January 2014 MSKTC Headlines

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

Model Systems Researcher Appointed to Institute of Medicine (IOM)

Alan Jette, Ph.D., director of the New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center Model System (NERSCIC), received one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine through his appointment to the prestigious Institute of Medicine (IOM). Membership in the IOM recognizes Dr. Jette’s outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service as a leader in the field of disability assessment. IOM members volunteer their expertise to provide independent analysis and recommendations on important health care challenges to both government decision makers and independent organizations.

Model Systems Work Published in Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation


Model System Post New Resource

The Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System (NWRSCIS) recently posted a new video about exercising for persons with SCI titled Get Moving: Exercise and Spinal Cord Injury. The video is appropriate for patients, consumers, therapists and other health providers, providing practical information and how-to instructions. See the complete list of NWRSCIS videos here.

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

Model System Releases Winter Newsletter

The Northern New Jersey Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (NNJTBIS) recently introduced the winter issue of the newsletter TBI News & Views. This newsletter brings the latest updates and resources for people with TBI and features a story about a woman finding independence after sustaining a TBI.
Model Systems Work Featured in *Neurology Now*

*You've Survived a TBI, but Will Your Marriage?*, by Jeffrey Kreutzer, Ph.D., principal investigator of the Virginia Commonwealth Traumatic Brain Injury Model System was recently published in *Neurology Now*. The article helps couples keep a relationship strong after serious traumatic brain injury (TBI). Access the article [here](http://www.neurologynow.com/youve-survived-a-tbi-but-will-your-marriage).

=====Burn=====

**MSKTC Releases Hot Topic Module on Employment After Burn Injury**

The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) has released a new Hot Topic Module titled *Employment After Burn Injury*. The Hot Topic Module includes a suite of resources, including videos, factsheets, a slideshow, and a research study review. These resources address the difficulties, opportunities and questions on the process of returning to work after sustaining a burn injury. The Northwest Regional Burn Injury Model System (NWRBIMS) collaborated on the featured video in the Hot Topic Module, as Ben Swanson explains his experiences with Burn Model Systems’ researchers and how he addressed challenges returning to work after sustaining an injury. The Employment After Burn Injury Hot Topic Module is available at [http://www.msktc.org/burn/Hot-Topics/Employment](http://www.msktc.org/burn/Hot-Topics/Employment).

**Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) Expands to All Burn Model Systems Sites**

Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, a member institution of Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System (BH-BIMS), recently became an official Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) site. SOAR is a program developed by the Phoenix Society offering peer supporters to burn-injured patients and their families. With the addition of Spaulding, BH-BIMS now offers SOAR at all its member institutions, which includes Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Shriners Boston and Spaulding. SOAR coordinators work together across all BH-BIMS institutions to provide training for new peer supporters and continuity for patients as they transition from acute care to inpatient rehabilitation.

Other NIDRR-funded burn model systems that are designated as SOAR volunteer sites include Northwest Regional Burn Model System, the North Texas Burn Rehabilitation Model System, and the Pediatric Burn Injury Rehabilitation Model System.

**Model System Seeks Tips from the Burn Community**

The Northwest Regional Burn Model System (NWRBMS) is seeking creative solutions and modifications to make life following a burn injury easier, healthier, and more enjoyable. Members of the burn community may submit tips, ideas, and product modifications through an
online survey. NWRBMS staff will review submissions to be included on their website and newsletter.

**Upcoming Events**

Feb 15-19  
**The 36th Annual John A. Boswick, MD Burn and Wound Healing Symposium**

Mar 19-22  
**International Brain Injury Association’s Tenth World Congress on Brain Injury**

Mar 25-28  
**46th Annual American Burn Association Meeting**

Apr 8-12  
**8th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation**

May 1-2  
**38th Annual Williamsburg Traumatic Brain Injury Conference**

May 14-17  
**American Spinal Injury Association 2014 Annual Meeting**