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Headlines from the MSKTC

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

December 2019
Issue 96

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:

January 25-30, 2020
[42nd Annual John A.
Boswick Burn and Wound
Care Symposium](#)

March 4, 2020
[Brain Injury Awareness
Day on Capitol Hill](#)

March 17-20, 2020
[52nd American Burn
Association Annual
Meeting](#)

March 26-29, 2020
[AOTA Annual Conference](#)

May 3-6, 2020

MSKTC Adds Web Clinic to the MSKTC Knowledge Translation Toolkit

The Online Knowledge Translation (KT) Toolkit is a collection of resources that supports various stakeholders in implementing KT strategies. The latest addition to the [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center \(MSKTC\)](#) KT Toolkit is the web clinic, "How to Use Social Media Advertising for Research." This interactive webinar focuses on the value of using social media to reach stakeholders and how researchers can plan, implement, and assess the effectiveness of a social media campaign. The facilitators provide guidance on how to optimize Facebook and Instagram as advertising tools for research. Rachel Hibbs from the [University of Pittsburg Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury](#) (UPMC-SCI) describes the UPMC-SCI's success developing and conducting social media outreach with targeted technical assistance from the MSKTC. The toolkit also includes the "Getting Started with Social Media Advertising Guide," a companion resource to this web clinic with step-by-step directions on how to execute a social media plan for your research. Find the toolkit [here](#).

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

TBI Model System Researcher Serves as ABI2020 Conference Chair

Alan Weinstraub, MD, Medical Director for the [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#) and Medical Director of the Brain Injury Program at Craig Hospital, serves as conference chair for the North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) 15th Annual Conference (ABI2020). With the theme, "Best Practices in Brain Injury Medicine and Neurorehabilitation: Improving Outcomes Through Interdisciplinary Collaboration," this conference will be the premier educational event for multidisciplinary medical professionals involved in brain injury in 2020. Learn more about this honor [here](#).

TBI Model System Researchers Serve on Educational Planning Committee for ABI2020

TBI Model System researchers serve on the Educational Planning Committee for the North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) 15th Annual Conference (ABI2020). TBIMS committee members are from the following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: [Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI](#) (Flora Hammond, MD; and Dawn Neumann, PhD), [Spaulding-Harvard Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Joseph Giacino, PhD; and Ross Zafonte, DO), [JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Brian Greenwald, MD), and the Department of Veteran Affairs-funded Tampa Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center (Risa Nakase-Richardson, PhD, FACRM). Learn more about this committee [here](#).

TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Brain Injury*

TBI Model System researchers published a new article, "Volunteering and its association with participation and life satisfaction following traumatic brain injury," in *Brain Injury*. Researchers found that, given the positive relationship between volunteer status with life satisfaction and aspects of participation, future research should investigate the

[Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Spinal Injury Association \(ASIA\)](#)

barriers/facilitators of volunteering to improve well-being and participation after TBI. Authors are from the [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#): Angie Philippus, MS; Jessica M. Ketchum, PhD; Lisa Payne, PhD; Lenore A. Hawley, MSSW, LCSW; and Cindy Harrison-Felix, PhD. View the abstract [here](#).

MSKTC Recruiting Participants for TBI Consumer Factsheet Testing

The [MSKTC](#) is recruiting individuals with traumatic brain injury and their caregivers to provide feedback on new consumer factsheets on a wide range of topics such as behavior problems and sleep apnea. To be eligible, participants must be at least 18 years old. Participants will receive a \$25 gift card for their time. Call (202) 403-5600 or email msktc@air.org to register.

Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

SCI Model System Researcher Publishes in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*

Allen Heinemann, PhD, ABPP, FACRM, co-principal investigator of the [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System](#) and director of the Center for Rehabilitation Outcomes Research at the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, co-authored a recent publication titled, "National Institutes of Health Toolbox Emotion Battery: Application of summary scores to adults with spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, and stroke." The original research, published in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, examines differences in emotional functioning between four groups (normative group, SCI, TBI, and cerebrovascular accident). View the abstract [here](#).

SCI Model System Researcher Presents at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab Research Seminar

Allen Heinemann, PhD, ABPP, FACRM, co-principal investigator of the [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System](#) and director of the Center for Rehabilitation Outcomes Research at the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, along with collaborators Linda Ehrlich-Jones, PhD, RN, and Dominique Kinnett-Hopkins, PhD, presented at the Research Seminar Series at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab. Their presentation, "Evaluating the Utilization and Efficiency of Wearable Exoskeletons for SCI Rehabilitation," summarized qualitative data on Robotic Exoskeletons based on feedback from focus groups with exoskeleton users and clinicians. Find more information about the seminar [here](#).

