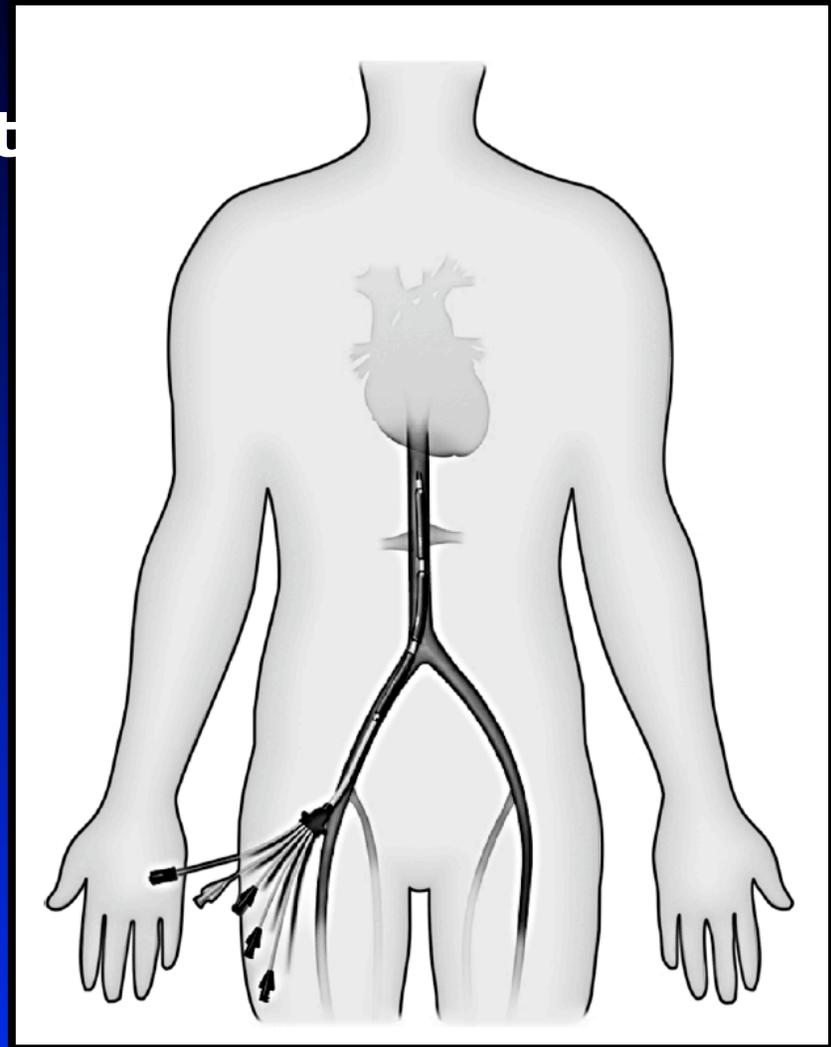


TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF COMPLICATIONS IN PATIENTS THAT RECEIVED HYPOTHERMIA

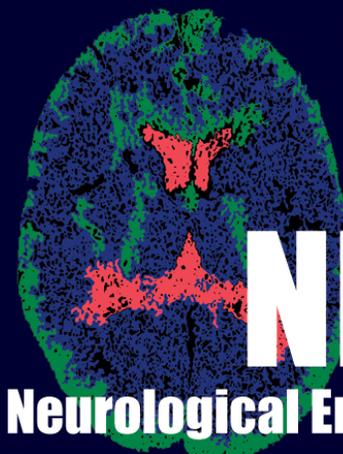
<i>Complication</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
Atelectasis	12	85.7
Pneumonia	8	57.1
ARDS	2	14.3
Arrhythmia	3	21.4
Thrombocytopenia	1	7.1
Sepsis	1	7.1
Coagulopathy	0	0.0
DVT	0	0.0
MI	0	0.0
PE	0	0.0
Wound infection	0	0.0
Death	0	0.0



- **6 month Follow-up of the original 14 patients**
  - **Currently in peer review process**
- **NIH Grant (Dr. Wang)**
  - **Multicenter Prospective Controlled Trial**
  - **NETT**



**THE MIAMI PROJECT  
TO CURE PARALYSIS**



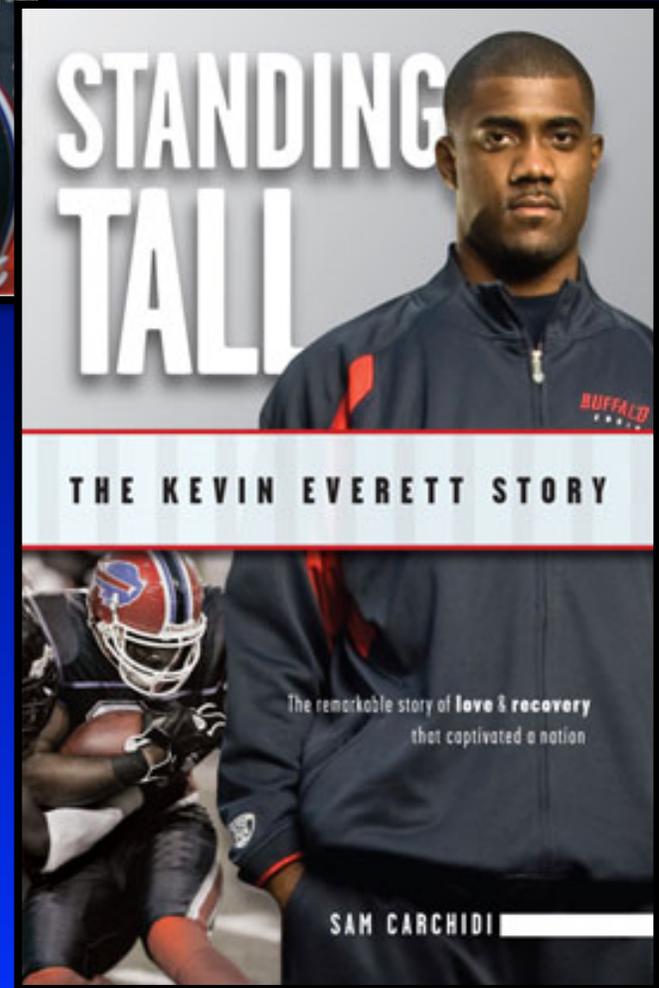
**NETT**  
**Neurological Emergency  
Treatment Trials**

# What Role do We Play?





**“The extent to which this hypothermia contributed to his neurologic recovery is difficult to determine.”**



- **Not widely adopted by Trauma and Neurosurgical community yet**
- **Animal models not representative of most trauma patients**
- **Paucity of human research**
- **Multicenter RCT planned**





# **Induced Hypothermia and Spinal Cord Injury**

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Eagles 2010**