Selections from REHABDATA

Abstract: Study assessing functional outcome and describing disability at discharge for children who have had trauma without significant head injury. Data are from the National Pediatric Trauma Registry. It was found that as measured by the Functional Independence Measure (FIM), a large proportion of these injured children had mild or moderate disability or functional limitations.

Abstract: Study assesses the reliability and validity of a new instrument, the Family Burden of Injury Interview (FBII), which was designed to assess the impact of childhood traumatic head injuries (THI) on family members.

Abstract: Article discusses family-centered rehabilitation programs focusing on family-centered rehabilitation for children with traumatic head injuries (THI).

Abstract: Article explores the effect of childhood brain injury on later neurodevelopmental functioning and provides demographics and clinical “red flags” for child abuse brain injury.

Abstract: Study investigates outcome in children with mild traumatic head injury (THI) at 1 week and 3 months postinjury, compares their outcome with 96 children having other minor injuries as controls, and identifies factors associated with persisting problems.

Abstract: Study to determine the typical time elapsed between discharge from an inpatient spinal cord injury (SCI) rehabilitation program and physical return to school for school-age children and youth (age < 19).

The April issue of RehabWire is devoted to children and traumatic injury. According to the RRTC on Childhood Trauma, 30,000 children a year will suffer a traumatic injury resulting in permanent damage.

Abstract: Article reporting on the use of the Measure of Processes of Care (MPOC) to document parents’ perceptions of the hospital care given to their children with head injuries, and to compare their perceptions to those of the service providers.

Abstract: Study examines the empirical support from psychological therapies for children with traumatic brain injury (TBI). Topics for discussion include social interventions, behaviors, parent training and interventions, collaboration in psychological and behavioral interventions, and future directions for research.

Abstract: Retrospective chart study examines the neurobehavioral status of 71 children with traumatic head injury (THI) and concludes that neurobehavioral outcome after THI is influenced by premorbid psychosocial factors as well as by critical care management.

Some highlights from the National Pediatric Traumatic Registry (http://www.nemc.org/rehab/nptrhome.htm)
Status of Data Collection: Over 80,000 injury cases recorded; 9,000-10,000 new cases a year; 85 participating trauma centers. This data is based on admissions only, includes children 0-19, and includes all types of injuries, except those caused by burns, poison, or near drowning.

Look for these fact sheets from the RRTC and Registry:
1. A Registry of Information about Injuries Among Children
2. Injuries Among Children
3. Sports Injuries on Snow and Ice
4. Seat Belts Save Lives and Reduce Severity of Injuries
5. Football Injuries
6. Falls from Windows
7. Firearm Injuries
8. Falls from Playground Equipment
9. Falls while Skating or Skateboarding
Research in the New Millenium

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation and Childhood Trauma, New England Medical Center (H133B50006) led by Carla DiScala, PhD. Theresa San Agustin, MD, Project Officer.

Abstract: This RRTC focuses on pediatric trauma in the areas of research, education, and training of professionals and consumers. Activities are divided into three areas: (1) maintenance of the National Pediatric Trauma Registry (NPTR) [see p1], (2) dissemination of the NPTR results to professionals and consumers, and (3) training.

Find out more at: http://www.nemc.org/rehab/homepg.htm

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on the Community Integration of Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury, Mount Sinai School of Medicine (H133B980013) led by Wayne A. Gordon, PhD. Constance Pledger, Project Officer.

Abstract: This program includes several projects: evaluating a measure of community integration that assesses an individual's level of participation, and the experience of that participation, in home and community; responding to the needs of families by providing a "veteran" mentor, one with long-term experience in coping with the challenges of TBI in their own family; and validating the Brain Injury Screening Questionnaire (developed by this RRTC) within a high school in New York City. Both academic performance and behavioral challenges of children identified as having had a brain injury are documented.

Find out more at: http://academic.mssm.edu/tbinet

A Family Intervention Following Traumatic Brain Injury in Children, Children's Hospital Medical Center (H133G990069) led by Shari L. Wade, PhD. Theresa San Agustin, MD, Project Officer.

Abstract: This project runs an outpatient intervention program that studies the impact on caregiver functioning of moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) in children. It seeks to reduce psychological disability in caregivers, thereby enabling the family to support the child's recovery from TBI in an optimal way, through development and testing of an intervention adapted from established problem-solving and communications skills training protocols that have been used successfully with families of children with chronic illnesses and behavior disorders.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Rehabilitation Interventions Following Traumatic Brain Injury, The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR) (H133B990014) led by Walter M. High Jr., PhD. Ruth Brannon, Project Officer.

Abstract: The Center promotes the scientific advancement of rehabilitation research by focusing on several areas identified as needing further research. These include areas of weakness in the current knowledge and future research regarding traumatic brain injury (TBI) recovery and rehabilitation effectiveness: improvement of the diagnosis and treatment of persons with mild TBI; development of interventions to assist school-age children with TBI; the needs of minority groups members with TBI; evaluation of the effectiveness of rehabilitation interventions; and treatment for the family members of people with TBI.

May and October are popular months when it comes to health observances. Here are a few for May (with their sponsoring agencies):

- Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month (Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America) --------------- www.aafa.org
- Better Speech and Hearing Month (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association)-----------  www.asha.org
- Tuberous Sclerosis Month (National Tuberous Sclerosis Association)---------------------- www.ntsa.org
- Huntington's Disease Awareness Month (Huntington's Disease Society of America)----------------- www.hdsa.org
- National Arthritis Month (National Arthritis Foundation)------------------------------- www.arthritis.org
- National Digestive Disease Awareness Month (National Digestive Disease Coalition)--------- 202/544-7497
- National Mental Health Month (National Mental Health Association)---------------------- www.nmha.org
- National Stroke Awareness Month (National Stroke Association)------------------------ www.stroke.org
- National Trauma Awareness Month (American Trauma Society)------------------------ www.amtrauma.org