SCI Model System Celebrates National Pressure Injury Prevention Day

A partner site in the [Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center, Gaylord Specialty Healthcare](#), collaborated with the [Connecticut Chapter of United Spinal Association](#) to celebrate [National Pressure Injury Prevention Day](#) on November 21. This day is celebrated with an increased awareness of the team effort involved in preventing pressure injuries. Ned Lamont, the Governor of the State of Connecticut, issued a proclamation in support of the internationally-recognized day. Gaylord staff wore "Stop Pressure Injury" buttons while reviewing brief guidelines for keeping skin healthy and the MSKTC's factsheet, "[Skin Care and Pressure Sores in Spinal Cord Injury](#)," with inpatients, outpatients, and visitors throughout the day.

Resource Highlight: "Racial and Ethnic Differences in Obesity in People with Spinal Cord Injury: The Effects of Disadvantaged Neighborhood" Quick Review

The [MSKTC](#) recently published a quick review on, "Racial and Ethnic Differences in Obesity in People with Spinal Cord Injury: The Effects of Disadvantaged Neighborhood." Authors are from the following currently-funded SCI Model System centers: [National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center](#) (Yuying Chen, MD, PhD; and Huacong Wen, MD, PhD), [University of Alabama at Birmingham Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) (Sejong Bae, PhD), [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System](#) (Allen Heinemann, PhD), [Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center](#) (Bethlyn Vergo Houlihan, MSW, MPH), [Northern New Jersey Spinal Cord Injury System](#) (Amanda Botticello, PhD), and [University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury](#) (Mike Boninger, MD). In plain language, the quick review describes how researchers examined the roles that neighborhoods, race, and ethnicity play in obesity rates for individuals with SCI. This cross-sectional study analyzed neighborhood information from American Community Survey, and survey data from the National SCI database allows practitioners, individuals with SCI, and their families to use the study results to better understand how disadvantaged neighborhood characteristics contribute to obesity in individuals with SCI. The review is available [here](#).

Burn Injury (BURN)

Burn Model System Researchers Publish Article in *Journal of Burn Care and Research*

Burn Model System researchers recently published the manuscript, "An examination of follow-up services received by vulnerable burn populations: A Burn Model System National Database study," in the *Journal of Burn Care and Research*. This article assesses differences in long-term occupational or physical therapy and psychological service use after injury in vulnerable burn survivor populations. Findings show that while the vulnerable and non-vulnerable groups received similar amounts of services at all time points, certain vulnerable subgroups such as older adults and those with a pre-existing physical or psychological condition received more support services. This study highlights the need for continued research on service receipt after burn injury as well as adequacy of long-term services for the entire burn survivor population. Authors are from the following currently-funded Burn Model System centers: [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System](#) (Vivian Shie, BS; Brennan Yee, Bac; Laura C. Simko, BS; Audrey E. Wolfe, MPH; Colleen M. Ryan, MD; and Jeffrey C. Schneider, MD), [North Texas Burn Rehabilitation Model System](#) (Radha Holavanahalli, PhD), [Pediatric Burn Injury Rehabilitation Model System](#) (David Herndon, MD; Marta Rosenberg, PhD; Laura Rosenberg, PhD; and Walter Meyer, MD), [Northwest Regional Burn Model System](#) (Nicole Gibran, MD; and Shelley Wiechman, PhD), and [Burn Model System National Data and Statistical Center](#) (Kara McMullen, MPH). View the abstract [here](#).

MSKTC Recruiting Participants for Burn Consumer Testing

The [MSKTC](#) is recruiting individuals with burn injury and their caregivers to provide feedback on a new factsheet and video series on sexuality and intimacy after burn injury. To be eligible, participants must be at least 18 years old. Participants will receive a \$25 gift card for their time. Call (202) 403-5600 or email msktc@air.org to register.



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The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) supports the Model Systems program in meeting the information needs of individuals with spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, and burn injury. The MSKTC is funded by National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) and is operated by the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in collaboration with George Mason University (GMU) and BrainLine at WETA under grant number 90DP0082.

Learn more about the MSKTC at www.MSKTC.org