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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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Issue 115

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:

**September 5-8, 2021**  
[Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals \(ASCI\) Annual Conference](#)

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

**October 25, 27, 29, 2021**  
[Knowledge Translation for Disability & Rehabilitation Research \(KTDRR\) Virtual Knowledge Translation Conference](#)

**November 4-7, 2021**  
[Southern Region Burn Conference](#)



### Burn Injury (BURN)

**Burn Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Burn Care and Research***  
Burn Model System researchers recently published the article, "Development of the School-Aged Life Impact Burn Recovery Evaluation (SA-LIBRE) Profile: A conceptual framework," in *Journal of Burn Care and Research*. The goal of the study was to develop a conceptual framework to measure pediatric burn outcomes in survivors aged five to 12 years old. Researchers conducted a systematic literature review and interviewed parents and clinicians. Three outcome domains were identified: Physical Functioning, Psychological Functioning, and Family and Social Functioning. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System center: [Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System](#) (Jeffrey C. Schneider, MD; Renata B. Fabia, MD, PhD; Frederick J. Stoddard, MD; and Colleen M. Ryan, MD), with Camerin A. Rencken, Silvanys L. Rodríguez-Mercedes, Khushbu F. Patel, Gabrielle G. Grant, Erin M. Kinney, Robert L. Sheridan, Keri Brady, Tina L. Palmieri, Petra M. Warner, Lewis E. Kazis, and the Pediatric LIBRE Advisory Board. View the abstract [here](#).



### Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

**TBI Model System Researcher Receives Joshua B. Cantor Scholar Award from ACRM**

Shannon Juengst, PhD, co-investigator from the [North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#), received the 2021 Joshua B. Cantor Scholar Award from the Brain Injury Interdisciplinary Special Interest Group of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM). The award is given in recognition of outstanding research that is judged to be a significant contribution to the field of brain injury rehabilitation and embodies Dr. Cantor's passion for developing and evaluating interventions that would give solace, meaning, and hope to individuals with TBI. Dr. Juengst's research focuses on behavioral and emotional outcomes of traumatic brain injury, investigating biopsychosocial relationships, innovative telehealth methods, and evidence-based interventions. Learn more [here](#).

**TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Disability and Rehabilitation***

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Resilience and well-being after traumatic brain injury," in *Disability and Rehabilitation*. New to the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) collection, this study examined the extent to which resilience is associated with well-being outcomes after traumatic brain injury (TBI), and whether those relationships are independent of global personality traits, such as affectivity. In the study of 67 adults with complicated-mild to severe TBI, objective physical health and disability showed modest relation to resilience, indicating that adverse health conditions and disability decreased with increasing resilience. Measures of subjective well-being showed modest-to-strong positive relation to resilience. The experience of brain injury does not diminish the positive influence resilience may have on long-term well-being. Resilience may function as a buffer to trauma even in the challenging context of cognitive insult. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System center: [Southeastern Michigan Traumatic Brain Injury System](#) (Lisa J. Rapport, PhD; Christina G. Wong, PhD; and Robin A. Hanks, PhD). View the abstract [here](#).

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

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Cognitive-communication predictors of employment outcomes 1 and 5 years posttraumatic brain injury," in *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*. The article examined changes in functional memory, problem solving, comprehension, expression, and social communication over the first 2 years posttraumatic brain injury (TBI) and the ability of each to predict return to work (RTW) outcomes at 1 year and 5 years postinjury. Researchers found that an increased rehabilitation focus on functional memory, problem solving, comprehension, expression, and social interaction post-TBI has the potential to improve RTW outcomes. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System centers: [Spaulding-Harvard Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Therese M. O'Neil-Pirozzi, ScD CCC-SLP), [Northern New Jersey Traumatic Brain Injury System](#) (Anthony H. Lequerica, PhD; and Nancy D. Chiaravalloti, PhD), [North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Shannon Juengst, PhD), and [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#) (Jody K. Newman, MA, CCC-SLP). View the abstract [here](#).

### TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Brain Injury*

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Driving patterns, confidence, and perception of abilities following moderate to severe traumatic brain injury: A TBI Model System study," in *Brain Injury*. The article found most people with moderate-to-severe TBI resume driving but perhaps not at pre-injury or normal levels compared to healthy drivers. Some driving situations are restricted. The relationship between low confidence/perceived loss of ability and driving patterns/restrictions suggests people with TBI are exhibiting some degree of caution consistent with those perceptions. Careful assessment of driving skills and monitoring during early stages of return to driving is warranted, particularly for younger, male, and/or single drivers who express higher levels of confidence. Authors are from the following currently-funded 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; Janet Niemeier, PhD; and Robert Brunner, MD), [Southeastern Michigan Traumatic Brain Injury System](#) (Lisa Rapport, PhD), [Virginia Commonwealth Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Jennifer Marwitz, MA), [JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Yelena Goldin, PhD), [University of Washington Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Charles Bombardier, PhD), [Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Thomas Bergquist, PhD, LP), [Moss Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Thomas Ken Watanabe, MD), and [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#) (Candy Tefertiller, PT, DPT, PhD, NCS). View the abstract [here](#).

