Headlines from the MSKTC
Connecting consumers to research-based information in Spinal Cord Injury, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Burn Injury

May 2018
Issue 77

The MSKTC provides:

Consumer Information that offers guidance on treatment, social issues, and daily living after SCI, TBI, and burn injuries.

Systematic Reviews that compile, evaluate, and summarize published research evidence related to a specific medical or health topic.

Databases of research articles posted by the SCI, TBI, and Burn Model Systems.

Upcoming Conferences:
June 11-13, 2018 Interagency TBI Conference
July 23-26, 2018 NCIL Annual Conference on Independent Living

MSKTC Co-PI Recognized with Frank H. Krusen Lifetime Achievement Award
Lynn Gerber, MD, has been selected as the 2018 recipient of the Frank H. Krusen, MD Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. The Frank H. Krusen, MD Lifetime Achievement Award was established by the Academy in 1972 to honor one of its founders who was a leader in the development of the specialty. Recipients of this award are selected based on their outstanding contributions to the field of PM&R in the areas of patient care, research, education, literary contributions, community service, and involvement in the Academy’s many activities. Learn more here.

Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

SCI Model System Researchers Participate at ASIA Scientific Meeting
A host of SCI Model System researchers delivered lectures and posters during the ASIA Scientific Meeting, held May 2-4, 2018 in Rochester, MN. This annual event highlights research on SCI and its consequences to prevent injury, improve care, increase availability of services, and maximize community engagement for people with SCI. A list of presentations delivered by SCI Model System researchers and provided to the MSKTC can be accessed here. Additional information about the meeting can be found here.

SCI Model System Researchers Receive Prestigious ASIA A Fellowship
A host of SCI Model System researchers have been honored with the Fellowship in the American Spinal Injury Association (FASIA) award for their accomplishments within the fields of SCI research, clinical practice, education, and advocacy. The designation of FASIA recognizes prominent contributions to, and support of, ASIA’s policies, practices, operations and goals. Fellow Award recipients from the SCI Model System include: Susie Charlifue, PhD, and Dan Lammertse, MD, from Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Injury System at Craig Hospital;
SCI Model System Researcher Serves as Editor in Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Journal

Yuying Chen, MD, PhD, project director of the National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center, recently served as an editor for the special issue, “Spinal Cord Injury Database Research: Challenges and Opportunities,” published by the Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation journal in Spring 2018. This special issue features three research articles from the National SCI Model System Database:

- “Understanding and preventing loss to follow-up: experiences from the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems.” View the abstract [here](#).
- “Comparing blunt and penetrating trauma in spinal cord injury: analysis of long-term functional and neurological outcomes.” View the abstract [here](#).

SCI Model System Researcher Delivers Keynote Speech at Rusk Rehabilitation Research Symposium

Michael Boninger, MD, from University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury, gave the keynote address at New York University School of Medicine’s Rusk Rehabilitation Research Symposium. He delivered the address, “The Hype and Hope of Assistive Technology” on April 26, 2018. Dr. Boninger also received the Rusk Award for Leadership and Innovation in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

SCI Model System Researcher Recognized with Edward Lowman Award

Ross Zafonte, DO, of the Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center, has been selected by the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine as the 2018 recipient of the Edward Lowman Award. The Lowman Award was established in 1989 in honor of Edward Lowman, MD, who recognized the importance of multidisciplinary teams in rehabilitation. Dr. Zafonte’s career reflects an energetic promotion of the spirit of interdisciplinary rehabilitation as evidenced in his positions as Head of the Department of PM&R and Professor of PM&R at Harvard Medical School. Each day, Dr. Zafonte supports and promotes multiple rehabilitation staffs as he holds prominent positions within each of the
Models Systems at Spaulding; SCI, TBI and Burn. His approach to interdisciplinary care benefits patients and staff throughout the area.

**SCI Model System Researcher Presents at American Medical Society for Sports Medicine**

Cheri Blauwet, MD, co-director of dissemination and knowledge translation for the [Spaulding New England Regional SCI Center](https://www.spaulding.org/about/centers-sites/new-england-regional-sci-center), presented “The Unique Challenges of Training the Elite Paralympic Athlete” at the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine’s Annual Meeting in Orlando. The Society fosters professional relationships among sports medicine physicians with the goal of advancing the discipline of sports medicine through education, research, advocacy and excellence in patient care.

**SCI Model System Hosts Advisory Meeting**

The annual [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (MRSCICS)](https://www.mrscics.com) Advisory Board meeting took place at the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. The committee is comprised of a diverse mix of stakeholders, ranging from AbilityLab employees, VA administrators, consumers and many more. Together, advisors and researchers shared their knowledge and expertise to guide the activities of several projects, including “Using a Health Technology Assessment Framework for Evaluating the Utilization and Efficiency of Wearable Exoskeleton for SCI Rehabilitation and Daily Intermittent Hypoxia and Task-Specific Upper Limb Training in Persons with Chronic Incomplete SCI.” The group dedicated time to address the needs of the SCI community and ways to use social media to recruit and reach target populations in research. The meeting was both informational and inspiring, and all parties involved deemed the meeting a success.

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**Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)**

**TBI Model System Researcher Presents at Walter Reed Military Medical Center and National Intrepid Center of Excellence**

Keith Cicerone, PhD, project director for the [JFK – Johnson TBI Model System](https://www.tbi.mil/), was invited to deliver the "Distinguished Lecture" at the Walter Reed Military Medical Center and National Intrepid Center of Excellence. The talk was part of their recognition of Brain Injury Awareness Month and occurred March 19, 2018. Dr. Cicerone discussed a body of research conducted through the TBI Model System addressing the clinical effects of holistic neuropsychological rehabilitation after TBI. He emphasized recent work that developed clinical interventions to foster strategies for rational problem-solving and self-monitoring affective states. This work suggests that changes in metacognitive and emotional self-regulation serve as fundamental mechanisms underlying improved functional outcomes through neuropsychological rehabilitation.
MSKTC Researchers to Exhibit at 4th Federal Interagency Conference

Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center researchers will exhibit resources at the 4th Federal Interagency Conference on June 11-13, 2018 in Washington DC. The conference will provide an opportunity to learn about the seminal advances in TBI research and clinical care that have served to advance the field and to change service, practice and policy. The mission of the Federal Interagency Conference on TBI is to showcase TBI research, clinical care, and policy that has been largely funded by various federal agencies. Click here to learn more.

Burn Injury (BURN)

Burn Model System Researcher Recognized with ABA Harvey Stuart Allen Award

Peter C. Esselman, MD, past Northwest Regional Burn Model System investigator, Chair, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Washington; Chief, Rehabilitation Medicine, Harborview Medical Center, was awarded the 2018 American Burn Association (ABA) Harvey Stuart Allen Distinguished Service Award at the most recent ABA meeting in Chicago. This award is given to an outstanding North American scientist for his/her contribution in the burn field. To learn more about the award click here.

Resource Highlight: "Managing Pain after Burn Injury" Factsheet

Do you want to learn how to help someone who has sustained a burn injury manage their pain? Read the "Managing Pain after Burn Injury" factsheet, which can be accessed here.

Connect with us by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter. We have three injury areas:

SCI

TBI

Burn

The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) supports the Model Systems program in meeting the needs of individuals with spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, and burn injury. The MSKTC is funded on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) and is operated by the American Research (AIR) in collaboration with George Mason University (GMU) and BrainLine at WETA under grant...