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Headlines from the MSKTC

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

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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 8-10, 2021
[Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Spinal Injury Association \(ASIA\)](#)

July 19-30, 2021
[National Conference on Independent Living \(NCIL\) Annual Conference](#)

September 26-29, 2021
[American Congress of Rehabilitative Medicine \(ACRM\) 98th Annual Conference](#)

October 26, 28, 30, 2021
[Knowledge Translation for Disability & Rehabilitation Research \(KTDORR\) Virtual Knowledge Translation Conference](#)

Model System Researchers Publish in *PLOS ONE*

Model System researchers recently published the article, "Functional outcomes in the inpatient rehabilitation setting following severe COVID-19 infection," in *PLOS ONE*. The study found deficits in mobility, cognition, speech, and swallowing in patients admitted to inpatient rehabilitation after hospitalization with COVID-19. This study helps to shed light on the post-acute care needs of the COVID-19 survivor population. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System centers: [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System](#) (Principal Investigator Jeffrey C. Schneider, MD), [Spaulding-Harvard Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Principal Investigator Joseph T. Giacino, PhD), and [Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center](#) (Principal Investigator Ross D. Zafonte, DO) with colleagues from Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. View the article [here](#).

Model System Researchers Publish in *The Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine*

Model System researchers recently published the article, "Relationship of patient characteristics and inpatient rehabilitation services to 5-year outcomes following spinal cord injury: A follow up of the SCIRehab project," in *The Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine*. Consistent with 1-year findings, patient characteristics continue to be strong predictors of outcomes 5 years post-injury, although several variables add to the prediction of some of the outcomes. More time in physical therapy and therapeutic recreation were positive predictors of 1-year outcomes, which held less true at 5 years. Greater time spent with psychology and social work/case management predicted greater depressive symptomatology 5 years post-injury. Greater clinician experience was a predictor at both 1 and 5 years, although the related positive outcomes varied across years. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System centers: [Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Cord Injury System](#) (Kimberley Monden, PhD; CB Eagye, MS; and Gale Whiteneck, PhD, FACRM), [Southeastern Regional Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) (Julie Hidden), [Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI](#) (Flora Hammond, MD), and [Mount Sinai Hospital Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) (Stephanie Kolakowsky-Hayner, PhD). View the abstract [here](#).



Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

TBI Model System Sponsors Hope after Brain Injury Annual Conference

The [North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) partnered with Hope after Brain Injury to deliver their annual conference as part of Brain Injury Awareness month. The virtual conference focused on, "Creating Life after Brain Injury: The Role of Purpose and Resilience," with presentations on finding purpose after brain injury, resilience, living a healthy lifestyle, sleep, social support, and employment. The presentations are archived, freely available, and include several roundtable discussions led by TBI survivor, author, advocate, and North Texas TBIMS Advisory Board member Patti Foster. Speakers shared their knowledge and experiences to help the brain injury community find purpose through resiliency and social connectedness. The presentations are available [here](#).

TBI Model System Researchers Present on NASHIA Webinar

Kristen Dams-O'Connor, PhD, principal investigator of the [New York Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#), and Cate Miller, PhD, TBI Model System program manager from the [National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research](#), presented on a webinar, "Building Partnerships That Last: Working with TBI Model Systems," hosted by the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators. The webinar focused on the history and structure of the TBI Model System and its centers, which are national leaders in

medical research and patient care. They shared some of the specific efforts currently underway at these centers and ways states can partner with the TBI Model Systems to bring research into best practice. Learn more [here](#).

TBI Model System Researcher Interviewed for *The Wall Street Journal*

Thomas Bergquist, LP, co-investigator from the [Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#), was interviewed for, "New Long Covid Treatments Borrow from Brain Rehab Tactics," in *The Wall Street Journal*. Dr. Bergquist explained that some of the cognitive problems that people recovering from COVID-19 may experience are often the same problems that can occur with traumatic brain injury. These can include problems with short term memory, word recall, or focus. Cognitive rehabilitation may help these patients recover their cognitive functions. View the article [here](#).

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

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Return to driving following moderate-to-severe traumatic brain injury," in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. The study found that over a span of 30 years, three-quarters of people experiencing moderate-to-severe TBI return to driving (RTD) a personal vehicle, although not everyone maintains this activity. Employment, race, family income, and seizures are strongly associated with RTD. Authors are from the following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: [University of Alabama at Birmingham Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Thomas A. Novack, PhD, ABPP; Yue Zhang, PhD; Richard Kennedy, PhD; Laura Dreer, PhD; Robert Brunner, MD; and Janet Niemeier, PhD), [Southeastern Michigan Traumatic Brain Injury System](#) (Lisa Rapport, PhD), [Moss Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Thomas K. Watanabe, MD), [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#) (Kimberley R. Monden, PhD), [Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Thomas Bergquist, PhD, LP), [University of Washington Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Charles Bombardier, PhD), [JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Yelena Goldin, PhD), and [Virginia Commonwealth Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Jenny Marwitz, MA, MA). View the abstract [here](#).