### TBI Model System Researchers Publish in *Journal of Neurotrauma*

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Patterns of functional change five to ten years after moderate-severe traumatic brain injury," in *Journal of Neurotrauma*. The study found that although most persons with moderate-severe TBI do not experience widespread change from year five to 10 on individual Functional Independence Measure (FIMTM) subscales or perceived domain-specific subscales, the vast majority do report change in one or more domains, with more improvement than decline and more change in subjective domain change indices (DCIs) than in FIM. Clinicians and researchers should be alert to the possibility of both positive and deleterious changes many years after TBI. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System centers: [Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI](#) (Flora Hammond, MD), [Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (James Malec, MD), [Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (John Corrigan, PhD; and Jennifer Bogner, PhD, ABPP, FACRM), [Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury System](#) (Gale Whiteneck, PhD; C.B. Eagye, MS; Mitch Sevigny, MS; and Jessica M. Ketchum, PhD), [Moss Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Tessa Hart, PhD), [New York Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Kristen Dams-O'Connor, PhD), [University of Alabama at Birmingham Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Thomas A. Novack, PhD, ABPP), and [North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (Marie Dahdah, PhD). View the abstract [here](#).

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

TBI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Marital stability over 10 years following traumatic brain injury," in *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*. The article examined the stability of marriage from the time of TBI to 10 years postinjury. Most married adults who received inpatient rehabilitation for TBI remained married to the same individual 10 years later. Those who were younger, were male, and had a history of problematic substance use were at a highest risk for relationship dissolution. Findings have implications for content, timing, and delivery of marital interventions. Substance use education and prevention appear to be important aspects of marital support. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System centers: [Indiana University School of Medicine / Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana TBI](#) (Flora Hammond, MD; Dawn M. Neumann, PhD; Sheryl Katta-Charles, MD; and Samantha L. Backhaus, PhD), [Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems National Data and Statistical Center](#) (Mitch Sevigny, MS; and Hannah Gazett, BS),

and [Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) (John Corrigan, PhD). View 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 (TBI) 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 [mstkctc@air.org](mailto:mstkctc@air.org) to register.



**Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)**

**SCI Model System Researcher Recognized with *APMR* Most Cited Original Research Award**

Yu-Ying Chen, MD, PhD, from the [National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center](#), has been selected to receive the *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (APMR)* Most Cited Original Research Award for the paper, "Changing demographics and injury profile of new traumatic spinal cord injuries in the United States, 1972–2014." This award recognizes the original research paper published in *APMR* that has received the most citations in its lifetime. For this year, eligible papers were those that appeared in a print issue of *APMR*, including any supplement issue, five years prior to the current year. The intention is that this five-year window recognizes those papers which have truly had a lasting impact. View the abstract [here](#).

**SCI Model System Researcher Awarded Best Oral Presentation at ASIA Annual Meeting**

Susan Robinson-Whelen, PhD, co-investigator from [Texas Model Spinal Cord Injury System](#), received the award for the best oral presentation at the American Spinal Injury Association's (ASIA) Annual meeting in St. Louis, MO. Her presentation entitled, "Lifetime abuse experience of women with spinal cord injury," highlighted interpersonal violence against women with spinal cord injury (SCI) as an issue of significant concern and an understudied topic in need of additional attention and research. Learn more [here](#).

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

SCI Model System researchers recently published the article, "Utilization of complementary and integrative healthcare by people with spinal cord injury in the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems: A descriptive study," in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. The results of this study point to the importance for rehabilitation clinicians to be aware that their patients may be using one or more complementary and integrative healthcare (CIH) approaches. Providers should be open to starting a dialogue to ensure the health and safety of their patients as there is limited information on safety and efficacy of CIH approaches in this population. These results also set the stage for further analysis of this dataset to increase our knowledge in this area. Authors are from the following currently-funded Model System centers: [Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Injury System](#) (Jennifer Coker, PhD, MPH; Jeffrey Berliner, DO; and Susan Charlifue, PhD), [Northern New Jersey Spinal Cord Injury System](#) (Amanda Botticello, PhD, MPH; and Jeanne Zanca, PhD), [Mount Sinai Hospital Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) (Thomas Bryce, MD), [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System](#) (David Chen, MD), [Spaulding New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center](#) (David Estrada, JD; and Ross Zafonte, DO), and [Texas Model Spinal Cord Injury System](#) (Heather Taylor, PhD), with Kimberley Monden, PhD. 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](http://www.MSKTC.org)**