

Perry Cross's life changed profoundly in 1994, when a rugby accident at 19 left him a C2 ventilated quadriplegic. Despite this devastating injury, Perry's spirit and determination never wavered. Even as he faced immense personal challenges, including adapting to life as a quadriplegic, his drive extended beyond his own recovery.

He graduated from university with a Communications degree, demonstrating his remarkable resilience and commitment to education. His personal journey quickly transformed into a mission to find a cure for spinal cord injuries for everyone.

Inspired by the late Superman actor and fellow advocate Christopher Reeve, Perry founded the Perry Cross Spinal Research Foundation (PCSRF) in 2010. Under his leadership, the PCSRF has become a leading force in Australian medical research, strategically funding groundbreaking scientific endeavours focused on spinal cord repair and regeneration. His direct experience provides invaluable insight, ensuring the foundation's efforts are deeply relevant to those living with paralysis. For his exceptional contributions, he has been recognized with a Griffith University Honorary Doctorate and as a Member of the Order of Australia.

Perry is a tireless advocate, dedicating himself to raising awareness and inspiring support for the cause. He frequently shares his powerful story, rallying individuals, corporations, and governments to contribute to vital research. His unwavering optimism has significantly advanced the landscape of spinal cord research in Australia.

A monumental achievement for Perry and the PCSRF is the imminent world-first human clinical trial in collaboration with Griffith University. This groundbreaking trial, investigating a novel nerve bridge transplantation and rehabilitation approach, represents years of dedicated effort and offers significant hope for individuals with chronic spinal cord injuries.

Perry remains the heart and soul of the PCSRF. His vision has led to major breakthroughs and fostered global scientific collaborations. Still living with the daily realities of his injury, Perry's unwavering focus is on a future where paralysis is curable, inspiring a global community united in achieving that goal.

## Everything is Possible!

## **CONTACT:**

Email: team@pcsrf.org.au Phone: 0418 850 501

www.pcsrf.org.au

