April 2015 MSKTC Headlines

=====Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)=====

**Resource Highlight: The ABCs of Parenting with an SCI**

The Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System Center (NWRSCIS) has posted a video, *The ABCs of Parenting with an SCI*, the latest in the SCI Forum Video series. The panel discussion features individuals with different levels of SCI who came to parenting at different points in their injury timelines. They share their experiences, insights, practical tips, and coping mechanisms for handling a multitude of parenting issues. View the video [here](#).

**Save the Date: Upcoming SCI Model System Webcast!**

The University of Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model System (U-M SCIMS) will host a webcasted lecture about ReWalk technology with a live demo on June 2, 2015 from 6:00-8:00 pm EST. The session will be held at Briarwood MedRehab and webcasted live [here](#).

**Model System Researcher to Serve as Keynote Speaker at International Conference**

Michael L. Boninger, M.D., director of the University of Pittsburgh Model System on Spinal Cord Injury, will serve as keynote speaker at the 2015 Rehab Week Valencia. He will discuss the research prize for the Fürst Donnersmarck Foundation in the field of neuro-rehabilitation. The prize is awarded for current scientific research work in the field of neurological rehabilitation of people with acquired damage to the nervous system. The focus of the work should be on post-clinical long-term rehabilitation, and they are particularly interested in interdisciplinary rehabilitation strategies and methods, as well as the examination of scientific effectiveness and efficiency (outcome research), and how these developments meet the special needs of rehabilitation providers, funding bodies and political institutions (socio-economic effects). Learn more about the prize [here](#).

**Model System Researchers Presents at the 2015 International Seating Symposium**

Researchers from the University of Pittsburgh Model System on Spinal Cord Injury (Jonathan Pearlman, Maria Toto), the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (Jessica Presperin Petersen), and the Northern New Jersey Spinal Cord Injury System (Mary Shea) together delivered the following presentation at the 2015 International Seating Symposium held on February 24-28th: *Basic Wheelchair Maintenance Training for Manual and Power Wheelchair Users*. Learn more about the symposium [here](#).

**Model System Researchers to Present at the 2015 International Spinal Cord Society Meeting**

Researchers from multiple SCI Model System sites will present at the upcoming 2015 International Spinal Cord Society Annual Meeting on May 14, 2015 in Montreal. The topics include: *Using The Spinal Cord Injury Quality Of Life (SCI-QOL) Item Banks To Detect Change*
**In Research And Clinical Practice** (authors Tulsky D, Jette A, Kisala P, Tate D, Heinemann AW, Charlifue S) and **The Use Of Quality Of Life Measures In Spinal Cord Injury Clinical Trials** (authors Tate D, Charlifue S, Post M, Tulsky D, Jette A, Heinemann AW). Learn more about the conference [here](#).

**Model System Researchers to Present at the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America Annual Meeting**

Researchers from multiple SCI Model System sites will participate in the upcoming Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, on June 13-15. They will present the poster **Relationship between the total percentage scores on the WEST-Q and objective versions of the Wheelchair Skills Test for manual wheelchair users with SCI** (authors Kirby RL, Worobey LA, Cowan R, Presperin Pedersen J, Heinemann AW, Dyson-Hudson T, Shea M, Smith C, Rushton PR, Boninger ML). Learn more about the conference [here](#).

**SCI Model System Researchers Work Published in Archives of Physical Medicine**

Researchers and collaborators from the **University of Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model System (U-M SCIMS)** co-authored six articles that were recently published in the **Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**. See the publications and abstracts [here](#).

**Model Systems Researcher Speaks at Spring Conferences**

Allen Heinemann, PhD, ABPP (RP), FACRM, co-principal investigator of the **Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (MRSCICS)**, is scheduled to present at various spring conferences, both domestic and abroad. He served as a plenary speaker at the **Third Annual National Summit on Safety and Quality** for Rehabilitation Hospitals sponsored by Select Medical, April 20, 2015 in Arlington, VA. Next, Dr. Heinemann will serve as a plenary speaker at the **13th Congress of European Forum for Research in Rehabilitation**, which will be held in Marina Congress Center, Helsinki, Finland 6-9 May, 2015, to deliver the presentation, “Self-Report Measures to Monitor Rehabilitation.” He will also participate in a symposium focused on the ICF and measurement. Dr. Heinemann will then travel to Montreal, PQ to serve as a keynote speaker at the Congrès québécois de recherche en adaptation-réadaptation (**Quebec Congress in Adaptation-Rehabilitation Research**). On May 12, he will deliver the presentation, “Measuring What Matters in Rehabilitation” on May 21, 2015.

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**Resource Highlight: Life Expectancy after Inpatient Rehabilitation Quick Review of Research**

The **MSKTC** website hosts a resource that examines factors affecting life expectancy in patients with TBI. Access the resource [here](#).
Transcript for Dr. Jesse Fann’s “Ask Me Anything” Available on MSKTC Web Site

Did you participate in Dr. Jesse Fann’s online chat about challenges and treatment options associated with depression after TBI? If you missed the live session, the discussion thread is available here.

TBIMS Project Directors Participate in an Interactive Teleconference

Model system project directors participated in Researcher on Call, and interactive teleconference sponsored by the American Psychological Association Division of Health Psychology on March 19, 2015. This teleconference was attended by approximately 100 listeners and was moderated by Tessa Hart, Ph.D., principal investigator of the Moss Traumatic Brain Injury Model System. Speakers included John Corrigan, Ph.D., principal investigator of the Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System, and Flora Hammond, M.D., principal investigator of the Indiana Traumatic Brain Injury Model System. Drs. Corrigan and Hammond addressed the topic, Traumatic Brain Injury as a Chronic Health Condition. During the presentation they examined data from a TBIMS showing that a subset of people decline years after TBI, discussed a current module project designed to illuminate the health-related reasons for this decline, and presented possible treatment and prevention strategies.

Resource Highlight: Help Your Child Recover—Build Your Child’s Resilience after a Burn Injury Factsheet

The MSKTC has posted the new factsheet, Help Your Child Recover—Build Your Child’s Resilience after a Burn Injury. This factsheet was developed by Shelley Wiechman, Ph.D., A.B.P.P., investigator of the University of Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model System (U-M SCIMS) and Lynne Friedlander, M.Ed., researcher at Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System (BH-BIMS) in collaboration with the MSKTC. The factsheet is designed to help build your child’s resiliency after the injury. The factsheet is available on the MSKTC website and may be reproduced and distributed freely with appropriate attribution. View the factsheet here.

Burn Model System Researchers Receive Honorable Mention

Researchers from the Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System (BH-BIMS) received Honorable Mention for their paper entitled, Psychological Sequelae of the Station Nightclub Fire: Comparing Survivors with and without Physical Injuries Using a Mixed-Methods Analysis, originally published in PLOS One on December 23, 2014. The paper was one of three papers chosen for an Honorable Mention by the NARRTC Research Committee and the authors will receive a certificate at the awards ceremony at the 37th Annual NARRTC Conference on April 30- May 1, 2015. Access the abstract here.

Upcoming Events
Apr 30-May 1  37th Annual NARRTC Conference
May 4-5  27th Annual Wisconsin Conference on Brain Injury
May 14-16  ISCoS and ASIA Joint Scientific Meeting
July 27-30  2015 Annual Conference on Independent Living (NCIL)
Sept 7-9  2015 American Spinal Cord Injury Professionals (ASCIP) Conference
Oct 21-24,  27th Annual Phoenix World Burn Congress
Oct 25-30  92nd Annual American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) Conference