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

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Primary language and participation outcomes in Hispanics with traumatic brain injury: A Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems Study," in *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*. This study found Hispanic persons with TBI whose primary language is Spanish may require greater assistance integrating socially back into their communities after TBI. However, potential cultural differences in value placed on various social activities must be considered. Potential cultural bias inherent in existing measures of participation should be investigated in future studies. Authors are from the [Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems National Data and Statistical Center](#) (Jessica McKinney Ketchum, PhD) as well as following currently-funded TBI Model System centers: [Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System of TIRR](#) (Angelle M. Sander, PhD, FACRM; and Monique Pappadis, MEd, PhD), [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#) (Mitch Sevigny, MS), [Northern New Jersey Traumatic Brain Injury System](#) (Anthony Lequerica, PhD), [Rusk Rehabilitation TBIMS at NYU Langone Health and Bellevue Hospital](#) (Tamara Bushnik, PhD, FACRM), and [Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI](#) (Flora Hammond, MD). View the abstract [here](#).

MSKTC Recruiting Caregivers of Veterans with TBI for Consumer Factsheet Testing

The [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center](#) (MSKTC) is recruiting caregivers of individuals, particularly veterans, with traumatic brain injury to provide feedback on a new consumer factsheet entitled, "Stress Management Strategies for Caregivers." To be eligible, participants must be at least 18 years old. Interviews will last approximately 60 minutes. Participants will receive \$25 for their time. Call (202) 403-5600 or email mstk@air.org to register.



Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

SCI Model System Researchers Publish in *Spinal Cord*

SCI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Treatments that are perceived to be helpful for non-neuropathic pain after traumatic spinal cord injury: A multicenter cross-sectional survey," in *Spinal Cord*. Results of the study may help guide clinicians in selecting pain-specific treatments for non-neuropathic pains. The self-reported helpfulness of heat therapy, exercise, and massage suggests a possible direction for clinical trials

investigating these treatments of non-neuropathic pain while limiting the side effects accompanying pharmacologic treatments. Authors are from the following currently-funded SCI Model System centers: [Mount Sinai Hospital Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) (Chung-Ying Tsai, PhD; Thomas N Bryce, MD; and Andrew D. Delgado, MS), [Southern California Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) (Sara Mulroy, PhD, PT), [Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Cord Injury System](#) (Bria MacIntyre, MA, MS; and Susan Charlifue, PhD, FACRM), and [South Florida Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems](#) (Elizabeth Felix, PhD). View the article [here](#).

SCI Model System Hosts Lecture and Webcast in *Knowledge in Motion* Lecture Series

Researchers from the [Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center](#) hosted a lecture and webcast, "Spinal Stimulation for Individuals with Paraplegia," as part of the *Knowledge in Motion* lecture series. Lisa A. Beck, MS, APRN, CNS, CRRN, clinical nurse specialist, and Megan Gill, PT, DPT, NCS, clinician-researcher, of the Mayo Clinic, described different options of spinal stimulation available currently in research, how epidural stimulation works for individuals with complete paraplegia as well as how mobility and health changes are affected with epidural stimulation. These topics were discussed during a live Q&A session. View the video [here](#).



Burn Injury (BURN)

Burn Model System Researchers Present at the 53rd Annual American Burn Association Meeting

A host of Burn Model System researchers presented at the 53rd Annual American Burn Association Meeting (ABA2021) in April. Learn more [here](#).

Burn Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Burn Care & Research*

Burn Model System researchers recently published the article, "Impact of community-level socioeconomic disparities on quality of life after burn injury: A Burn Model Systems Database study," in *Journal of Burn Care & Research*. Neighborhood distress is associated with lower physical component summary (PCS) score after burn injury but is not associated with mental component summary (MCS) score. Regardless of neighborhood distress, pre-injury health-related quality of life (HRQL) is significantly associated with both PCS and MCS during recovery. Authors are from the following currently-funded Burn Model System centers: [Northwest Regional Burn Model System](#) (Emma Gause, MS, MA; Helena Archer, MPH; Stephen Sibbett, BA; Nicole Gibran, MD, FACS; and Barclay Stewart, MD, PhD, MPH), [North Texas Burn Rehabilitation Model System](#) (Radha Holavanahalli, PhD), and [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System](#) (Jeffrey Schneider, MD; and Lewis E. Kazis, ScD) with Stephanie Mason, MD, PhD, FRCSC. View the abstract [here](#).

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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

