Sir,

We thank you for the valuable comments and inputs on our manuscript. We appreciate your kind gesture of congratulating us on the research article and have tried to answer your queries in a meticulous manner.

All patients were studied retrospectively, and their contact was taken from the hospital records. The study was conducted in the patients who got operated between 2007 and 2014 and data were collected in the year 2015. Due to the difficulty faced by the spinal cord injured patients by calling them to the hospital, it was decided to gather the data over phone. However, attempts were also made to approach patients on the available addresses, but many of them could not be traced. The surgeries at our institute are conducted at a concession price for all the individuals. The patients have to bear the implant cost only. Surgical charges, disposables, and consumables are taken care by the hospital. None of the patients involved in the study had any kind of health insurance schemes. The disability benefit of an individual is allotted as per the government norms and is subject to the discretion of the surgeon incharge at the civil hospital of the respective district. The social worker at our institute does help the individuals in assistive technology after spinal cord injury (SCI), but it did not have a long-lasting impact on the individuals due to lack of compliance. There were role changes in the family noted in our study. However, we do not have the precise data for the same. In many cases, women started taking care of both home and livelihood. In cases where elderly were involved, the eldest son found an unskilled worker job. There is a clear scarcity of data on measures used for assessing depression in patients with SCI, although a significant population of patients with SCI suffers from depression. Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale has been widely used in SCI research, although beck depression inventory has been followed although a significant population of patients with SCI suffers from depression. We did not use any specific depression outcome measure in our patients, but just enquired if the days after the surgery and injury led to some mental unrest in them. We agree with the reader’s view that a specific outcome measure should have been used to assess depression in the patients and we plan to do that in our subsequent studies. The schemes mentioned by the reader are of utmost significance, but in our setting, the individuals in lower socioeconomic setup are less aware about the benefits offered by the government. Very few individuals opted to get some kind of government support.
Letters to Editor

We thank the reader for the extremely valuable inputs and encouraging comments. We hope to carry forward the research by incorporating the valuable suggestions.

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Conflicts of interest
There are no conflicts of interest.

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