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# Headlines from the MSKTC

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

**May 2020
Issue 101**

**The MSKTC provides:**

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

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

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

Upcoming Conferences:

**July 20-August 7, 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**

**MSKTC Recruiting Participants for Burn Clinician Factsheet Testing**
The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) is recruiting clinicians to provide feedback on a new factsheet entitled, "Outpatient Pain Management for Burn Survivors." The factsheet provides information about pain management options for adults after they have been discharged from a hospital for treatment of their acute burn injury. To be eligible, participants must be practicing clinicians at least 18 years old. Experience treating patients with burn injury is not required. Participants will be asked to speak with our research team for about 60 minutes via GoToMeeting and will receive a $25 gift card for their time. Call (202) 403-5600 or email msktc@air.org to register.

## Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

**TBI Model System Researcher Receives 2020 Joshua B. Cantor Scholar Award**
Dawn Neumann, PhD, FACRM, from the Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI, received the 2020 Joshua B. Cantor Scholar Award from the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine's (ACRM) Brain Injury-Interdisciplinary Special Interest Group (BI-ISIG). To be selected for the Cantor Award is to be recognized as a professional whose work embodies the spirit of Dr. Cantor's endeavors and achievements, which aimed to provide solace, meaning, and hope to individuals with TBI. It is clear from Dr. Neumann's body of work, and her overall career accomplishments, she shares this vision. The award presentation will occur during the ACRM 97th Annual Conference at the BI-ISIG Summit Meeting and will also be recognized at the Henry B. Betts Awards Gala on October 23. Learn more here.

**TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Brain Injury***
Researchers from the Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System published an article, "Improving well-being after traumatic brain injury through volunteering: A randomized controlled trial," in ***Brain Injury***. The study sought to evaluate the efficacy of a novel intervention facilitating volunteer activity to improve well-being in individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI). This study supports the primary hypothesis that individuals who take part in a volunteer intervention will demonstrate greater psychological well-being in comparison to a control group. View the abstract here.

**TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation***
Researchers from the Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI published an article, "Voting is my superpower! Voting tips for people living with disabilities," online in the ***Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation***. The article offers tips for registering to vote, preparing for and educating oneself about the candidates and issues, finding and accessing a polling place, and knowing one's rights and responsibilities as a voter with a disability. View the article here.

## Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

**SCI Model System Researchers Publish in *Disability and Health Journal***
Researchers from the Texas Model Spinal Cord Injury System at TIRR and their colleagues recently published an article, "Promoting psychological health in women with SCI: Development of an online self-esteem intervention," in ***Disability and Health Journal***. The article tests the feasibility of a self-esteem intervention offered in the free online virtual world of Second Life. View the abstract here.

**SCI Model System Researchers Publish in *IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering***
Researchers from the Texas Model Spinal Cord Injury System at TIRR collaborated with colleagues at Texas A&M University to develop a predictive depression assessment technique using functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS). Their findings were recently published in the journal ***IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering*** in an article entitled, "Classifying major depressive disorder using fNIRS during motor rehabilitation." View the abstract here.

**SCI Model System Researcher Participates in SCI Webinar**
Dr. David Chen, MD, co-principal investigator of the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System, accepted an invitation to serve as a panelist on a webinar titled, "Treatment of Patients with Spinal Cord and Column Injuries during the COVID-19 Pandemic." The free webinar, hosted jointly by Shirley Ryan AbilityLab and Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, features an expert panel of SCI physicians from around the continent to discuss the short- and long-term clinical implications of COVID-19 on SCI treatment.

**SCI Model System Researchers Recruiting Participants for Research Study**
Researchers from the Texas Model Spinal Cord Injury System Center at TIRR are recruiting for a study to test a psychological health promotion program for women with SCI. A Psychological Health Promotion Program for Women with SCI, or simply Zest, is a 10-week online program delivered through the Second Life virtual world platform. Participants must be women, 18 years or older, with a traumatic SCI who are at least one-year post injury. Participants must also have access to and be able to use a computer with high speed Internet and must be able to communicate in online group conversations in English. Eligible participants will receive a small compensation for their time. For more information, contact the project at zest@memorialhermann.org or call (713) 797-7572. Learn more here.

## Burn Injury (BURN)

**Burn Model System Researchers Publish in *Burns***
Researchers from the Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System, published an article, "COVID-19 pandemic and the burn survivor community: A call for action," in the journal ***Burns***. This letter to the editor details the ramifications of interrupted recovery resources and outpatient care for burn survivors and implications for the burn care community. The authors also suggest resources for support and education for burn survivors and care providers. View the article here.

**Resource Highlight: "Delirium After Burn Injury" Factsheet**
Burn Model System researchers, in collaboration with the Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC), recently published the consumer factsheet entitled, "Delirium After Burn Injury." The factsheet was developed by researchers from the following currently-funded Burn Injury Model System centers: Northwest Regional Burn Model System (Gretchen J. Carrougher, MN, RN; and Taylor Powell, BSN, RN), Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System (Jeffrey C. Schneider, MD), and North Texas Burn Rehabilitation Model System (Kimberly Roaten, PhD, CRC), with support from the MSKTC. Available in both English and Spanish, this resource explains delirium and how to handle delirium after burn injury. The factsheet may be reproduced and distributed freely with appropriate attribution. It is available on the MSKTC website here.

**MSKTC Recruiting Participants for Burn Consumer Factsheet and Video 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 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. If you participated in the production of these videos, you will not be eligible to participate in an interview regarding this video series. However, we would appreciate your feedback on a related factsheet. 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**