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Headlines from the MSKTC

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

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Issue 100

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:

July 20-23, 2020
[National Conference on Independent Living \(NCIL\) Annual Conference](#)

September 6-9, 2020
[Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals \(ASCIP\) Annual Meeting](#)

October 4-7, 2020
[Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Spinal Injury Association \(ASIA\)](#)

October 21-24, 2020
[American Congress of](#)

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

TBI Model System Researcher Receives Research Champion Award

Nancy Chiaravalloti, PhD, principal investigator for the [Northern New Jersey Traumatic Brain Injury System Center](#), received the Research Innovation Champion Award from the Brain Injury Association of Northern New Jersey (BIANJ). Dr. Chiaravalloti was recognized for her extensive research in cognitive rehabilitation in TBI and multiple sclerosis. BIANJ held a virtual gala on March 26, which included a recorded tribute to Dr. Chiaravalloti and video of her acceptance speech. Learn more [here](#).

TBI Model System Sponsors Community Workshop

The [North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) co-sponsored a TBI community workshop with Hope after Brain Injury entitled, "Mission Possible: Emotional Wellness after TBI." Though originally planned as a half day workshop, the team quickly adapted the format to accommodate safety and social distancing, making the entire workshop available online. Topics covered include: "Anatomy and Physiology of emotion after TBI," "I Got a Feeling: Using Medications to Manage Emotions after TBI," "Let's Get Physical," "Counseling Emotional Challenges of Brain Injury," and "#RealConvo: Talking about Suicide after TBI." The workshop also includes short sessions on mindfulness, meditation, guided imagery, and yoga to manage emotions. The workshop is available [here](#).

TBI Model System Develops COVID-19 Resource Packet

The [Rusk Rehabilitation Traumatic Brain Injury Model System at NYU Langone Health and Bellevue Hospital](#) has compiled a packet to email and/or mail to research participants to provide resources that may be useful during the COVID-19 crisis. The introduction to the packet is written in a consumer-friendly manner intended to help the Model System keep in touch with participants while simultaneously providing a service. [Contact](#) the Rusk Rehabilitation Traumatic Brain Injury Model System at NYU Langone Health and Bellevue Hospital if you would like a copy of the packet.

Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

SCI Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Allied Health*

Allen Heinemann, PhD, ABPP (RP), FACRM, co-principal investigator of the [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System](#), along with Jason Raad, PhD, former project manager of the Rehabilitation Measures Database (RMD), Christina Papadimitriou, PhD, former post-doctoral fellow at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, and Neil Jordan, PhD, associate professor of psychiatry and

behavioral sciences at Northwestern University, co-authored an article in the *Journal of Allied Health* entitled, "Assessing measurement practice in physical medicine and rehabilitation." The research article examined the use of standardized assessments among allied health clinicians working in medical rehabilitation and found that use varied considerably by discipline. The article will be in the [journal's](#) print issue this summer.

SCI Model System Researchers Develop "Skincare After SCI" Toolkit

SCI Model System researchers from the [Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center](#) (SNERSCIC) recently published a video on skincare after SCI featuring information on pressure sores from Dr. Chloe Slocum, a Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital SCI physiatrist, Megan Morris, the SCI inpatient dietician, and Dave and Midge, two individuals with SCI. The video is part of the [New England SCI Toolkit](#), which shares coordinated care resources on a range of SCI topics, including skincare. Watch the video [here](#).

Burn Injury (BURN)

Burn Model System Researchers Receive ABA Awards

Researchers from two Burn Model System Centers received awards from the [American Burn Association](#) (ABA). Gretchen Carrougner, MN, RN, project coordinator for the [Northwest Regional Burn Model System](#), received the Special Achievement Award in recognition of her longstanding efforts to improve burn care and outcomes by those affected by burn injury. J.A. Jeevendra Martyn, MD, from the [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System Center](#), received the Harvey Stewart Allen Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his outstanding scientific contributions to the burn field. Learn more [here](#).

MSKTC and Burn Model System Researchers Publish Article in *American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*

Researchers from the [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center](#) (Lynn H. Gerber, MD; Rati Deshpande, MD; Shruthi Prabhakar, research intern; Cindy Cai, PhD; Steven Garfinkel, PhD; and J. Mary Louise Pomeroy, MPH), [Northwest Regional Burn Model System](#) (Peter C. Esselman, MD), and [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System](#) (Jeffrey C. Schneider, MD) recently published an article entitled, "Paucity of clinical practice guidelines for rehabilitation of burn survivors," in the *American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*. The researchers found that it is likely that rehabilitation of burn survivors will improve if more people gain skills in meeting the needs of individuals living with burn injury. An increase in trained professionals may lead to an increase in intervention trials and research to establish evidence for clinical practice guides. People engaged in burn research have an opportunity to devise a systematic, generally agreed upon approach toward evaluating burn patients and treatment outcomes that will permit data sharing across the world and assess patients throughout the acute and chronic phases of burn injury. View the abstract [here](#).

Burn Model System Researchers Share Free Online Therapy Videos to Support Burn Survivors during COVID-19 Pandemic

Jeffrey Schneider, MD, and Colleen Ryan, MD, researchers from the [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System](#), share free online video resources to help burn survivors, their family members and caregivers, and physical, occupational, and speech therapists conduct basic therapy exercises at home. These videos are meant to help prevent and treat contractures caused by burn injury. These videos may also be helpful to the burn survivor population, especially during this period of social distancing in the COVID-19 pandemic. The videos can be accessed by selecting "Instructional Therapy" under "Category" [here](#).

MSKTC Recruiting Participants for Burn Consumer Testing

The [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center](#) (MSKTC) is recruiting individuals with burn injury and their caregivers to provide feedback on a new factsheet and video entitled, "Sexuality and Burn Injury 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