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

MSKTC Adds Guide to Video Production to the Online 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 guide, "Model System Researcher's Guide to Video Production." This guide provides tips to Model System researchers who plan to develop videos. These guidelines are based on best practices and experiences of the MSKTC in producing Hot Topic module videos. This tool is designed for Model System researchers and staff to work with video production teams or to produce videos using inhouse expertise. Find the guide here.

MSKTC Hosts Webinar: How Bibliometrics Can Support Model System Research — An Overview of Citation Measures and Their Use
The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) hosted a webinar in February entitled, "How Bibliometrics Can Support Model System Research: An Overview of Citation Measures and Their Use." The presenter shared an overview of available citation measures and how they may be used by Model System researchers. The presenter also provided an orientation to the Web of Science bibliometric resources. Find a recording of the webinar here.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

TBI Model System Researchers Present at NABIS Annual Conference
A host of TBI Model System researchers presented their work at the North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) 15th Annual Conference on Brain Injury (ABI2020), February 26-29, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Learn more here.

TBI Model System Researchers Receive Awards at ABI2020
TBI Model System researchers from Spaulding-Harvard Traumatic Brain Injury Model System received awards from the North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) at the 15th Annual Conference on Brain Injury. Joseph T. Giacino, PhD, co-project director and director of research, received the Clinical Research Award. Ross Zafonte, DO, FACRM, co-project director and medical director, received the Award for Innovative Clinical Treatment. View the conference program here.

TBI Model System Researcher Receives Wilkerson Award at ACRM Annual Conference
Shannon Juengst, PhD, CRC, researcher from North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System, received the 2020 Deborah L. Wilkerson Early Career Award from the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM). The award recognizes the significant contributions that Dr. Juengst has made to rehabilitation research during her early career work. Dr. Juengst will present her latest research during the Wilkerson Award presentation at the 2020 Annual ACRM Conference in October. Learn more here.

TBI Model System Researcher Presents at Annual Rehabilitation Psychology
TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*

TBI Model System researchers authored the article, "The association between community participation and social Internet use among adults with traumatic brain injury," published in the *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*. The study sought to examine the association between social Internet use and real-world societal participation in survivors of moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). The results show a positive association between social Internet use and real-world societal participation, which suggests that people with TBI do not use social media as an alternative to real-world socialization. Rather, it is likely that similar barriers and facilitators affect both online and real-world societal participation following TBI. Emotional function should be considered as a moderating factor in further studies. Authors are from the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems National Data and Statistical Center (Jessica McKinney Ketchum, PhD; Mitch Sevigny, MS; and Gale G. Whiteneck, PhD) and the following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: Moss Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Tessa Hart, PhD), Spaulding-Harvard Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Therese O'Neil-Pirozzi, ScD, CCC-SLP), Texas TBI Model System of TIRR (Angelle M. Sander, PhD), North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Shannon Juengst, PhD, CRC), Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Thomas F. Bergquist, PhD, ABPP-CN, FACRM), and University of Alabama at Birmingham Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Laura Dreer, PhD). View the abstract [here](#).

TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*

TBI Model System researchers authored the article, "The longitudinal effects of comorbid health burden on functional outcomes for adults with moderate to severe traumatic brain injury," published in the *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*. The study aimed to evaluate the impact of physical, mental, and total health condition burden on functional outcome and life satisfaction up to 10 years after moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). The results offer evidence that comorbidity burden negatively impacts longitudinal functional and life satisfaction outcomes following TBI. The findings suggest that better identification and treatment of comorbidities may benefit life satisfaction and functional outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and decrease reinjury. Specific guidelines are needed for the management of comorbidities in TBI populations. Authors are from the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems National Data and Statistical Center (Jessica McKinney Ketchum, PhD; and Mitch Sevigny, MS) and the following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: New York Traumatic Brain Injury Model System Center (Kristen Dams-O'Connor, PhD; and Raj G. Kumar, PhD) Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (John Corrigan, PhD), and Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana Traumatic Brain Injury (Flora M. Hammond, MD). View the abstract [here](#).

TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*

TBI Model System researchers authored the article, "Concordance between current AASM and CMS scoring criteria for obstructive sleep apnea in hospitalized persons with TBI: A VA TBI Model System study," published in the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*. The study sought to compare obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), demographic, and traumatic brain injury (TBI) characteristics across the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) scoring rules in people with moderate to severe TBI undergoing inpatient neuromedical rehabilitation. The study found that underestimation of sleep apnea using CMS criteria is consistent with prior literature; however, this is the first study to report the impact of the criteria on outcomes for persons with moderate to severe TBI during a critical stage of recovery. Management of comorbidities in TBI has become an increasing focus for optimizing TBI outcomes. Given the chronic morbidity after moderate to severe TBI, the impact of CMS policy for OSA diagnosis for persons with chronic disability and young age are considerable. Authors are from the Tampa Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center, funded by Veterans Affairs (Risa Nakase-Richardson, PhD; Peter Rickett, DO; Marc Silva, PhD; Karel Carelo, MD; and Daniel Schwartz, MD), and the following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Emily Almeida, MS), and Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Ulysses Magalang, MD). View the abstract [here](#).

TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*

TBI Model System researchers authored the article, "Comparative effectiveness of sleep apnea screening instruments during inpatient rehabilitation following moderate to severe..."
TBI,” published in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. The study sought to determine the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity and comparative effectiveness of traditional sleep apnea screening tools in traumatic brain injury (TBI) neurorehabilitation admissions. This study is the first to provide clinicians with data to support a choice for which sleep apnea screening tools are more effective during inpatient rehabilitation for TBI (STOPBANG, MAPI vs Berlin) to help reduce comorbidity and possibly improve neurologic outcome. Authors are from the Tampa Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center, funded by Veterans Affairs (Risa Nakase-Richardson, PhD; Daniel Schwartz, MD; Leah Drasher-Phillips, MPH; and Karel Carelo, MD), Sierra Pacific Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (Jamie Zeitzer, PhD), and the following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System (Jessica McKinney Ketchum, PhD; and Kimberly Monden, PhD), North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Marie Dahdah, PhD; and Kathleen R. Bell, MD), Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Ulysses Magalang, MD; and Jennifer Bogner, PhD), University of Washington Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (Jeanne Hoffman, PhD), and Moss Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (John Whyte, PhD). View the abstract here.

TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*

Researchers from Southeastern Michigan Traumatic Brain Injury System (Sarah Patrick, BA; Lisa Rapport, PhD; Robert Kanser, MA; Robin Hanks, PhD; and Jesse Ryan Bashem, PhD) authored the article, “Performance validity assessment using response time on the Warrington Recognition Memory Test — Words (RMT-W) in classifying bona fide versus feigned traumatic brain injury (TBI). Findings support the growing body of research supporting the value of combining RT with performance validity tests (PVTs) in discriminating between verified and feigned TBI. The diagnostic accuracy of the RMT-W can be improved by incorporating RT. View the abstract here.

TBI Model System Researcher Interviewed for Road to Resilience Podcast

Kristen Dams-O’Connor, PhD, principal investigator for the New York Traumatic Brain Injury Model System Center, was interviewed for, “The Body Heals the Mind,” an episode of the Road to Resilience podcast. This episode centers on the experiences of Trisha Meili, who is an author and experienced a traumatic brain injury. Dr. Dams-O’Connor shares scientific perspectives on brain injuries and recovery. Both Meili and Dams-O’Connor discuss strategies for staying resilient during times of great uncertainty during recovery. Listen to the episode here.

MSKTC Recruiting Participants for TBI Consumer Factsheet Testing

The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (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 Joins Assistive Technology Leadership Expert Panel**

Anne Deutsch, PhD, clinical research scientist at the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System, accepted an invitation to serve as a member of the Administration for Community Living (ACL)’s Assistive Technology Leadership Expert Panel. The panelists will provide guidance on assistive technology used by individuals with physical disabilities, specifically in the areas of service provision, workforce capacity, policy, systems, and funding. Learn more about programs funded by the ACL here.

**SCI Model System Researcher Publishes Joint Publication in Several Journals**

Allen Heinemann, PhD, ABPP (RP), FACRM, co-principal investigator of the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System, published an online editorial entitled, “Rehabilitation is a global health priority,” in collaboration with other global leaders in rehabilitation research. In the editorial, the authors summarize and unanimously support the World Health Organization’s initiative to promote universal access to physical rehabilitation. The authors emphasize the necessity of evidence-based changes in health policy to fully integrate rehabilitation into health care systems. The editorial is a joint publication of several journals, led by *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. In order to encourage its

SCI Model System Researchers Release New SCI Facts and Figures
Researchers from the National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center released the latest “Spinal Cord Injury Facts and Figures at a Glance,” featuring data on demographics and the use of services by people with SCI in the US. The report estimates that approximately 294,000 individuals are living with SCI in the US and examines the rates of injury across gender, race/ethnicity, cause of injury, and level of paralysis. The report also examines historical lifetime costs, life expectancy, and causes of death. The findings show that mortality rates are declining for people with SCI who had conditions like cancer and heart disease, but are increasing for those with other conditions such as metabolic and nervous system diseases. The report is based on data from the National Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems Database, the largest and longest active SCI research database and the most extensive source of available information about the characteristics and life course of individuals with SCI. View the report here.

SCI Model System Researchers Develop Web-Based Wheelchair Maintenance Training
Researchers and clinicians from the University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury have developed a free web-based training program on wheelchair maintenance for wheelchair users, caregivers, family, and friends. Studies have shown that more than 50% of wheelchair users report experiencing at least one wheelchair breakdown in the past six months, and breakdowns can result in being stranded or injured. In addition to the open-access training, wheelchair users with spinal cord injury who complete the training as part of a research study will be eligible for compensation and free toolkit. Find more information here.

Burn Injury (BURN)
Burn Model System Researchers Publish Article in Annals of Plastic Surgery
Researchers from Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System (Leda Espinoza, BA; Jonathon Friedstat, MD; Nicholas Faoro, MSN; Laura C. Simko, BS; Colleen M. Ryan, MD; and Jeffrey C. Schneider, MD), Northwest Regional Burn Model System (Radha Holavanahalli, PhD), North Texas Burn Rehabilitation Model System (Kara McMullen, MPH; and Peter C. Esselman, MD), and Burn Model System National Data and Statistical Center (Philip Chang, MD) recently published an article entitled, “Geographic variation in outcomes after burn injury: A Burn Model System National Database Study,” in Annals of Plastic Surgery. The article details that all outcome measures evaluated in this study, which include the Community Integration Questionnaire, 12-Item Short Form Health Survey, Satisfaction with Appearance Scale, and Satisfaction with Life Scale, were found to differ significantly by region for burn survivors. View the abstract 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.

Share this newsletter on social media

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 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