February 2017 MSKTC Headlines

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

SCI Model System Researcher Honored as Award Lecturer
Allen Heinemann, PhD, co-principal investigator of the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (MRSCICS), was selected as the Tamara Dembo and Beatrice Wright Award Lecturer for the 2017 Rehabilitation Psychology conference in Albuquerque, NM on February 19, 2017. His presentation was titled, “Reflections on the Enduring Legacy of Tamara Dembo and Beatrice Wright on Rehabilitation Psychology.” The award recognized Dr. Heinemann’s range and volume of contributions to the psychosocial aspects of disability.

SCI Model System Researchers Publish Article in Neurology

SCI Model System Researcher Presents at Three National Conferences
Milap Sandhu, PT, PhD, site-specific project principal investigator at the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (MRSCICS), recently presented pilot data for his project at three conferences. He presented at the Society for Neuroscience Satellite Symposium held in San Diego, CA on November 11, 2016. His talk was titled, “Suppression of Inflammation Enhances AIH-induced Plasticity in People with SCI.” Next, he presented a poster, “Exposure to Acute Intermittent Hypoxia Enhances Upper Extremity Function in Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury,” at the Society for Neuroscience 2016 Annual Meeting held November 12-18, 2016 in San Diego, CA. Finally, he presented at the Chicago Neurological Society Symposium in Chicago, IL on December 9, 2016. His talk was titled, “Acute Intermittent hypoxia-induced Spinal Plasticity in Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury.”

SCI Model System Researchers Win Award for Robotic Wheelchair
Researchers from the Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL) of the University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury (UPMC-SCI) have won an award for their Mobility Enhancement Robotic Wheelchair (MEBot). The MEBot was honored with the prestigious 2016 Blackwood Design Award for Best New Concept. An interview about the
award with Rory Cooper, PhD, associate director of the UPMC-SCI and HERL director, can be accessed here. A video about the MEBot can be viewed here. Learn more about the MEBot here.

==========Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) ====

Resource Highlight: "Fatigue after TBI" Factsheet
Fatigue is one of the most common problems people experience after a TBI. As many as 70% of TBI survivors complain of mental fatigue. Learn about the causes of fatigue after TBI and what can be done to decrease fatigue. Access the MSKTC factsheet here.

=====Burn===== 
 
Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center Releases “Exercise After Burn Injury” Hot Topic Module
The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) recently released a new hot topic module, “Exercise After Burn Injury.” This suite of free resources consists of videos, a factsheet, and a narrated slideshow that explains how exercise can enhance recovery and quality of life for people who have experienced a burn injury. The featured video and brief video clips introduce viewers to the importance of exercising after burn injury via discussions with burn survivors and health-care professionals at the Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System. Access the hot topic module here.

Burn Model Systems Researchers and MSKTC to Participate at the American Burn Association 49th Annual Meeting
A host of Model Systems researchers will present papers and deliver lectures to advance the field of burn injury at the American Burn Association’s (ABA) 49th Annual Meeting in Boston, MA from March 21-24, 2017. The list of participants who submitted conference presentation information to the MSKTC can be found here. Researchers from the Burn Model Systems and the MSKTC will exhibit at booth 237. Learn more about the conference here.

Burn Model System Researchers Publish in Annals of Surgery
Jeffrey Schneider, MD; Lewis Kazis, ScD; and Colleen Ryan, MD, all of the Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System, recently published a Surgical Perspective in the Annals of Surgery. The article is titled, “Patient-Reported Outcome Measures: A Stethoscope for the Patient History.” Access the abstract here. In addition, researchers developed a visual abstract which can be found on Twitter here.
Upcoming Events

March 22, 2017  TBI Awareness Day on Capitol Hill
March 21-24, 2017  49th American Burn Association Annual Meeting
March 30-April 2, 2017  AOTA 100th Annual Conference
April 26-29, 2017  Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA)
May 3-5, 2017  41st Brain Injury Rehabilitation Conference